



# **GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

## **Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B**

### **Regular Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, April 12th, 2017; 7:00 p.m.  
Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue NW

### **Call to Order**

The April 2017 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Nicole Mann at 7:01 pm.

The Commissioners identified their Single Member Districts (SMDs). Present were: Amy Johnson (2B01), Daniel Warwick (2B02), Stephanie Maltz (2B03), Nick DelleDonne (2B04), Randy Downs (2B05), Mike Silverstein (2B06), John Kupcinski (2B07), Nicole Mann (2B08), and Scott Davies (2B09).

### **Announcements and Public Comments**

#### **Commissioner Announcements**

Commissioner Warwick said that several commissioners will be staffing a table at the Dupont Circle Farmers Market this coming Sunday to talk about DC's Comprehensive Plan update process. He gave an overview of the city's Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Warwick gave an overview of the ANC's ongoing concerns with the closure of the Embassy Sunoco service station at 2200 P Street NW. He said DC's Office of the Attorney General (OAG) is currently carrying out a legal review of the situation. He also gave an overview of DC's Gas Station Advisory Board and its current lack of members.

Commissioner Maltz gave an overview of the recent crepe night fundraiser at the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens. She said that Antwan Wilson, the new Chancellor of the DC Public Schools (DCPS), will be holding an upcoming Ward 2 community meeting at the school on Monday, April 24th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.

Commissioner Downs said that he was recently confirmed as a Board Member for the Friends of Stead Park. He gave an overview of the upcoming community Easter egg hunt at the park on Saturday, April 15th. He added that the Mayor included appropriations for planning for the Stead Park Recreation Center renovations in her proposed FY 2018 budget.

Commissioner Downs said that the Mayor included funding for the 14th Street NW MetroExtra bus service in her proposed FY 2018 budget. He gave an overview of the ANC's previous support for the proposed bus service.

Commissioner Davies said that the ANC's Transportation and Public Infrastructure (TPI) Committee will meet next Wednesday, April 19th at 7:00pm at the Dupont Circle Resource Center, 9 Dupont Circle NW.

Commissioner Downs gave an overview of the recent community meeting regarding Safeway's renovation plans and alcoholic beverage license application. He said that the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration's (ABRA) placarding process for the license application is ongoing.

Presentation by Polly Donaldson, the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, Regarding the Mayor's Proposed FY 2018 Budget

Polly Donaldson, the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), gave an overview of the agency, as well as several proposals that were included in the Mayor's proposed FY 2018 budget.

Consideration of Resolutions Regarding the 2017 Capital Pride Spring Movie Night and Capital Pride Parade

Chair Mann moved to support the Capital Pride Alliance's park permit application for their 2017 Spring Movie Night. Commissioner Downs seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Capital Pride and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) have requested the support of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B for a DPR permit for a special event at Stead Park, the Capital Pride Spring Movie Night on Monday, April 24, 2017,

WHEREAS, this event is part of the larger program of Capital Pride, including the 42nd Annual Capital Pride Parade on June 10, 2017, which ANC 2B enthusiastically supports, and

WHEREAS, the event sponsors are experienced in managing this event, which has been held for several years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports DPR permitting of Stead Park for the Capital Pride Spring Movie Night on Monday, April 24, 2017.

Commissioner Silverstein moved to support the Capital Pride Alliance's special event application for the 2017 Capital Pride Parade. Commissioner Davies seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B enthusiastically supports the Capital Pride Alliance's special event application for the 2017 Capital Pride Parade on Saturday, June 10th, 2017.

The Commission also supports the Capital Pride Alliance's request for a complete reimbursement for any applicable police fees that would be charged for the event.

### Update Regarding the Construction Project at 1920 N Street NW

A representative for the JBG Companies gave an overview of the company's upcoming construction project at 1920 N Street NW, which is just south of the Dupont Circle Metro Station's south entrance. She said that, as part of the demolition process for the project, the company is proposing to temporarily remove the parking lane and sidewalk on the south side of the 1900 block of N Street NW. She added that the company is also proposing to remove several parking spaces on 19th Street and 20th Street NW.

The representative said that the company will be creating covered sidewalks on 19th Street and 20th Street NW.

Commissioner Silverstein said that the streets and sidewalks surrounding the construction site are very crowded every day of the week. He added that the ANC will have to follow the construction impacts closely.

### Presentation by DC Water Regarding their Water Main Replacement Project on 18th Street Between Pennsylvania Avenue and K Street NW

Tanya Hedgepeth, a Construction Outreach Coordinator for DC Water, gave an overview of the city's aging water infrastructure. She said that DC Water is currently working to replace a sizable portion of the water mains throughout the city. She said that one such project to replace the water mains will be taking place on 18th Street between Pennsylvania Avenue and K Street NW. She said that, for the project on 18th Street NW, DC Water will be replacing about 700 linear feet of water main.

Ms. Hedgepeth acknowledged that there were previous community concerns with DC Water's original construction schedule for the project. She said that construction for the project is now planning to take place overnight, starting at approximately 7:00 to 8:00 pm and going into the morning hours. She said there will most likely be lane closures and weekend construction hours associated with the project work.

Ms. Hedgepeth said that the community can reach out to DC Water's Office of External Affairs if they have any questions or concerns regarding the project.

Commissioner Downs encouraged DC Water to coordinate construction activities with the Golden Triangle BID.

### Announcement by Stonewall Kickball Regarding their 2017 Season

Paul Johnson, the Commissioner of Stonewall Kickball, gave an overview of the history of the organization and its rapid growth over several years. He said that the organization has donated over \$150,000 and thousands of volunteer hours to local charities in the region.

Mr. Johnson said that the organization wants to build a sense of community in the area for the city's LGBT community and is currently working to increase its fundraising efforts. He added that the organization has signed up as an "Adopt a Block" volunteer for two blocks in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Downs said that Stonewall Kickball started here in Dupont Circle. Mr. Johnson added that the organization have grown to eleven cities across the nation and to thirteen sports. He said that the league will be having its national tournament this summer on the National Mall and at Stead Park.

#### Announcement Regarding the People's Climate March on April 29th

Two representatives for the People's Climate March gave an overview of the details for the march, which will be on Saturday, April 29th at 10:00 am.

One of the representatives gave an overview of the march's principles. He encouraged meeting attendees to attend the march, as well as to be a phone bank volunteer to call other residents and encourage them to attend. He also encouraged meeting attendees to visit the march's website at <https://peoplesclimate.org/>.

#### Update from Glen's Garden Market

Danielle Vogel, the founder of Glen's Garden Market, gave an overview of the store's environmental efforts. She said that for the store's annual Earth Day Birthday Party they will be holding a "coming out for climate change" party. She said that, at the party, the store will be announcing their new community compost program where community members can bring their compost where it will be composted for free.

Ms. Vogel said that community members can feel free to harvest herbs from the store's outdoor herb gardens.

#### Announcement from Sarah Fashbaugh, Community Resource Officer for ABRA, Regarding ABRA's Upcoming Community Training

Sarah Fashbaugh, the Community Resource Officer for ABRA, gave an overview of ABRA's enforcement hotline, which she said is answered seven days a week from 7:00 pm to 3:00 am. She said that community members can call the hotline at (202) 329-6347 if they have any late-night concerns with establishments.

Ms. Fashbaugh gave an overview of ABRA's upcoming community training, which will be on Thursday, May 18th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at ABRA's offices at 2000 14th Street, NW, Suite 400. She said that grocery store licenses will be up for renewal this year and that liquor store licenses will be up for renewal next year.

#### Other Public Announcements and General Comments or Future Agenda Items

Jerry Chapin, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), said that he is present if any meeting attendees have any questions.

Tom Lipinsky, a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans’ office, gave an overview of the recent budget oversight hearings that the DC Council’s Committee on Finance and Revenue had held. He encouraged meeting attendees to testify at upcoming DC Council budget hearings.

Bill McLeod, the Executive Director of Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets, said that the organization’s 9th Annual Taste of Dupont event will be held on Saturday, April 22nd from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. He said that this year’s event will be larger than last year’s event.

Iris Molotsky, a Board Member for the Dupont Circle Village, encouraged meeting attendees to attend the village’s upcoming gala, which will be on Friday, April 28th from 6:30 to 9:00 pm at All Souls Church, 1500 Harvard Street NW. She gave an overview of the history of the village. She said that the village helps seniors who want to stay in their own home and their own community as they age. She added that fundraising is very important to the success of the village.

Susan Volman, the Treasurer for the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA), said that DCCA is supporting the proposed 14th Street NW MetroExtra bus line.

Kari Cunningham, the President of the Friends of Stead Park, said that she is a volunteer for the Mayor’s Age-Friendly DC initiative. She encouraged meeting attendees, including especially LGBT neighborhood residents, to attend the initiative’s upcoming community meetings. She said that initiative leaders can also organize meetings for individual groups and organizations.

### **Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Agenda**

#### **Rare Steakhouse – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 1595 Eye Street NW**

Commissioner Downs moved to support Rare Steakhouse’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license. Commissioner Davies seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Rare Steakhouse’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1595 Eye Street NW based on the fact that the establishment is not located near any residential properties.

### **Historic Preservation and Zoning Agenda**

#### **1500 17th Street NW – Application for a Special Exception Under the Penthouse Requirements to Construct a Three-Story Flat with Penthouse Space**

*The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.*

1501 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, 1503-1505 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, and 730 15th Street NW  
– Concept / Exterior Alterations

Commissioner Warwick moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter.  
Commissioner Downs seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0).  
The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the project as proposed is within the 15th Street Historic District and Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B supported a previous iteration of the project in front of the Historic Preservation Review Board several months ago when it was confined to 1503-1505 Pennsylvania Avenue NW,

WHEREAS, the project as proposed is rehabilitating and beautifying currently unpleasant and visible penthouses,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B understands that the project as proposed will require an alley vacation, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the alley vacation will be a benefit to the neighborhood by allowing for more functional programming of the museum, and will not adversely impact the community because the alley dead-ends at the portion of the alley to be vacated and the alley is not publicly accessible.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the project as proposed.

Presentation Regarding J Street Companies' Plans for the Development Project at 2126-2128 N Street NW

Bruce Baschuk, the Chairman of the J Street Companies; Colline Ayala, an architect for the project; and Molly Heffner, an architect for the project, gave an overview of the plans for the project at 2126-2128 N Street NW. Mr. Baschuk said that the company has hosted several meetings with community members to discuss the plans for the project.

Robin Diener, the President of DCCA, said that the J Street Companies has been accommodating in addressing the community's concerns regarding the project.

Ms. Baschuk said that the company is willing to donate the townhouses that are currently located on the project site to anyone who would like them.

Commissioner Silverstein thanked Mr. Baschuk for working with the community to address community concerns.

*The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.*

## **Public Space Committee Agenda**

### **1926 17th Street NW – Public Space Application by Three Fifty Bakery and Coffee Bar for a New, Enclosed Sidewalk Café**

Chair Mann moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Three Fifty Bakery and Coffee Bar’s application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk café at 1926 17th Street NW and urges the Public Space Committee to approve the application during the Committee’s April 2017 public meeting.

ANC 2B acknowledges that this application will bring the applicant’s existing sidewalk cafe into compliance with the city’s public space regulations. The Commission also acknowledges that this is a unique case due to the grade differential between the entrance to the building and the sidewalk, and due to the fact that the next door property at 1928 17th Street NW also has a seven foot-wide sidewalk.

## **General Agenda**

### **Consideration of a Resolution Regarding DC Council Bill B22-0092 – the “Short-Term Rental Regulation and Affordable Housing Protection Act of 2017”**

Commissioner Warwick moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner DelleDonne seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2B represents a dense urban area with a diverse mix of business and residential uses,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B residents have observed an increase in short-term rentals in recent years,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes the need to maintain a sufficient supply of long-term housing in the neighborhood; the need to provide residents flexibility on the use of their private property while minimizing negative impacts on the surrounding neighborhood; and the need to end the operation of illegal hotels that utilize multi-unit residential buildings that are subject to DC rent control provisions,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that there are a variety of property owners who offer short-term rentals including but not limited to:

1. Hosts who share their primary residence by frequently renting out a guest room while they are present.
2. Hosts who list their primary residence during extended absences for work travel.

3. Hosts who list a basement apartment adjoining their primary residence.
4. Hosts who are not subject to rent control (own fewer than 4 units) who list one or more of their units.
5. Hosts who are subject to rent control (own 4 or more units) who list one or more of these rent controlled units.

WHEREAS, ANC 2B residents have expressed concerns regarding the proposed “Short-Term Rental Regulation and Housing Protection Act of 2017” and the significant constraints and burdens it places on homeowners, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the proposed legislation is overly restrictive, does not take into account the unique living situations of local residents living in the nation’s capital and the needs of visitors, and does not address its stated goal of increasing affordable housing in the neighborhood.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B opposes the Short-Term Rental Regulation and Housing Protection Act of 2017 as it is currently proposed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B further urges the DC Council to significantly revise short-term rental regulations after working with ANC 2B, the Dupont Circle Citizens Association, and our constituents who are concerned with the potential loss of property rights from legitimate businesses.

As part of this process of better engaging with the community, ANC 2B believes that the following need to be well managed and regulated:

1. Ensuring that short-term rentals are licensed to the same safety standards as any residential rental unit.
2. Ensuring that hosting platforms list only short-term rentals that have the appropriate business licenses.
3. Ensuring that such regulation does not unduly restrict residents’ ability to rent out their permanent residence while they are away and while they are at home.
4. Avoiding unduly restricting residents’ ability to earn income from their private property.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the District Department of Transportation’s 2017 Capital Bikeshare Expansion Plan for ANC 2B

Commissioner Davies moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the proposed Capital Bikeshare station installation locations at the intersection of R Street and Connecticut Avenue NW and the intersection of 15th Street and M Street NW. Commissioner Maltz seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0) The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2B represents a very diverse neighborhood of both residents and businesses which rely upon many modes of transportation including rail, bus, cars, bicycles, and walking,



WHEREAS, over the last six years since Capital Bikeshare started operations in September of 2010, the system has grown to over 440 stations and 3,700 bicycles,

WHEREAS, while the system has expanded well beyond the central core of the District to outlying areas, demand for Capital Bikeshare has grown substantially in the Dupont Circle neighborhood, and

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation, working with the ANC's Transportation and Public Infrastructure Committee, has identified the following locations for two new stations:

1. North side of R Street NW, west of Connecticut Avenue NW on the street by the curb
2. West side of 15th Street NW, south of M Street NW on the sidewalk

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the District Department of Transportation install two new Capital Bikeshare locations at the aforementioned locations and put said locations into service as soon as possible and advise the ANC when complete.

Commissioner Maltz moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the proposed Capital Bikeshare station installation location at the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue, 18th Street, and Q Street NW. Commissioner Warwick seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2B is an enthusiastic supporter of Capital Bikeshare,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B fully supports Vision Zero, with the objective "by the year 2024, Washington, DC will reach zero fatalities and serious injuries to travelers of our transportation system, through more effective use of data, education, enforcement, and engineering," and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes the proposed bikeshare station at New Hampshire Avenue, 18th Street, and Q Street NW is an unsafe location to mount and dismount bicycles and is in direct contradiction of Vision Zero.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the District Department of Transportation work with the ANC, in support of Vision Zero, to find a comparable and safe location for a bikeshare station in the vicinity of New Hampshire Avenue, 18th Street, and Q Street NW.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Study of Streetscape Improvements, Including Bike Lane Improvements, to 17th Street NW

Commissioner Downs moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Davies seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2B represents a very diverse neighborhood of both residents and businesses which rely upon many modes of transportation including rail, bus, cars, bicycles, and walking,

WHEREAS, over the last six years since Capital Bikeshare started operations in September of 2010, the system has grown to over 440 stations and 3,700 bicycles,

WHEREAS, the population density in the Dupont Circle neighborhood has continued to increase, with an increasing percentage of the population choosing to utilize the vast network of bike lanes for commuting as well as recreation,

WHEREAS, the 15th Street NW protected bike lanes are increasingly congested during rush hour, creating unsafe conditions,

WHEREAS, a substantial amount of bicyclists regularly ride northbound, against traffic, on 17th Street NW, and

WHEREAS, increasing bicycle and vehicle traffic congestion has created the need to expand the network of protected bike lanes in the Dupont Circle neighborhood.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the District Department of Transportation study options for implementing protected bike lanes in the 17th Street NW corridor between Florida Avenue NW and Constitution Avenue NW in both directions as a means of providing congestion relief on the 15th Street NW bike lanes.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Study of Streetscape Improvements, Including Bike Lane Improvements, to 15th Street NW

Commissioner Downs moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Mann seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2B represents a very diverse neighborhood of both residents and businesses which rely upon many modes of transportation including rail, bus, cars, bicycles, and walking,

WHEREAS, 15th Street NW represents a major commuting corridor for vehicles, bikes, and pedestrians, carrying traffic between the downtown business district and residential areas to the north,

WHEREAS, the population density in the Dupont Circle neighborhood has continued to increase, causing significant traffic congestion and conflicts between various modes of transport along the 15th Street NW corridor,

WHEREAS, the uncontrolled crosswalk at the intersection of 15th Street NW and N Street NW has been identified as a major safety issue for pedestrians, and

WHEREAS, the block of 15th Street NW between L Street NW and M Street NW is currently under construction and represents an opportunity to conduct major streetscape improvements.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the District Department of Transportation study and implement traffic management improvements at crosswalks, lane distribution, marking of bike lanes to create better visual separation for pedestrians, bikes, and vehicles, and better landscaping of tree boxes with plantings along the section of 15th Street NW within ANC 2B.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Requested Street Sweeping on Certain Blocks of New Hampshire Avenue and 16th Street NW

*The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.*

**Administrative Matters**

Approval of the Regular March 2017 Meeting Minutes

Chair Mann moved to adopt the ANC's regular March 2017 meeting minutes. Commissioner Davies seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Dupont Circle Resource Center Renovations

Commissioner Davies moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Mann seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

**Adjournment**

Chair Mann adjourned the meeting at 9:56 pm.