

ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION
OVERFLOW MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 19, 2014, Brookings Institute

Call to Order/Introduction of Commissioners (6:50pm)

The May Overflow Meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chairman Stephens at 6:50 pm. The Commissioners identified their Single Member Districts (SMDs). Present were: Abigail Nichols (2B05), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Leo Dwyer (2B07), Will Stephens (2B08) and Noah Smith (2B09).

The Commission staff introduced themselves: James Conway (Executive Director), and Nicole Baillis (Desi Deschaine Community Involvement Intern), Daniel Warwick (Jeff Coudriet Public Policy Intern) and Fiona Clem (Web/IT consultant).

Meeting Minutes

*Commissioner Putta arrived at 6:55pm and Commissioner Maltz arrived at 7:30pm.

Approval of Minutes – April 2014 public meeting minutes

Commissioner Stephens moved to approve the April 2014 public meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Passed 6-0.

Public Announcements

1. Commissioner Nichols announced there will be a League of Women panel at UDC David Clark School of Law on Voter's Voice on May 28th.
2. Commissioner Stephens announced Pride Parade June 7th.
3. Commissioner Smith announced for everyone to use #ANC2b.

General Items

Resolution affirming support of covering Dupont underpass

Commissioner Stephens moved to support, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Passed 6-0. The resolution reads as follows:

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WHEREAS, in June 2010, the Commission passed a resolution asking the District (including the Office of Planning and the Department of Transportation) to study the feasibility of covering the Connecticut Avenue underpass north of Dupont Circle with park space;

WHEREAS, for many years, residents and other stakeholders in Dupont Circle have advocated for such a project, which would have an extremely positive impact on the community and take advantage of an underutilized piece of public space;

WHEREAS, over the past two years, an ad hoc group of Commissioners, business community representatives, and representatives from the Office of Planning, the Department of Transportation, and the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Engagement have held a series of productive meetings to develop the project more concretely;

WHEREAS, the working group has developed an initial rendering of the park space (designed by a local volunteer architect) and an initial budget estimate for the work (developed by a local construction contracting company);

WHEREAS, the proposed project would cover the 1500 block of Connecticut Ave NW (between the Circle and Q Street NW) and a portion of the 1600 block of Connecticut Ave NW (just north of Q Street NW);

WHEREAS, Ward 2 Council Member Jack Evans has endorsed the project at budget town hall meetings and other public fora and has requested that it be added to the capital improvement budget for FY 2015;

Therefore, be it resolved that ANC 2B continues its support for the Dupont Circle Underpass Project;

Be it further resolved that ANC 2B recommends that the City Council fully fund the project by allocating sufficient funds in Fiscal Year 2015 to allow for the project to move forward;

Be it further resolved that Commissioners Mike Feldstein (Mike.feldstein@dupontcircleanc.net) and Will Stephens (will.stephens@dupontcircleanc.net) be the Commission's designated representatives in this matter, and that the matter be delegated to the Commission's Transportation and Public Infrastructure Committee for further follow-up and development.

Regulatory
Alcohol Applications

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*Commissioner Silverstein recused himself and left the room because he sits on the city's Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board.

New application (ABRA-094842) for Saloon 45, 1821 18th Street NW, for CT (tavern) license. Operation Hours (incl. 36-seat summer garden) 8am-2am Mon-Thu, 8am-3am Fri-Sat; Total occupancy 85; Petition due 6/9/14; Roll Call 6/23/14; Protest Hrg 8/6/14 (2B08) – Commissioner Stephens moved to protest, seconded by Commissioner Nichols. Passed (5-0). The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, Saloon 45 has applied for a new CT (tavern) license for the space at 1821 18th Street NW (formerly housing Sandy's Flowers);

Whereas, the application requests interior hours until 2:00am Monday through Thursday and 3:00am Friday and Saturday;

Whereas, the application requests exterior hours (summer garden) until 2:00am Monday through Thursday and 3:00am Friday and Saturday, which exceed the Commission's guidelines for outdoor space close to residents (11:00pm Monday through Thursday and 12:00am Friday and Saturday);

Whereas, this application is directly next door to Bar Charley, which has exterior hours of 11:00pm/12:00am and was the subject of a recent protest and good-faith Settlement Agreement negotiation when it sought a substantial change to extend interior hours to 2:00am/3:00am;

Whereas, the ANC is concerned with treating applicants fairly and consistently, and it would be unfair to Bar Charley to support or take no action on an application at an abutting address with later exterior hours, later interior service hours, and later closing hours;

Whereas, the ANC has additional concerns about the Saloon 45 application which were not present in the Bar Charley application, including the lack of history as an operator, a CT (tavern) license rather than a CR (restaurant) license with a minimum food sales requirement, and no kitchen;

Whereas, there is substantial concern among neighbors about the loss of retail in this corridor (18th Street NW from S Street NW up to U Street NW) to liquor-serving establishments;

Whereas, parking issues are a major concern in this part of the neighborhood, with heavy parking pressures from existing establishments, retail, and residents and their guests;

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Therefore, be it resolved that ANC 2B protests this license application on the grounds of peace, order, and quiet, and parking concerns;

Be it further resolved that Commissioners Will Stephens and Mike Feldstein, with Commissioner Noah Smith as a back-up, are the Commission's designated representatives for this matter.

Public Space Applications

Application for sidewalk cafe (unenclosed) for Native Foods Cafe, 1150 Connecticut Av NW. (Actually faces 18th Street just south of M). Proposal calls for 7 tables, 14 chairs, 3 umbrellas. Would allow 4'6" sidewalk space between sidewalk cafe and tree box, just south of 18th and M bus stop. Tracking Number: 93734. (2B06) – The Commission chose to write a letter to the DDOT Public Space Committee saying this matter would be delayed a month.

Historic Preservation & Zoning Applications

Application to HPRB for construction at 1620 Q St (2B05)- Commissioner Dwyer moved to support, seconded by Commissioner Maltz. Passed (6-1). The resolution reads as follows:

Be it resolved that ANC 2B finds this project is consistent with the guidelines for the visual impact of projects on historic preservation. However, this conversion of another single family dwelling further increases density contravening goals of the Dupont Circle Historic Overlay.

Furthermore, this conversion shows how a conversion of one single family dwelling can make other single family homes less attractive as single family dwellings. The conversion of 1618 Q to a multi-family dwelling left 1620 sandwiched between an expanded restaurant and a condominium that reduced privacy.

Our review included:

- 1) On May 1, 2013, the ANC Commissioner for ANC 2B 05, the developers and the architect hosted a community meeting to discuss the project with neighbors and other concerned citizens.
- 2) On May 7, 2014, the project was reviewed by the Zoning, Preservation, and Development Committee of ANC 2B.
- 3) On May 19, 2014, the project was reviewed by Advisory Neighborhood Hood Commission 2B at its regular monthly meeting.

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As noted in our resolution above, we find no fault with the project in terms of the criteria of the Historic Preservation Review Board. This project is a companion to a conversion project that HPRB approved January 23, 2014, for 1618 Q Street NW, HPA 13-625, concept/rear and roof addition to row house. Both houses are the same, and changes to the project at 1618 Q Street made during the review of that project are incorporated into this design.

Application to BZA hearing #18773 for construction at 1528 Church St (2B05)- Commissioner Nichols moved to support, seconded by Commissioner Stephens. Passed (7-0). The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, this project which improves a single family dwelling received extensive attention and approval by ANC 2B during the historic preservation review process.

Whereas neighbors support the proposed changes.

Whereas this project contains an unusually large front yard which makes the lot coverage issues very minor.

Whereas the previous HPRB approvals implied the need for subsequent zoning variances from 1) the alley setback requirements of section 2300 and a special exception to allow a rear addition to an existing one-family row dwelling under section 223, 2) not meeting the lot occupancy requirements under 403, and 3) the rear yard requirements under section 404 in DC/R-5-B District at premises 1528 Church Street, N.W. (Square 194, Lot 802.)

Therefore, ANC 2B supports the above variances and special exceptions for 1528 Church Street NW as presented at the May 19, 2014, ANC meeting.

Application to BZA for construction at 1815 Riggs Place (2B01) – Commissioner Dwyer moved to support, seconded by Commissioner Silverstein. Passed (7-0). The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, ANC 2B supports the following zoning variance requests for the property located at 1815 Riggs Place as the request has been made to add an additional floor to this structure; and

Whereas, ANC 2B supports the following zoning variance requests; non-conforming structure, 2001.3, non-conforming open courts, 406.1, and FAR requirements, 402.4.

Therefore, be it resolved that ANC 2B recommends support of this project as presented.

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Application to BZA hearing # 18763 for construction at 1512 P Street NW (2B05) – Commissioner Nichols moved to support, seconded by Commissioner Stephens. Passed (7-0). The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, this variance is sought in conjunction with a high quality restoration project which makes no changes to an existing footprint for a garage/deck/rear entrance that is at least 15 years old.

Whereas, neighbors, including the neighbor to the immediate east support the project in spite of the fact that the footprint of the deck/garage exceed lot occupancy and leave no open court

Whereas, the project will have no effect on the several residences to the west whose back yards have been paved for parking.

Therefore, ANC 2B supports a variance/special exception for 1512 P Street NW as presented at the May 19, 2014, ANC meeting.

Zoning, Preservation & Development Committee

Reports on old business (if any): At its meeting the committee will discuss the HPRB St. Thomas church application and resolution on Keegan Theater

Next Meeting: 6/4/14 7pm @ Resource Center (First Wednesdays)

Transportation & Public Infrastructure Committee (5 mins)

Reports on old business (if any): The TPI committee meet for the first time and discussed goal for 2014, short term and long term. Circulator routes, parking survey, valet parking, 16th Street bus lanes, Stead Park renovation, Conn Ave underpass

Other items: Motion to approve 3 new members to the TPI committee. the new members being approved are James Nozar, Saizah Moulton, Moira McCauly. Commissioner Smith moved to support, seconded by Commissioner Putta. Passed (7-0).

Next Meeting: 5/28/14 7pm @ Resource Center (Fourth Wednesdays)

Commissioner & Staff Reports

Staff Reports

Coudriet Intern (Daniel Warwick): No update

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Deschaine Intern (Nicole Baillis): Social media update: Twitter following is growing and Facebook is still stalled.

Executive Director (James Conway): Announced that he will be posting a “Votes of the ANC” blog the day after meetings. The Commissioners should send contact info to the ED to expand the e-blast contact database for the ANC.

Web/IT Consultant (Fiona Clem): Fiona announced she will be doing a website redesign for a total of \$1,200 and shared the proposal with the Commission. Commissioner Stephens voted to approve the project, seconded by Commissioner Smith. Passed 7-0.

Neighboring Jurisdiction Reports (if any): West End/Foggy Bottom (2B06), Adams Morgan (2B01, 2B08), Kalorama (2B01, 2B02), Logan Circle (2B04, 2B05, 2B09), Georgetown (2B06), Columbia Heights/Shaw (2B09)

Short Reports on Old Business (if any)

P = the matter is still pending

NU = no update

A = approved

1711 S Street NW: HPRB (2B01)-P

Glen’s Garden Market: sidewalk cafe (2B01)-P

Rosebar: ABRA license renewal (2B05)-P

1200 17th Street NW: pavers & benches (2B05)-P

Catch 15: new CT license (2B05)-P

Noodles & Co: sidewalk cafe (2B05)-P

BLT Steak: valet parking (2B05)-P

Pret A Manger: DDOT sidewalk cafe (2B05)-P

Dirty Martini: ABRA license renewal (2B05)-P

BarCode: ABRA license renewal (2B05)-P

BarCode: valet parking (2B05)-P

Midtown: ABRA license renewal (2B05)-P

Georgia Brown’s: valet parking (2B05)-P

1528 Church St NW: HPRB (2B05)-P

Joe’s Seafood: sidewalk cafe (2B05)-P

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G Street Food: new ABRA license (2B05)-P
Metropolitan Club: valet parking (2B06)-P
18th Street Lounge: liquor renewal (2B06)-P
1145 19th St NW: sidewalk cafe (2B06)-P
Cities LLC: substantial change (2B06)-P
1819 Club: ABRA renewal (2B06)-P
1728 P St: HPRB approval (2B07)-P
Keegan Theatre: BZA use change (2B07)-P
Patterson Mansion: BZA approval (2B07)-P
Kabin Group: valet parking (2B07)-P
Chi-Cha Lounge: VA/SA amendment (2B08)-P
Amsterdam Falafelshop: New ABRA license (2B09)-P
1420 T Street NW: HPRB (2B09)-P
Doi Moi: sidewalk cafe (2B09)-P
Lupo Verde: sidewalk cafe (2B09)- A
Precinct Boundaries Plan (Silverstein)-P
Publisher Box Regulations (Stephens)-P
Commemorating Annie Kaylor (Silverstein)-P
Administrative Matters

Treasurer's Report: Commissioner Maltz announced that the ANC 2B got back its full allotment at \$ 5,099.19

Other Finance/Treasurer Items (if any): none

Other Admin items (if any): none

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 9:06pm

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