Call to Order & Introduction of Commissioners & Staff

The November Meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Smith at 7:02 pm.

The Commissioners identified their Single Member Districts (SMDs). Present were: Kishan Putta (2B01), Stephanie Maltz (2B03), Mike Silverstein (2B04), Abigail Nichols (2B05), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Will Stephens (2B08), and Noah Smith (2B09). Commissioner Leo Dwyer was not able to attend.

The Commission staff introduced themselves: James Conway (Executive Director), and Patrick Kain (2B06 Liquor Liason).

Meeting Minutes & Work Calendar

Approval of October 2014 meeting minutes delayed to next meeting.

Distribution of Monthly Work Calendar for ANC 2B

Announcements

Commissioner Announcements
1. Ward 2 Education Network meeting on Nov 15, 2014 at Garrison Elementary School (myschooldc presentation)

2. Group of neighbors, the church and architects are meeting weekly to talk about resolving specific issues regarding St. Thomas Church. They plan to give an update at the December meeting.

3. Tom Lipinsky from Jack Evans’ office announced a finance committee mark up hearing tomorrow for the DC Council, including a bill for trash compactors.

4. Pat Powell from Golden Triangle BID announced a Golden Haiku event. People can submit Haikus to the Bid on their website. The winner will receive a tea ceremony at the Japanese Embassy.

5. Jack Jacobson announced Pierce elementary school is going through renovations and is now going to be a total re-build.
6. Commissioner Putta announced PTA is meeting at Garrison tomorrow night. This Saturday @ 11 am Stead Park is re-opening it’s back field.

7. Commissioner Nichols announced DC League of Women Voters just completed a study on DC voting process. Tomorrow night at MLK Library will be a commemorative event for DC Home Rule.

8. Susan Dunn from Charlie’s Place advisory committee is inviting everyone to breakfast Sunday Dec. 23rd.

Other public announcements

General (7:20pm) (10 mins)

Request for letter of support to DC HSEMA for High Heel Race (which was held October 28th) – Commissioner Silverstein moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Feldstein. Passed 7-0. The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas the High Heel Race on 17th Street held each year the week of Halloween takes place entirely within the boundaries of Dupont Circle ANC 2B, and

Whereas the High Heel Race brings many thousands of visitors to our neighborhood in the spirit of good fun, excitement, and camaraderie, and

Whereas the High Heel race is of great benefit to the independently owned businesses along the 17th Street corridor and the rest of Dupont Circle, and brings tens of thousands of dollars in tax dollars to the District of Columbia, therefore

Be it resolved that Dupont Circle ANC 2B reaffirms its support for the High Heel Race, and shall communicate that support to all relevant agencies of the District of Columbia.

Request for support from Fresh Farm Markets to operate during winter months (January, February and March) – Commissioner Silverstein moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Feldstein. Passed 7-0.

Friends of Stead Park Support Letters for Grand Re-Opening Celebration on November 15, 2014 from 11:30 – 1:30 and Pictures with Santa on December 6, 2014 from 11a-1p. – Commissioner Putta moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Nichols. Passed 7-0. The resolution reads as follows:

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Whereas, Stead Park’s acre of field space has undergone a transformation making it a multi-use resource for the community including a jogging track, a splashpark, a raised stage/pavilion, many trees/benches/tables, and an entrance connecting the park directly to the 17th Street commercial corridor;

Whereas some of the funding for this revitalization project came from a Planned Unit Development agreement negotiated by ANC 2B;

Whereas, the renovations are now substantially completed;

Whereas, the Mayor is expected to attend the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to officially open the field space for public use on Saturday, November 15;

Whereas, Friends of Stead Park is planning a Family Fun Field Day immediately following the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and is obtaining the proper permits for doing so.

Be it resolved that ANC 2B supports the Stead Park Family Fun Field Day and congratulates Friends of Stead Park for helping to preserve neighborhood greenspace and revitalize it into an asset and amenity that all community groups and ages can enjoy together.

Be it further resolved that ANC 2B thanks Mayor Gray, Councilmember Evans, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Department of General Services for supporting this important project for our community.

Support for Photos With Santa Charity Event in Stead Park, Saturday, December 6, 2014 – Commissioner Putta moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Silverstein. Passed 7-0. The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, Friends of Stead Park is planning a Photos with Santa event on Saturday, December 6 from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm in Stead Park;

Whereas, this event will feature photos with Santa, a singing elf, hot chocolate, and candy canes;

Whereas, in lieu of an admissions fee, Friends of Stead Park is asking participants to donate canned goods to benefit the following charity: Capital Area Food Bank.

Therefore, Be it resolved that ANC 2B supports the Photos with Santa in Stead Park event on Saturday, December 6.

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Alcohol Applications (7:30pm) (55 mins total)

Renewals (5 mins)

Class B Retail-Grocery license for New Hampshire Market. 1900 16th St NW (ABRA-060454) (2B09) – No Action

Class B Retail-Grocery license for Trader Joe’s, 1914 14th Street NW (ABRA-093455) (2B09) – No Action

Class B Retail-Grocery license for Prego Again, 1617 17th St NW (ABRA-090326) (2B04) – No Action

Class B Retail license, Hampton Inn – White House Suite Shop (Single Sales Exception), 1729 H St NW (ABRA-091668)(2B06) – No Action

General Alcohol Applications (50 mins)

Review of Sauf Haus Settlement Agreement Amendment, 1216 18th St NW (ABRA-086803) (2B06). – Commissioner Maltz moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Nichols. Passed 7-0. The resolution reads as follows:

Application for new CR liquor license application for “& Pizza” at 1215 Connecticut Ave NW. New restaurant that will prepare and sell pizza and have recorded music. Total occupancy of 52 with a sidewalk café of 11 seats. Proposed hours of operation for inside and sidewalk café: Sunday to Thursday 7 am to 2 am, Friday and Saturday 7 am to 3 am. Proposed hours of alcohol sales inside and outside is 8am to 2am weekdays and 8am to 3am weekends. (ABRA-096845) Petition Date is December 1, 2014; Roll Call Hearing Date is December 15, 2014 (2B05)- Commissioner Maltz moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Nichols. Passed 7-0.

Request for substantial change from class CR (restaurant) to class CT (tavern) liquor license for Recession at 1823 L Street NW. No changes to hours of operations or entertainment. (ABRA-060567) – The Commission takes no action.

Request for substantial change from class CR (restaurant) to class CT (tavern) liquor license for Selam Restaurant at 1524 U Street NW. No changes to hours of operations or entertainment. (ABRA-060080) (2B09) – Commissioner Smith moved to protest on the basis of peace, order, and quiet subject to a successful settlement agreement or other resolution. Seconded by Commissioner Stephens. Passed 6-0.

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Stipulated License Request for Nagomi, 1990 M St NW Suite 100. Authentic Japanese restaurant. Occupancy 49. Hours of Operation and Alcohol Sales/Service: Sunday through Thursday 11 am – 10:00 pm, Friday and Saturday 11 am – 11:00 pm (ABRA-096999)(2B06) – Commissioner Maltz moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Stephens. Passed 7-0. The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas; the applicant has requested that ANC 2B support the issuance of a Stipulated License in accordance with Section 200 of Title 23 of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations, (“23 DCMR §200”), to operate under the terms of that license application prior to the completion of the 45 day protest period, and;

Whereas; the hours of the stipulated license requested by Nagomi are similar to the existing hours of a similar establishment located on the same block;

Whereas; the stipulated license request includes hours that are substantially earlier than legal license hours;

Now therefore be it resolved; that ANC 2B Supports the request by Nagomi for a stipulated license.

Historic Preservation & Zoning Applications (8:25pm) (45 mins total)

Review of Use of Space Application for the Dupont Underground – Commissioner Maltz moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Nichols. Passed 7-0. The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas the Deputy Mayor’s Office for Planning and Economic Development has requested the ANC’s comment on a short term lease of the Dupont Underground to the Arts Coalition for Dupont

Be it resolved the ANC strongly supports activating the use of the Dupont Underground for temporary uses to find the feasibility of a long term use when the ANC will give future feedback; and

Be it resolved that the ANC would like a member of the ANC to be on the Board of Directors of the Arts Coalition for Dupont.

Rehearing for HPRB Application for 1617 Riggs Place, NW (HPA-14-723) (2B04) – Moved to the next meeting.

HPRB Application for renovation and rear addition at 1508 Caroline Street (HPA 15-058) (2B09)- Commissioner Smith moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Feldstein. Passed 7-0. The resolution reads as follows:

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ANC 2B DUPONT CIRCLE ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 12, 2014, Brookings Institute

Whereas Caroline Street NW is a one block historical treasure, whose unique qualities should be celebrated and protected;

Whereas Caroline Street NW is generally composed of matching paired row homes on both sides of the street, built together in the 1880’s;

Whereas the owners of 1508 Caroline Street NW have applied to the Historic Preservation Review Board to renovate the interior, add a third story to the front of the home, add a two story addition to the rear of the home, renovate and improve the front of the property to add an entrance to a basement dwelling and to generally match the look and design of its paired home at 1506 Caroline;

Whereas 1506 Caroline St NW added a third story addition in the late 1800’s;

Whereas Caroline Street NW is part of the U Street Historic District;

Whereas the neighbors of Caroline Street NW have met to discuss the proposed project and have agreed with the owner to two specific changes to the proposal; and

Whereas there is concern from Caroline Street residents that support for this project could lead to additional visible third story additions to the street, which is generally not supported by neighbors.

Therefore be it RESOLVED that ANC2B supports the project with the following three conditions:

That the proposed west side bump out addition not be greater than the current single story;
That there not be a visible west side terrace on any level; and
That support of this project NOT be considered precedent setting for this block or in anyway indicate support for a future proposal to add a third story front addition to a property on Caroline Street NW.

HPRB and BZA applications for Phillips Collection, 1600 21st Street N.W., to enclose rooftop HVAC system (HPA 15-054) (BZA XXXX) (2B02) – Commissioner Feldstein moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Stephens. Passed 7-0. The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas the Phillips Mansion is requesting a BZA and HPRB variance for an HVAC system on the roof; and

Whereas there is a proposed visible addition of a roof over the HVAC system
Therefore be it resolved the ANC supports the project as proposed including potential future iterations of the concept on staff level; and

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Be it further resolved the ANC believes the addition of a roof over the HVAC system will enhance the beauty of the neighborhood and protect the treasured institution of the Phillips Collection.

ANC2B Support for Market Price Purchase of St. Thomas Land to Preserve Parkland (Resolution Introduced September 29, 2014; Tabled Until November 12) (2B07) - Tabled to next ANC meeting and ZPD meeting.

Public Space Use & Related Applications (9:10pm)

Public Space application #10158637 for unenclosed sidewalk cafe at 1050 17th St NW (2B06) – Commissioner Stephens moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Nichols. Motion to ask DDOT to table this issue to our December meeting.

Public Space application #10162018 for 3 valet parking spots at 1924 14th St NW (2B09) – Commissioner Smith moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Silverstein. Passed 6-1-0.

Transportation & Public Infrastructure Committee (9:30pm) (15 mins)

Resolution in Support of the Draft Circulator Transit Development Plan. – Commissioner Smith moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Stephens. The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas ANC2B has been invited to comment on the DC Circulator 2014 Transit Development Plan Update;

Whereas the proposed extension of the Georgetown to Dupont Circle circulator to Howard University goes through ANC 2B on 18th Street;

Whereas ANC 2B find that the extension of Circulator Service from Dupont Circle to U St Street and Howard University will benefit the neighborhood;

Whereas has previously expressed support for a expanded Circulator route from Dupont to Foggy Bottom and the Lincoln Memorial, and looks forward to a future Dupont Circle to Waterfront Circulator;

Whereas no specific routes have yet been devised, but that ANC2B encourages strong community engagement so that the neighborhood will have a chance to understand any impacts of stops on a street to traffic, parking, and the and the reliability of the Circulator to provide frequent service while serving high-demand areas with multiple traffic choke points; and

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Whereas, vehicles northbound on 18th Street NW often face significant delays approaching Florida Avenue due to the signal timing, which could impact a Circulator service.

Therefore be it RESOLVED that ANC 2B enthusiastically supports the proposed plan to add more Circulator service to the Dupont neighborhood, and suggests DDOT staff conduct a walking tour on 18th Street NW between Dupont Circle and Florida Ave with the ANC’s transportation and public infrastructure committee in order to identify the best Circulator stop locations while conforming to Circulator service guidelines.

ANC 2B recommends DDOT request reliability data from WMATA’s previous service on 18th Street NW and a study of reusing infrastructure on 18th Street NW left behind from WMATA’s previous bus service, including bus pads between T St and Florida Ave NW.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC2B general supports additional public transit options servicing our neighborhood.

Resolution to Evaluate Utility of Traffic Signals in Residential Dupont Circle. – Commissioner Smith moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Silverstein. Passed 7-0. The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, the blocks along 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, and New Hampshire Avenues north of Massachusetts and Connecticut and south of Florida are all residential or neighborhood commercial areas with low-speed traffic;

Whereas, a Philadelphia study found that replacing signals with 4-way stop signs in similar areas reduced serious pedestrian casualties by 68%;

Whereas, particularly outside rush hours, the traffic volume at many of these intersections is low;

Whereas, a red light during low-demand periods can force a driver to wait a long time while there is no cross traffic, or encourage a driver to speed to make it through a light before it turns yellow or red;

Whereas, long red lights can encourage pedestrians to cross against the light rather than wait;

Whereas, stop signs allow drivers to proceed with only a minimum wait after stopping, and also allow pedestrians to cross without a long wait after stopping;

Whereas, areas of Georgetown, Capitol Hill, and elsewhere have replaced traffic signals with stop signs to smooth out the flow of motor vehicle, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic;
Whereas, even in busy intersections such as 19th and N, a stop sign functions well; and

Whereas, some signals in ANC 2B operate on a 60-second cycle, while in other cities such as Portland, the typical signal operates on a shorter cycle time, which also allows for shorter waits for both drivers and pedestrians.

Therefore be it RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests DDOT evaluate the traffic signals along 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, and New Hampshire Avenues north of Massachusetts and Connecticut and south of Florida (not at this time including at the intersections actually on Massachusetts, Connecticut, or Florida Avenues or on Dupont Circle), and

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests DDOT consider whether some or all of these signals could be replaced with 4-way stop signs, or if that is not feasible, reducing the cycle times on the signals at all times or outside of peak hours.

ANC2B requests that DDOT communicate findings of the evaluation with the ANC and discuss options prior to implementing a signal change.

Resolution to Alter Signage on the 15th Street Cycle Track – Commissioner Smith moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Silverstein. – Commissioner Smith moved to approve, seconded by Commissioner Feldstein. Passed 7-0. The resolution reads as follows:

Whereas the signage on the 15th street cycle track is inconsistent, confusing and poorly placed;

Whereas poor signage can lead to dangerous interactions between pedestrians, cyclists and motorists;

Whereas there is no consistent signage warning drivers that a two-way cycle track exists on 15th street as they approach; and

Whereas ANC2B’s Transportation and Public Infrastructure Committee performed an audit of the cycle track and developed recommendations in the attached powerpoint presentation.

Therefore be it RESOLVED that ANC2B supports the recommendations in the attached presentations, including changing the signage of the 15th St cycle track to:

Ensure the intended audience for each type of sign is clear and consistent
Simplify and make uniform all signs
Place signs at optimal height and location for visibility by their intended audience; and

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Add more signs to inform cyclists and motorists about the existence of the cycle track and lane layout. Be it FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC2B requests that DDOT make these changes during the regular springtime maintenance of the cycle track in early 2015.

ANC2B’s Transportation and Public Infrastructure Committee is eager to discuss these requests with DDOT and is available for consultation during off-peak biking months so that installation can occur in the Spring.

Updates on Parking and Pedestrian Safety Initiatives
Next Meeting: 11/19/14 7pm @ Resource Center
Other Committee Reports (9:45pm) (5 mins)

Report of Zoning, Preservation & Development Committee
Reports on old business (if any)
Other items
Next Meeting: 12/3/14 7pm @ Resource Center (First Wednesdays)

Report of ABRA Policy Committee
Report of Public Safety Committee
Reports on old business (if any): Committee Membership, Regular Meeting time, Club Central public safety meeting follow-up
Next Meeting: End of month TBA

Report of Ward 2 Education Coalition
Reports on old business (if any): Garrison School, Meetings with Chancellor Kaya Henderson, DME student assignment / boundary committee recommendations, resolution on quality schools
Other items

Commissioner and Staff Reports (9:50pm) (5 mins total)

Staff Reports
Coudriet Fellow (vacant)
Deschaine Fellow (vacant)
Executive Director: None
Web/IT Consultant: None

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Neighboring Jurisdiction Reports (if any): West End/Foggy Bottom (2B06), Adams Morgan (2B01, 2B08), Kalorama (2B01, 2B02), Logan Circle (2B04, 2B05, 2B09), Georgetown (2B06), U Street, 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)
Al Tiramisu: Valet staging (2B02)
2123 Twining Court: BZA (2B02)
CVS: Certificate of Need (2B02)
2028 Hiller: rear deck (2B02)
Rosebar: ABRA license renewal (2B05)
Noodles & Co: sidewalk cafe (2B05)
BLT Steak: valet parking (2B05)
Dirty Martini: ABRA license renewal (2B05)
Dirty Martini: valet staging (2B05)
BarCode: ABRA license renewal (2B05)
BarCode: valet parking (2B05)
Midtown: ABRA license renewal (2B05)
Georgia Brown’s: valet parking (2B05)
1528 Church St NW: HPRB (2B05)
1620 Q St NW: HRPB approval (2B05)
1815 Riggs Pl NW: BZA (2B01)
1528 Church St NW: BZA (2B05)
1512 P St NW: BZA (2B05)
Metropolitan Club: valet parking (2B06)
18th Street Lounge: liquor renewal (2B06)
1145 19th St NW: sidewalk cafe (2B06)
1819 Club: ABRA renewal (2B06)
Native Foods: sidewalk cafe (2B06)
1337 21st St NW: HPRB approval (2B06)
Kellari: valet staging (2B06)
Hampton Inn: singles sales (2B06)
1728 P St: HPRB approval (2B07)

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Keegan Theatre: BZA use change (2B07)
Patterson Mansion: BZA approval (2B07)
Kabin Group: valet parking (2B07)
1727 Mass Ave: zoning request (2B07)
Local 16: VA/SA amendment (2B08)
Saloon45: new CT license (2B08)
Penthouse Pool: substantial change (2B08)
1459 S Street NW: HPRB (2B09)
Medicinal Marijuana dispensary (2B01/2B05)
Precinct Boundaries Plan (Silverstein)
Publisher Box Regulations (Stephens)
Commemorating Annie Kaylor (Silverstein)

Administrative Matters (9:55pm) (5 mins)
Finance/Treasurer Items
Old administrative business: None
Other Admin items (if any)

Adjournment (10:00pm)
By acclimation