



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

February 23, 2016

Chairman Donovan Anderson
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
Reeves Center
2000 14th Street NW
Washington, DC 20009

RE: Request from the ABC Board for Comments on the Proposed Pub Crawl Regulations

Dear Chairman Anderson,

At its regular meeting on February 10, 2016, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 9 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following comments by a vote of (7-0-1):

The Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2B) commends the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board for adopting emergency rules and proposing permanent rulemaking on pub crawls in response to general and specific complaints from ANCs, residents, Business Improvement Districts and the police department.

241 (or 16%) of the 1500 alcohol licenses up for renewal in 2016 are within the boundaries of ANC 2B and the neighborhood is frequently affected by pub crawls. In the last year our neighborhood has experienced the negative impacts of thousands of people moving from establishment to establishment without any party responsible for public safety or clean-up.

ANC 2B generally supports the proposed rulemaking under Chapter 7 of Title 23 DCMR and offers the following comments and additions:

- 712.5: Add “the affected Advisory Neighborhood Commission(s)” to organizations that a Pub Crawl Event Form must be provided to.
- 712.5(f): Clarify that “litter” refers to litter on public and private spaces.
- 712.7: This section requires some clarification to explicitly require litter removal and cleaning in the affected geographic area. This could be achieved by referencing 712.5(b) or requiring cleanup within a certain distance of each participating establishment or by another means. We also recommend a requirement that public space is cleaned within a certain time of the end of the

event, perhaps two hours. This should be consistent with event permits offered by the Mayor's Special Event Task Force.

- 712.22: Violation of this provision should be a tier 1 offence against the license of the establishment.
- 712.26: This is a difficult to enforce provision that may contradict the intention of the rulemaking. While we are sympathetic to the bureaucratic requirements for both the applicant and the ABC Board, this provision should be replaced to clarify intent. One option is that pub crawls that are publicly advertised, include more than two establishments, and include ticket sales must have an approved license.
- Concurrent Pub Crawls: ANC 2B recommends a new section that assures more than one pub crawl is not licensed at the same time in the same area. Language may include "The Board shall not approve more than one pub crawl application in the same or overlapping geographic area at the same or overlapping time on the same day. The Board will process pub crawl applications in the order in which they were submitted, but not more than 120 days before a proposed event. The Board shall have discretion to deny a pub crawl application if it determines that the event is too close in geographic proximity or time to another licensed event such that it would contribute to the detriment of peace, order, quiet or public safety."

Due to his position on the ABC Board, Commissioner Silverstein did not participate in this discussion.

Commissioners Noah Smith (noah.smith@dupontcircleanc.net) and Nicole Mann (nicole.mann@dupontcircleanc.net) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,



Nicole Mann
Chair

cc:

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