



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

### Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 9th, 2016; 7:00 p.m.  
Brookings Institution, 1775 Massachusetts Avenue NW

#### Call to Order

The March 2016 Meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Nicole Mann at 7:00 pm.

The Commissioners identified their Single Member Districts (SMDs). Present were: Daniel Warwick (2B02), Michael Upright (2B04), Abigail Nichols (2B05), Mike Silverstein (2B06), John Kupcinski (2B07), Nicole Mann (2B08), and Noah Smith (2B09).

#### Announcements and Public Comments

##### Commissioner Announcements

Chair Mann encouraged meeting attendees to attend Historic Dupont Circle Main Street's upcoming Spring Fling event.

Commissioner Nichols talked about the recent Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board order regarding Midtown in response to a local resident and ANC protest about excessive noise at the establishment.

Commissioner Warwick talked about the DC Department of Energy and the Environment's (DOEE) upcoming frog watch scientist trainings.

##### Welcoming new MPD Third District Commander Stuart Emerman

Stuart Emerman, the new commander of the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Third District, was present. He said that he is currently in his third role serving in the Third District. He talked about his previous experience with MPD, and encouraged meeting attendees to reach out to their police service area (PSA) officials with community concerns regarding crime.

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

Eva Lewis, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), was present. She talked about the Mayor's upcoming State of the District Address, which would take place March 22nd at Arena Stage. She encouraged meeting attendees to attend the address. Additionally, she talked about the recent opening of the DC Streetcar. She also provided details for the upcoming Ward 2 walk with the Mayor's Office, which would take place in the Dupont Circle neighborhood.

Bill McLeod, the Executive Director of Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets, was present. He talked about the organization's upcoming Spring Fling event.

Susan Volma, a representative for the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA), was present. She talked about the presentation that Megan Kanagy, a representative for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave at the recent DCCA membership meeting.

Charlie Ellis, another representative for the Dupont Circle Citizens Association, was present. He encouraged the commissioners to support funding for the Fillmore Arts Center.

Commissioner Silverstein talked about the recent improvements that were made to the S Street Dog Park, including the installation of a new bench.

### **General Agenda**

#### **Resolution in Support of Capital Pride's Use of Stead Park for Movie Nights in 2016**

Commissioner Warwick moved to adopt the resolution on the matter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Upright. Passed 5-0-2. 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 DPR permits to hold two special events at Stead Park – namely Capital Pride Spring Movie Night, Monday, April 25, 2016, and Capital Pride Fall Movie Night, Monday, September 26, 2016,

WHEREAS, these two events are part of the larger program of Capital Pride, including the 41st Annual Capital Pride Parade on June 11, 2016, which ANC 2B enthusiastically supports, and

WHEREAS, the sponsors are experienced in managing these events, which have been held for several years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports DPR permitting of Stead Park for Capital Pride events on April 25, June 11, and September 26, 2016.

#### **Resolution in Support of the Capital Pride Parade**

Commissioner Smith moved to adopt the resolution on the matter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Upright. Passed 7-0-0. The resolution reads as follows:

#### **Resolution in Support of Friends of Stead Park Permits to Use Stead Park in 2016**

Commissioner Nichols moved to adopt the resolution on the matter. The motion was seconded by Chair Mann. Passed 5-0-2. The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia Department of Parks and Recreation has requested a 2016 resolution from ANC 2B concerning permitting Stead Park activities for activities sponsored by the Friends of Stead Park,

WHEREAS, as voted previously, ANC 2B recognizes the important role the Friends of Stead Park organization plays in supporting children and families residing in the Dupont and surrounding communities and that the activities sponsored by the Friends of Stead Park are consistent with the purpose of the Stead Trust to serve the children of the District of Columbia, and

WHEREAS, the Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner for the Single Member District in which Stead Park is located is traditionally a member of the Board of the Friends of Stead Park, and this collaboration between Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B and the Friends of Stead Park ensures that ANC 2B is aware of Friends programming in the Park should intervention be necessary.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B approves any programs sponsored by the Friends of Stead Park until such time as it finds an objection necessary.

Resolution in Support of the DC Public Schools' Continuation of Funding for the Fillmore Arts Center

Chair Mann moved to adopt the resolution on the matter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nichols. Passed 7-0-0. The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, a proposed DCPS budget cut would eliminate funding for the Fillmore Arts Center program, currently operating at five District elementary schools,

WHEREAS, Ross Elementary, one of the affected schools, is located in ANC 2B, and is one of the smallest schools in the DCPS system and also one of the highest-performing,

WHEREAS, the need for arts programs, including visual arts, music, drama, dance, and creative writing as part of instruction in elementary-aged student curriculums is increasingly important,

WHEREAS, eliminating funding of Fillmore Arts Center and requiring these five schools to support their own arts programs would present a burden to small schools like Ross Elementary and would result in students no longer receiving the same quality of arts education as they do currently.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B opposes eliminating funding for the Fillmore Arts Center and encourages DCPS to explore other options to continue funding the program, including the expansion of the number of schools served by the program.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Agenda

Discussion of Restaurant and Multipurpose Licenses Up For Renewal on March 31st

Chair Mann said that approximately seven alcoholic beverage license holders in ANC 2B had filed for renewal of their licenses thus far. She added that the renewal process would be the ANC's opportunity to address neighborhood concerns regarding individual license holders.

**Historic Preservation & Zoning Agenda**

1810 16th Street NW – Application by the Universalist National Memorial Church for a Variance to Allow the Continuation of Theater Performances in the Church's Basement

Commissioner Smith moved to adopt the resolution on the matter. The motion was seconded by Chair Mann. Passed 7-0-0. The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the Universalist National Memorial Church is requesting an amendment to a Board of Zoning Adjustment-granted variance which allows the use of the basement as a theatre,

WHEREAS, the applicant proposes expanding the number of shows from 48 to 60 per year as well as changing the occurrence of BZA review from every three years to every six years,

WHEREAS, the additional 12 performances per year will improve the viability of performance runs,

WHEREAS, over the past three years of the variance being granted, the only neighbor complaint regarding the performances was solved expeditiously and is no longer a problem, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B encourages the continued parking agreement the church has with the Masonic Temple for performances, which has existed for decades as an agreement between the church and the temple on Sundays.

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

1711 Rhode Island Avenue NW – Redevelopment of the Former YMCA Building

Commissioner Warwick moved to adopt the resolution on the matter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Nichols. Passed 7-0-0. The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the project at 1711 Rhode Island Avenue NW, the former YMCA building, is within the boundaries of ANC 2B and the Dupont Circle Historic District,

WHEREAS, the project is proposing to renovate the current nonconforming building to a trophy office building involving the re-skinning of the building and changing the address to 1701 Rhode Island Avenue NW,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B is pleased to see the attention given to alley mobility by removing portions of the building which are obstacles to alley traffic, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B supports the proposal to add green landscaping to the existing sidewalk.

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

### **Public Space Committee Agenda**

#### **1823 L Street NW – Application for a New Enclosed Sidewalk Café**

Commissioner Silverstein moved to submit a request to the Public Space Committee for a one-month delay of the hearing on the matter. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kupcinski. Passed 7-0-0. The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B requests a one-month delay for the application for a new enclosed sidewalk cafe at 1823 L Street NW so that further discussion can be had with neighboring businesses and residents.

### **Administrative Agenda**

#### **Review and Approval of Lease Agreement with the National Park Service for Use of the Dupont Circle Resource Center**

Commissioner Smith moved to approve the lease agreement. The motion was seconded by Chair Mann. Passed 6-0-0. The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B approves the proposed agreement (#G3401160001) with the National Park Service and the U.S. Park Police for ANC 2B's use of the Dupont Circle Resource Center, and authorizes Chairperson Nicole Mann to sign the proposed agreement as ANC 2B's authorized representative on the matter.

#### **Approval of a Community Impact Statement on Recent Crimes in the Neighborhood**

Commissioner Smith moved to authorize Commissioner Silverstein to write a Community Impact Statement regarding the recent series of burglaries that occurred on Connecticut Avenue NW just south of Dupont Circle. The motion was seconded by Chair Mann. Passed 6-0-0.

#### **Review and Approval of Request for Proposals (RPP) for the Dupont Circle Resource Center Renovations**

Commissioner Kupcinski moved to approve the request for proposals (RFP) for the Dupont Circle Resource Center renovations. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warwick. Passed 6-0-0. The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the ANC has received qualified architectural drawings which outline the renovation of the Dupont Circle Resource Center from an architectural firm and provides sufficient technical detail,

WHEREAS, these drawings have been integrated into a request for proposals (RFP) which outlines a notice and instruction to bidders, general information, and scope of work,

WHEREAS, this RFP, in order to meet a proposed award date by May 13th, must be released by April 8th,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B nominates Chair Emeritus Will Stephens as a community representative throughout this project, and

WHEREAS, the Chair of ANC 2B will delegate responsibilities for various aspects of the project to each and all members of ANC 2B at our April meeting.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B approves the RFP with technical corrections and requests that the RFP be released to bidders no later than April 8th.

#### Approval of February 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Warwick moved to approve the regular February 2016 meeting minutes, subject to minor technical edits. The motion was seconded by Chair Mann. Passed 6-0-0.

#### Approval of Amended FY 2015 Quarter 4 Financial Report

Chair Mann moved to approve the submission of an amended FY 2015 Quarter 4 financial report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Warwick. Passed 6-0-0.

Chair Mann adjourned the meeting at 9:28 pm.