



# **GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

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

### **Regular Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, February 14th, 2018; 7:00 p.m.  
Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies  
1717 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Room 500

### **Call to Order**

The February 2018 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Daniel Warwick at 7:01 pm.

### **Introduction of Commissioners**

The Commissioners identified their single member districts (SMDs). Present were: Amy Johnson (2B01), Daniel Warwick (2B02), Nick DelleDonne (2B04), Randy Downs (2B05), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Kari Cunningham (2B07), Nicole McEntee (2B08), and Scott Davies (2B09).

### **Announcements and Public Comments**

#### **Commissioner Announcements**

Commissioner Cunningham thanked the local residents who attended the ANC's recent town hall on homelessness. She said that the purpose of the town hall was to connect local residents with service providers who are working to address homelessness in the city.

Commissioner DelleDonne said that he and a group of local residents recently toured a housing facility for the homeless that is run by So Others Might Eat (SOME). He said that the facility is designated for women with children. He said that he is hoping to schedule another tour in the next couple of months. He added that he recently gave testimony during a DC Council hearing on DC Council Bill B22-0223 – the “Public Restroom Facilities Installation and Promotion Act of 2017.”

Commissioner Johnson said that Glen's Garden Market will soon be launching a program called AccelerateHERdc, which will be providing funding to women-owned food businesses. She also said that Walgreens has acquired the Rite Aid stores at 1815 Connecticut Avenue NW and 1306 U Street NW and will be converting them to Walgreens stores.

#### **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), encouraged local residents to attend the Frederick Douglass 5K and Oxon Run Trail ribbon cutting, which will take place this Saturday, February 17th at 8:30 am at Oxon

Run Park's amphitheater, 13th Street and Mississippi Avenue SE. He also gave an overview of Mayor Bowser's upcoming budget engagement forums. He said that the closest forum to Dupont Circle will take place on Wednesday, February 21st at 6:30 pm at the University of District of Columbia's Student Center, 4200 Connecticut Avenue NW.

Joe Florio, a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' office, said that trash collection during the following week will be moved back due to the Presidents' Day holiday. He encouraged local residents to reach out to DC Water if they notice any clogged storm drains in the neighborhood. He gave an overview of the DC Council's upcoming performance oversight hearing regarding the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA).

Bill McLeod, the Executive Director of Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets, said that the organization's annual Spring Fling event will take place on Thursday, March 22nd from 6:00 to 9:00 pm at the Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Avenue NW.

#### Presentation Regarding the Penelope Hotel Project at 1337 Connecticut Avenue NW

Felipe Serpa, the Development Manager for Valor Development, gave a visual presentation regarding the development plans for the Penelope Hotel project at 1337 Connecticut Avenue NW. He said that a floor will be added to the existing five-story building on the site. He said that the development team will be choosing a hotel operator soon.

Mr. Serpa said that the construction team will be creating an eight-foot-wide covered pedestrian walkway on the sidewalk along the Connecticut Avenue NW side of the site. He said that dumpsters will be stored on the 18th Street NW side of the site. He added that flagmen will be directing pedestrian and vehicular traffic on 18th Street.

Mr. Serpa said that the development team is planning to begin construction in early April. He said that construction should last for approximately ten to eleven months. He said that there will be some construction work on Saturdays. He added that a mobile crane will be brought onto the construction site on certain mornings and will leave by the end of the day.

Commissioner Cunningham said that she has been meeting with the development team, the Golden Triangle BID, and nearby residents to discuss the impacts of the project.

Commissioner Johnson encouraged the development team to create a construction website like the one set up by the American Geophysical Union (AGU) for its ongoing development project. She said that the website is a good way to keep local residents informed regarding the status of the project.

#### Approval of the ANC's Goals and Objectives for FY 2018

Commissioner Johnson moved to adopt the ANC's proposed goals and objectives for FY 2018. Commissioner Downs seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The goals and objectives read as follows:

- Goal 1: Facilitate administration that supports transparent ANC operations
  - Objective 1a: Post monthly meeting minutes within one month of being approved
  - Objective 1b: Post Settlement Agreements on the ANC's website within two weeks of being published in an ABC order
  - Objective 1c: Post resolutions on the ANC's website within one month of vote
  
- Goal 2: Improve the quality of life for residents of ANC 2B
  - Objective 2a: Determine ANC 2B position on visitor parking options
  - Objective 2b: Work with groups seeking to establish Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in ANC 2B
  - Objective 2c: Appoint a Public Safety Liaison
  - Objective 2d: Implement at least one public safety campaign per year
  - Objective 2e: Use Transportation & Public Infrastructure Committee to advance related priorities
  
- Goal 3: Strengthen community participation in public processes
  - Objective 3a: 100% of historic preservation applications are reviewed by the ANC
  - Objective 3b: 100% of board of zoning adjustment (BZA) applications are reviewed by the ANC
  - Objective 3c: 100% of liquor license processes (applications, substantial changes, renewals) are reviewed by the ANC
  - Objective 3d: 100% of public space applications are reviewed by the ANC

Discussion Regarding the District Department of Transportation's Dockless Bikeshare Pilot Program

Chair Warwick said that the ANC plans to consider a resolution regarding the District Department of Transportation's (DDOT) dockless bikeshare pilot program during the ANC's regular March meeting. He gave an overview of the pilot program, which is set to end in April. He said that, with the upcoming end of the pilot program, DDOT is currently considering whether to continue the program and, if the agency does decide to continue the program, what regulations should govern it.

Chair Warwick gave an overview of the dockless bikeshare town hall that the ANC co-hosted with three other Ward 2 ANCs in December. He said that he believes that the commission should submit comments to DDOT regarding the ANC's thoughts on the program and the associated regulations that would govern the program.

Multiple commissioners and local residents provided feedback regarding the program.

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

**General Agenda**

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Historic Dupont Main Streets' Request to Close 17th Street NW from P Street to R Street for the 17th Street Festival on Saturday, August 25th

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

ANC 2B supports Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets' special event application to shut down 17th Street NW between P Street and R Street in order to stage the annual 17th Street Festival on Saturday, August 25th, 2018.

**Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Agenda**

Pisco Y Nazca Gastro Bar – Application for New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 1823 L Street NW

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

Taqueria Local – Application for New Retailer's Class "C" Tavern License at 1627 K Street NW

Commissioner Downs moved to support Taqueria Local's request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment's license application. Commissioner McEntee seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-3-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Taqueria Local's request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment's application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1627 K Street NW.

**Historic Preservation and Zoning Agenda**

2131 N Street NW – Application for a Variance from the Lot Occupancy Requirements to Repair and Increase the Depth of the Rear and Side Deck

Commissioner McEntee moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Downs seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the applicant is asking for a variance for the deck, which already exists, is non-conforming, and is only increasing by about two feet through the application,

WHEREAS, the context supports this kind of minor increase in lot coverage over parking, and

WHEREAS, the project has the support of most of the neighbors.

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

1323 21st Street NW – Concept / Three-Story Addition and New Garage with Storage at Rear

Commissioner McEntee moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Warwick seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the applicant has made great efforts to work with the neighbors on concerns and objections to this project before the applicant appeared before the ANC,

WHEREAS, the applicant compromised after meeting with neighbors on eliminating the third floor,

WHEREAS, most neighbors now do not oppose the project, and

WHEREAS, the applicant is using terne-coated stainless steel cladding materials appropriate for the historic context.

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

2031 Q Street NW – Concept / Roof Alteration at Rear

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

1747 T Street NW – Concept / Alter Slope of Roof, Third Story Addition at Rear

Commissioner McEntee moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the matter-of-right project is converting three units to five units, providing additional housing on T Street NW,

WHEREAS, the rooftop deck addition will be set back behind the existing roofline so as to not be visible from T Street, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B understands that the applicant is planning to move the utility meters from the front of the building to the back and would like to see this change reflected in the project plans.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the massing and concept of the project as proposed, conditional on no objections from neighbors and on the results of the flag test.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B recommends using brick materials for the addition.

## 1625 P Street NW – Stead Park Recreation Center Project

Commissioner McEntee moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-1-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the project intends to visually and functionally enhance the front courtyard and emulate the original open concept front entrance as it was first designed in the 1950s,

WHEREAS, the addition will be built in brick and at a size intended to harmonize with the historic building without detracting from it and will restore the windows,

WHEREAS, the project aims for Net Zero with features such as solar canopies, wind turbines, an agricultural green roof, and rainwater collection,

WHEREAS, the playground, with limited space, will feature vertical playground elements, which can accommodate more children,

WHEREAS, the applicant has worked to create a playful “playground” aesthetic for the building with features like the spiral staircase and rooftop fixtures,

WHEREAS, the site, as well as the building, will be 100% ADA accessible,

WHEREAS, the added vestibule in the back facing the field is in line with the historical context and serves a needed functional purpose, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B encourages modifications to address concerns related to the large open area between the building and the playing field and the occupied programming of the outdoor roof deck.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC requests that the Department of Parks and Recreation and the project team continue to engage and consult with the ANC, park users, and community stakeholders on the continued development of the project until completion.

## Discussion Regarding Proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Commissioner DelleDonne moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. Chair Warwick moved to adopt a proposed amendment to the proposed resolution. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion for the amendment, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-1). The final motion, incorporating the amended proposed resolution, was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2B acknowledges the community outreach conducted by the Office of Planning in advance of the Comprehensive Plan amendment process, and participated fully in that process,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B conducted its own community outreach in 2017, soliciting public input online and at farmers' markets,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B discussed these issues at ANC committee meetings and at regular monthly commission meetings,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B commissioners attended and participated in Office of Planning open houses to discuss possible amendments,

WHEREAS, at a regular meeting on January 11, 2017, ANC 2B was the first of several ANCs to sign a statement of priorities for housing and community development in the Comprehensive Plan, attached to this resolution, with DC-area organizations and companies who build housing, both for-profit and not-for-profit, advocate for policies that increase affordable housing, support the needs of disadvantaged communities, strengthen neighborhood commercial corridors and locally owned businesses, and educate the public on planning issues,

WHEREAS, a majority of ANC 2B's suggestions appear to be reflected in the current Office of Planning Draft Framework,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B applauds the community outreach process of the Office of Planning to the extent that it was conducted prior to the publication of the current document,

WHEREAS, the Draft Framework document was sent to the DC Council without a comment period and without seeking the advice of ANCs across the District,

WHEREAS, the shortage of all types of housing, including market rate housing, workplace housing, and affordable housing, has reached critical levels in the District, leading to the displacement of many residents, and

WHEREAS, many ANCs representing areas where the lack of affordable housing has become a crisis have not yet weighed in on the current document and seek to do so.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the Office of Planning to reopen the Comprehensive Plan amendment process to a public comment period, as they are obligated to do, to allow those affected by proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan to fully participate in the process that will determine the future of their neighborhoods.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the Office of Planning to reopen the process without delay and urges all involved to work expeditiously to complete the entire process without undue delay.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the DC Council to delay consideration of DC Council Bill B22-0663 – the “Comprehensive Plan Amendment Act of 2018” until our fellow citizens and fellow commissioners can voice their opinions at this stage.

### **Administrative Matters**

#### **Approval of the Regular January 2018 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the ANC’s regular January 2018 meeting minutes. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

#### **Approval of the ANC’s FY 2018 Quarter 1 Financial Report**

Commissioner Silverstein moved to approve the ANC’s FY 2018 Quarter 1 financial report. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

#### **Discussion Regarding the ANC’s Administrative Processes**

Commissioner DelleDonne moved to have the ANC form a committee to study the ANC’s administrative processes, including the processes for drafting and submitting ANC resolutions and ANC meeting minutes, and to provide recommendations to the ANC with the goal of increasing transparency. The motion did not pass due to the lack of a second.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Warwick adjourned the meeting at 9:55 pm.