



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Call to Order

The regular November 2018 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Daniel Warwick at 7:07 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), and Beverly Schwartz (2B08).

Announcements and Public Comments

Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Johnson said that the ANC's planned review of proposed changes to the ANC's Public Space Guidelines has been postponed from the Commission's regular November 2018 meeting to the Commission's regular December 2018 meeting due to the full meeting agenda this evening.

Commissioner Johnson said that, after hearing about community concerns regarding a recent dangerous incident at the Safeway at 1701 Corcoran Street NW, she contacted store representatives who told her that a police report had been filed for the incident and that an undercover security program has been implemented

Commissioner Downs said that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will hold a public meeting regarding the agency's proposal to install bike lanes on 20th Street and/or 21st Street and/or 22nd Street NW on Wednesday, December 5th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the West End Library, 2301 L Street NW. He also thanked local residents for their involvement in this year's 17th Street High Heel Race.

Other Public Announcements and General Comments or Future Agenda Items

James Cerasia, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), said that the Department of Public Works' (DPW) leaf collection season has begun. He said that he left pamphlets on the table in the back of the meeting room that provide more information regarding the dates and locations for leaf collection. He also encouraged local

residents who see any individuals experiencing homelessness during hypothermia season to call the city's 3-1-1 call center, who can dispatch a shelter van.

Joe Florio, a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' Office, said that the DC Council's Committee on Education will hold a roundtable regarding the DC Public Schools' (DCPS) plans for the Shaw Junior High School campus and Benjamin Banneker Academic High School on Thursday, November 15th at 10:00 am. He also said that DPW's trash collection schedule has slid back one day this week due to the Veterans Day holiday.

Susan Volman, a representative for the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA), said that the organization's 2018 Dupont Circle House Tour was very successful. She thanked local residents for volunteering or buying a ticket for the event. She added that DCCA recently voted to support the preservation of the previous plans for the Shaw Middle School site.

Benito Perez, a representative for DDOT's Parking and Ground Transportation Division, said that he wanted to follow up in-person regarding the ANC's previous resolution on the Dupont / Kalorama Curbside Management Study. He said that the agency has received additional resources and would like to start re-engaging with the ANC regarding curbside management in Dupont Circle.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Agenda

TBD – Application for a New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 2100 P Street NW

Chair Warwick moved to protest P St Hospitality, LLC's application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license based on adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B protests P St Hospitality, LLC's application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license at 2100 P Street NW based on adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood, pending the successful negotiation of a settlement agreement between the ANC and the applicant.

Casa de Montecristo – Application for a New Retailer's Class "C" Tavern License at 1132 19th Street NW

Commissioner Johnson moved to support Casa de Montecristo's request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment's application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license. Commissioner Downs seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Casa de Montecristo's request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment's application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1132 19th Street NW.

Agora – Application for a Substantial Change to the Establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 1527 17th Street NW

Commissioner Downs moves to support Agora’s request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment’s application for a substantial change to the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Agora’s request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment’s application for a substantial change to the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1527 17th Street NW.

Zoning, Preservation, and Development Agenda

1733 16th Street NW – Concept / Four-Story Plus Penthouse New Apartment Building

Chair Warwick moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion. Commissioner DelleDonne moved to adopt a proposed amendment to the resolution. There was no second to the motion and thus the proposed amendment did not pass. The final resolution was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-1-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the project as proposed is within the 16th Street Historic District, the 14th Street Historic District, and Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B,

WHEREAS, the project proposes to construct an apartment building on a currently vacant parcel at the corner of 15th Street and S Street NW, which was occupied by row houses more than 30 years ago,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B understands that the project is to be developed as a matter of right under the zoning code,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B heard from several constituents that preserving views of the apse of the Scottish Rite Temple from 15th Street is more important than the preservation of the current carriage house contributing structure,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B urges the applicant to rethink the proposed window treatment of the carriage house and to focus more on the garage-style windows and less on the small upper windows,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B appreciates the applicant’s proposed setbacks along 15th Street and S Street, which mimic setbacks on neighboring properties,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B additionally appreciates the applicant’s setback on the southern portion of the building between the proposed parking garage entrance and 15th Street, and encourages the applicant to maintain the streetscape so that the broadest amount of visibility is available where the alley meets the 15th Street protected cycle track,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B would appreciate, and the applicant has offered, a light study to illuminate concerns regarding shadows from the proposed project,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B appreciates that the proposed areaways allow for an additional level of cellar / English basement units, which provide much needed housing, add to the amount of Inclusionary Zoning required for the project, and likely provide a greater overall price range for units,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the proposed areaways are appropriately set back and covered in foliage so that they are not a historic preservation concern,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B understands the intent of the corner treatments of the project's street frontage, but believes that these portions of the building make the structure too complicated, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B appreciates brick treatment that integrates with neighboring buildings and responds to community input, but believes that the current design is overly complicated and incompatible with existing historic structures.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B encourages the applicant to redesign the corner treatments to be more congruent with the row house nature of 15th Street and S Street.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the applicant to rethink the window treatment on the carriage house.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B encourages the applicant to consider a more muted color tone through yellow or light red bricks and to simplify the design overall so that any variation in material and design is more subtle and more consistent with nearby properties.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that changes in the concept review proposal go back through the Historic Preservation Review Board rather than be delegated to Historic Preservation Office staff so that the ANC may continue to formally weigh in on this project.

Public Space Committee Agenda

Public Space Application by Tokyo Pearl for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 20 Tables and 45 Seats at 1301 Connecticut Avenue NW

The Commission delayed consideration of a resolution regarding this matter until a future ANC meeting.

Public Space Application by the Golden Triangle BID for the Installation of Two Temporary Art Projects at 1001 Connecticut Avenue NW and 1365 Connecticut Avenue NW

Commissioner Downs 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 Golden Triangle Business Improvement District (BID) seeks to install two temporary artworks in 2019: one at the intersection of K Street and Connecticut Avenue NW and one at the intersection of Dupont Circle and Connecticut Avenue NW (Connecticut Avenue Overlook),

WHEREAS, the public artworks will be located within single member districts 2B05, 2B06, and 2B07, as well as within the Golden Triangle BID,

WHEREAS, the first location on the Connecticut Avenue median at K Street NW will feature a custom work by New York-based artist Kate Raudenbush,

WHEREAS, the second location on the Connecticut Avenue Overlook will feature a custom work by DC-based artist Nekisha Durrett,

WHEREAS, the Golden Triangle BID convened an advisory panel to recommend artists based on qualifications, artistic merit, prior work experience, and professionalism necessary to complete these projects,

WHEREAS, over the past ten years the Golden Triangle BID has installed both permanent and temporary public artworks on or in the sidewalks, parks, medians, and Metrorail stations of the Golden Triangle neighborhood, and

WHEREAS, this project will continue the Golden Triangle BID's ongoing public space improvement efforts that make the neighborhood a clean, safe, and vibrant place to live, work, and visit.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the Golden Triangle BID's public space application to install temporary public art at the intersection of K Street and Connecticut Avenue NW and at the intersection of Dupont Circle and Connecticut Avenue NW (Connecticut Avenue Overlook).

General Agenda

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Redevelopment of Shaw Middle School

Commissioner Cunningham 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, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) were created to "advise the Council of the District of Columbia, the Mayor, and each executive agency...with respect to all proposed matters of District government policy," including education,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) is "to ensure that every student attends a great school, and that every school meets the high standards in all areas that affect student achievement,"

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that the success of quality DCPS by-right neighborhood schools is critical to the livelihood of our communities, including Dupont Circle,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B is interested in ensuring that feeder patterns for middle schools are thought through in a strategic and focused fashion, with special attention to designing a clear vision for how DCPS shall meet students' needs with particular emphasis on the principles of equity and access to quality matter-of-right public education options,

WHEREAS, DCPS has not actively engaged the Dupont Circle community and parents at other feeder elementary schools for the proposed Center City Middle School about the potential use of the Shaw Junior High School site for a new Banneker High School, and

WHEREAS, families in Dupont Circle are concerned by the lack of a permanent, matter-of-right pathway by which to educate their children.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the DC Public Schools to engage in vigorous, extensive, and sustained outreach efforts to communicate with all stakeholders and obtain feedback on proposals regarding the use and disposition of DCPS facilities in the neighborhoods in which they are located, as current efforts are inadequate and ineffective.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the DC Public Schools to provide meaningful opportunities for parents, community members, and stakeholders to engage in the planning processes involving schools so that the feasibility of creating both a middle and high school option in a Shaw location that schoolchildren can easily access will be addressed in a fair and transparent fashion prior to allocating the space at Shaw Junior High School to Banneker High School.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the District Department of Transportation's Proposed Installation of Parking Restrictions on the West Curbside of the 1900 Block of 14th Street NW for Passenger Loading

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Amendment Act of 2000" DC LAW 13-249 (48 DCR 3491 April 20, 2001), the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is required to give a written notice of intent to modify traffic and/or parking requirements,

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2018 DDOT issued a Notice of Intent (NOI #18-192) letter regarding the installation of parking restrictions for the placement of passenger pick-up and drop-off (PUDO) zones in the District, including a location within ANC 2B,

WHEREAS, PUDO zones serve as curbside areas reserved exclusively for passengers to enter or exit for-hire vehicles during posted times,

WHEREAS, PUDO zones were created to prevent pedestrians and passengers from being struck due to waiting for, walking to, or entering/exiting vehicles in roadways instead of sidewalks,

WHEREAS, PUDO zones also allow for and encourage passenger and commercial loading at the curbside, rather than in bike lanes, reducing the risk of collisions as cyclists merge with vehicular traffic due to obstructed bike lanes,

WHEREAS, the U Street NW corridor, centering at the intersection with 14th Street, is prone to considerable traffic volume and backups due to passengers entering and alighting from for-hire vehicles,

WHEREAS, DDOT currently has a weekend nightlife PUDO pilot in the “Club Central” section of Connecticut Avenue NW in Dupont Circle which has improved pedestrian safety and traffic flow, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B was proud to be part of the weekend nightlife PUDO pilot along Connecticut Avenue and is excited about the possibility of expanding this program.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports DDOT’s selection and use of the west curbside of the 1900 block of 14th Street NW, between T Street and U Street, as a full time PUDO zone for passenger and commercial loading.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B recommends that DDOT considers raising the penalties for PUDO parking violations to a level that ensures that the penalties are commensurate with violations so that the parking restrictions are followed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B encourages the Department of Public Works (DPW) to enforce the restrictions of the zones with ticketing and towing, if necessary, and the DC Council to allocate sufficient funds for such enforcement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B encourages DDOT to work with the ANC to explore additional PUDO zones within the ANC’s boundaries.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Department of For-Hire Vehicles’ Proposed Rulemaking on Grants for More Energy Efficient and Accessible Vehicles

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

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2018 the Department of For-Hire Vehicles (DFHV) issued emergency and proposed rulemakings amending Chapter 11 (Public Vehicles For-Hire Consumer Service Fund) of Title 31 (Taxicabs and Public Vehicles For Hire) of the DC Municipal Regulations,

WHEREAS, the rulemakings establish a financial assistance program that allows DFHV to offer financial assistance to owners of taxicabs for the purchase of alternative-fuel

vehicles (AFVs), the purchase of wheelchair-accessible vehicles, providing fare discounts for seniors and people with disabilities, and incentivizing cabs to travel through underserved communities, and

WHEREAS, the emergency rulemaking is in effect until January 30, 2019 and DFHV seeks to adopt the proposed rulemaking as final as soon as 30 days subsequently, and comments have been requested.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the intent of these rulemakings to preserve and promote safety, welfare, and equitable access to transportation for District residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges that, rather than establishing a financial assistance program for purchasing alternative-fuel vehicles, DFHV's final rulemaking should address the more urgent problem of the inadequate number of and access to charging stations in order to support the current cab fleet of electric vehicles in the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B recommends clarification that assistance and incentives dispensed through this program will go only to DC-licensed taxicabs and not to for-hire vehicle hailing companies.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the October 2018 Meeting Minutes

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

Approval of the ANC's FY 2018 Quarter 4 Financial Report

Commissioner Silverstein moved to approve the ANC's FY 2018 Quarter 4 financial report. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

General Agenda (Continued)

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the District Department of Transportation's Proposed Rulemaking on Residential Parking Regulations

and

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the District Department of Transportation's Proposed Rulemaking on Dockless Vehicle Regulations

Chair Warwick moved to table the matters until a future ANC meeting. Commissioner Downs seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Adjournment

Chair Warwick adjourned the meeting at 10:21 pm.