



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 10th, 2018; 7:00 p.m.
Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies
1619 Massachusetts Avenue NW

Call to Order

The regular October 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), and Beverly Schwartz (2B08).

Announcements and Public Comments

Presentation by Jeff Marootian, Director of the District Department of Transportation, Regarding the Newly-Created Office of Vision Zero

Jeff Marootian, the Director of the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave an overview of DDOT's creation of a community relations team within the agency. He said that the team ensures that DDOT is continually communicating with ANCs and community groups across the city.

Director Marootian gave an overview of DDOT's efforts to improve roadways and infrastructure across the city, including through a plan that started last year to eliminate all of the roadways that are rated as being in "poor" condition within five years. He said that DDOT is currently working on more than 200 projects to improve roadway safety.

Director Marootian gave an overview of Mayor Bowser's leadership on DC's Vision Zero initiative. He said that DDOT recently created an Office of Vision Zero that will work across government agencies to reach the DC Government's Vision Zero goals. He said that representatives from various agencies will meet each month to discuss Vision Zero projects and progress.

Director Marootian gave an overview of DDOT's work to use technology as way of improving roadway safety across the city, including through the piloting of autonomous vehicles.

The commissioners and meeting attendees engaged in a discussion with Director Marootian regarding dockless bikeshare and scootershare regulations, the moveDC plan, the installation of protected bike lanes, DDOT's Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project, needed

improvements to Dupont Circle itself, the enforcement of traffic regulations, and the proposed installation of rainbow crosswalks.

Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Johnson said that the ANC is currently reviewing DDOT's revised recommendations for transportation improvements at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue, R Street, and 20th Street NW and the intersection of Connecticut Avenue, S Street, and Florida Avenue NW. She also gave an overview of the ANC's upcoming public space community meeting, which will take place on Monday, October 22nd at 7:00 pm at the Society of the Cincinnati at the Anderson House, 2118 Massachusetts Avenue NW.

Commissioner Downs encouraged local residents to attend the annual Little Goblins Parade on Saturday, October 27th at 1:00 pm at Logan Circle, as well as Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets' annual pet costume contest on Wednesday, October 31st at 5:30 pm at the S Street Dog Park.

Commissioner Cunningham said that Iona Senior Services, which is currently implementing a project to improve senior services in Ward 2 and Ward 3, will have an informational meeting regarding the project on Thursday, October 25th at 2:00 pm at the West End Library, 2301 L Street NW.

Commissioner Silverstein wished meeting attendees a happy National Coming Out Day. He also said that Commissioner Davies was recently named the Interim Executive Officer of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy.

Commissioner Silverstein asked for an apology from Commissioner DelleDonne regarding comments that Commissioner DelleDonne made via email. Commissioner DelleDonne apologized for his comments.

Commissioner DelleDonne said that he will be holding a community meeting regarding the development project at 1733 16th Street NW on Thursday, October 18th at 7:00 pm at the Chastleton, 1701 16th Street NW.

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, said that Mayor Bowser will be attending the annual 17th Street High Heel Race on Tuesday, October 30th at 7:00 pm. He also said that menstrual products are no longer subject to DC sales tax as of October 1st, 2018. He added that Mayor Bowser will sign the "Office and Commission of Nightlife Establishment Act of 2017" on Thursday, October 18th. He said that the Director of the new Office of Nightlife and Culture will oversee public safety, traffic, and noise in relation to the city's night time economy.

Joe Florio, a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' Office, said that the application for DC's FY 2019 Commercial Waste Compactor Grants Program is now open. He said that the deadline to apply is Friday, December 7th at 12:00 pm. He also said that the DC Council's Committee on Finance and Revenue will hold a hearing regarding DC Council Bill B22-0944 -

the “Sports Wagering Lottery Amendment Act of 2018” on Wednesday, October 17th at 10:00 am.

Inspector Wendy Cadell, a representative for the Department of Public Works (DPW), said that, beginning October 1st, 2018, DPW will not allow local residents to put plastic bags and plastic wraps in recycling bins. She said that DPW’s street sweeping operations end on Wednesday, October 31st. She added that the agency’s leaf collection operations begin on Monday, November 5th.

Susan Volman, a representative for the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA), said that the organization’s annual Dupont Circle House Tour will take place on Sunday, October 21st. She encouraged local residents to attend or to volunteer for the event.

A representative for Agora at 1527 17th Street NW said that the restaurant is planning to expand into the vacant space next door. He said that a substantial change application has been submitted to the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) and that the application will be placarded soon. Chair Warwick said that the ANC will review the application once it is placarded.

Vincent Slatt, a local resident, said that Rayceen Pendarvis will be hosting a town hall on domestic violence in the LGBTQ community on Thursday, October 11th from 7:00 to 8:30 pm at the Reeves Center, 2000 14th Street NW.

A local resident said that she has seen an increase in shoplifting and unsafe interactions between customers and staff members at the Safeway at 1701 Corcoran Street NW since the store decided to no longer pay for security guards. Commissioner Johnson thanked the local resident for alerting the ANC to the matter.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Agenda

TBD – Application to Transfer the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License to a New Location at 1123 18th Street NW

Chair Warwick moved to protest SLK 6, LLC’s application to transfer the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store license to a new location at 1123 18th Street NW 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 SLK 6, LLC’s application to transfer the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store license to a new location at 1123 18th Street NW based on adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood.

Hank’s Oyster Bar – Application for a Substantial Change to the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 1622-1624 Q Street NW

Commissioner Downs moved to support Hank’s Oyster Bar’s application for a substantial change to the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1622-1624 Q Street NW,

contingent on verification that the applicant has amended the proposed hours for the summer garden. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion, which was later withdrawn and not voted on.

Commissioner Downs moved to protest Hank's Oyster Bar's application for a substantial change to the establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license at 1622-1624 Q Street NW 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 Hank's Oyster Bar's application for a substantial change to the establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license at 1622-1624 Q 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.

Café Citron – Application for a Substantial Change to the Establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 1343 Connecticut Avenue NW

Commissioner Schwartz moved to protest Café Citron's application for a substantial change to the establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license at 1343 Connecticut Avenue NW based on adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood, subject to the negotiation of a settlement agreement with the applicant. Commissioner DelleDonne seconded the motion, which was later withdrawn and not voted on.

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Public Space Committee Agenda

Public Space Application by Potbelly Sandwich Shop for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café With 5 Tables, 20 Seats, and 4 Umbrellas at 1660 L Street NW

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

WHEREAS, the proposed sidewalk cafe is within the confines of Dupont Circle and ANC 2B,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B understands that the sidewalk cafe has been an existing condition since 2004, however the public space permit is unfortunately unable to be located,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B requested that the applicant change the existing condition to allow for more sidewalk width between the sidewalk cafe and the tree box on 17th Street NW,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B appreciates the applicant's amendment of the application to allow for more sidewalk width than what currently exists, and

WHEREAS, while the amended drawings do not meet ANC 2B's Public Space Guidelines, which request 10 feet of width between obstructions on the sidewalk, ANC 2B recognizes that this condition was created by the landscaping of the sidewalk and not by the sidewalk cafe.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the public space application as amended.

General Agenda

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Installation of a Capital Bikeshare Station At or Near the Intersection of New Hampshire Avenue, 18th Street, and Q Street NW

Commissioner Downs moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-2-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2B represents a very diverse neighborhood of both residents and businesses which rely upon many modes of transportation, including rail, bus, cars, bicycles, and walking,

WHEREAS, over the last eight years since Capital Bikeshare started operations in September of 2010, the system has grown to over 500 stations and 4,300 bicycles,

WHEREAS, while the system has expanded well beyond the central core of the District to outlying areas, demand for Capital Bikeshare has grown substantially in the Dupont Circle neighborhood,

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation, working with ANC 2B's Transportation and Public Infrastructure Committee, has identified the east side of New Hampshire Avenue NW, west of 18th Street NW and north of Q Street NW, on the street by the curb, as an appropriate and preferred location to install a new Capital Bikeshare station, and

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation, working with ANC 2B's Transportation and Public Infrastructure Committee, has also confirmed that the following safety upgrades will be made for the area surrounding the new bikeshare station:

- Adding flex posts to the site area to improve visibility, thus adding additional protected pedestrian walk space and decreasing the crosswalk distance,
- Eliminating the seldom-used northbound Q Street NW left-turn lane, thus adding additional protected pedestrian walk space and decreasing the crosswalk distance, and
- Re-marking the missing bike lane on the north side of New Hampshire Avenue NW, adjacent to the new station location.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the District Department of Transportation install the new Capital Bikeshare station at the aforementioned location.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the District Department of Transportation continue dialogue with the ANC's Transportation and Public Infrastructure Committee to explore other safety improvement tactics to the station area, such as additional roadway markings, signal timing, and/or traffic sign upgrades.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the National Holistic Healing Center Dispensary's Medical Marijuana Facility Renewal Application for 1718 Connecticut Avenue NW

Commissioner Johnson 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, National Holistic Health Center Dispensary is requesting a renewal of their medical marijuana facility registration,

WHEREAS, the facility has operated for approximately three years at 1718 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite T1 in ANC 2B, assisting more than 10,000 patients without cause for concern,

WHEREAS, this location is situated in an office building and on a block with other commercial properties,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B has no concerns regarding the potential adverse impact of the location to the neighborhood; the over-concentration or lack of dispensaries in the area; or the location's proximity to substance abuse treatment centers, daycare centers, or halfway houses, and

WHEREAS, in May of 2014 ANC 2B supported the facility's original registration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the renewal of National Holistic Health Center Dispensary's medical marijuana facility registration.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Herbal Alternatives II, LLC Dispensary's Medical Marijuana Facility Renewal Application for 1710 Rhode Island Avenue NW

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, Herbal Alternatives II, LLC Dispensary is requesting a renewal of their medical marijuana facility registration,

WHEREAS, the facility has operated for just over three years at 1710 Rhode Island Avenue NW, 3rd floor in ANC 2B, assisting several thousand patients without cause for concern,

WHEREAS, this location is situated in an office building and on a block with other commercial properties,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B has no concerns regarding the potential adverse impact of the location to the neighborhood; the over-concentration or lack of dispensaries in the area; or the location's proximity to substance abuse treatment centers, daycare centers, or halfway houses, and

WHEREAS, in the summer of 2014 ANC 2B supported the facility's original registration.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the renewal of Herbal Alternatives II, LLC Dispensary's medical marijuana facility registration.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding DC Council Bill B22-0904 – the “CleanEnergy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018”

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, the effects of human-caused climate change that we are already experiencing have thrust us into an urgent race against time to avoid catastrophic climate upheaval,

WHEREAS, Mayor Bowser committed at the North American Climate Summit in December of 2017 to reduce the city's greenhouse gas pollution from all sources by 50% by 2032 in order to help DC to do its part in the global effort to address climate change,

WHEREAS, using fewer fossil fuels will improve public health in DC and reduce rates of asthma and other diseases,

WHEREAS, a robust coalition of more than 100 District organizations and businesses are advancing support for strong, substantive action to reduce DC's greenhouse gas emissions and speed up the city's transition to clean renewable energy sources,

WHEREAS, transitioning to a clean energy economy will stimulate DC job growth, increase economic opportunity, and enhance affordability and overall quality of life, and

WHEREAS, DC Council Bill B22-0904 – the “CleanEnergy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018,” introduced in July of 2018 and currently in the public hearings stage by the DC Council's Committee on Transportation and the Environment and the Committee on Business and Economic Development, can deliver on greenhouse gas reduction targets and enhance energy independence and security through the following critical provisions:

- Source 100% of DC’s electricity from renewable sources by 2032, purchased from the electric grid DC operates on with most of the electricity acquired via long-term agreements (in order to sustain new renewable energy infrastructure),
- Change Pepco’s policy so that, going forward, customers will by default “opt-in” to purchasing electricity from renewable sources and have to opt-out to purchase from non-renewable sources,
- Increase the Sustainable Energy Trust Fund fee on electricity, natural gas, and home and commercial heating oil,
- Use all funds generated for programs that reduce greenhouse gas pollution in DC, with at least 20% of those funds to be directed to programs specifically targeted to assist low-income residents in reducing their energy consumption,
- Enact more stringent energy efficiency standards on buildings over 10,000 square feet,
- Provide subsidies for purchasing fuel-efficient vehicles from increased excise taxes on high-emission vehicles, and
- Authorize the Mayor to enroll and commit the District to participate in regional transportation-sector initiatives, agreements, or other accords that would further reduce or limit greenhouse gas emissions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the objectives of DC Council Bill B22-0904 – the “CleanEnergy DC Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018” and urges its passage by the end of 2018.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the September 2018 Meeting Minutes

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

Adjournment

Chair Warwick adjourned the meeting at 9:46 pm.