



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

### Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 13th, 2019; 7:00 p.m.

The Dupont Circle Hotel, Glover Park Room, 1500 New Hampshire Avenue NW

### Call to Order

The regular February 2019 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Daniel Warwick at 7:02 pm.

### Introduction of Commissioners

The Commissioners identified their single member districts (SMDs). Present were: Matthew Sampson (2B01), Daniel Warwick (2B02), Lucky Barbieri (2B03), Aaron Landry (2B04), Randy Downs (2B05), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Kari Cunningham (2B07), Beverly Schwartz (2B08), and Ed Hanlon (2B09).

### Announcements and Public Comments

#### Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Downs said that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) continues to move forward with studying the agency's proposed pedestrian and bicyclist safety improvements on 17th Street NW. He said that DDOT is analyzing the data that the agency collected from video cameras it set up on the street to record loading and unloading processes. He added that he is hoping that DDOT will be able to provide further updates regarding the project next month.

Chair Warwick thanked the Dupont Circle Hotel for hosting the ANC's meeting. He encouraged local residents to visit the hotel's recently reopened restaurant.

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

Nicole Goines, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), encouraged local residents to call DC's shelter hotline at: (202) 399-7093 if they see any homeless individuals out in the cold.

Joe Florio, a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' Office, gave an overview of the DC Council Committee on Finance and Revenue's upcoming agency performance oversight hearings. He said that the DC Council's full oversight hearing schedule can be found on the DC Council's website at: [www.dccouncil.us](http://www.dccouncil.us).

Susan Volman, a representative for the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA), said that the organization's next membership meeting will be on Monday, March 4th at 7:30 pm at the International Student House, 1825 R Street NW. She said that the topic for the meeting will be historic preservation.

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 21st from 6:00 to 9:00 pm in the Jefferson Ballroom of the Washington Hilton, 1919 Connecticut Avenue NW. He added that the organization's 2019 17th Street Festival will take place on Saturday, August 24th.

Inspector Wendy Cadell, a Ward 2 solid waste inspector for the Department of Public Works (DPW), said that the agency is continuing to collect Christmas trees left out across the city. Commissioner Schwartz thanked Inspector Cadell for quickly addressing a large trash dumping on U Street NW.

#### Presentation by the DC Fire and EMS Department Regarding Changes to DC's Right Care, Right Now Initiative

Battalion Chief Smith and Captain Baker, representatives for the DC Fire and EMS Department (FEMS), gave an overview of the agency's Right Care, Right Now initiative, which routes low-acuity 9-1-1 medical calls to a nurse triage line, which can provide callers with a Lyft ride to a neighborhood clinic for situations that the nurse triage line determines do not require transport to a hospital. Mr. Smith said that, as the result of a recent change to the initiative, ambulances now respond to all medical 9-1-1 callers and first responders can connect callers to the nurse triage line if the first responders determine that transport to a hospital is not required.

Mr. Smith said that he left handouts on the table in the back of the meeting room that provide more information regarding the initiative and the neighborhood clinics that are participating.

#### Presentation by Commander Duncan Bedlion, the New Commander for the Metropolitan Police Department's Second District

Commander Duncan Bedlion, the new Commander for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, introduced himself to meeting attendees. He gave an overview of his professional background with MPD. He also gave an overview of the Second District's recent success in increasing the number of arrests for theft from automobile incidents. He encouraged local residents to not leave any valuables in their cars.

Commander Bedlion encouraged local residents to participate in DC's Private Security Camera Rebate Program, which provides rebates to homeowners who install a security camera on their home and register the camera with MPD.

#### Presentation by Shawn Townsend, the Director of the Mayor's Office of Nightlife & Culture

Shawn Townsend, the inaugural Director of the Mayor's Office of Nightlife & Culture, gave an overview of the establishment of the office and the staff that the office has hired. He said that the

office has been tasked with promoting DC’s nightlife economy and working to address quality of life issues that residents have raised regarding nightlife establishments. He said that the office works alongside a related advisory commission that is currently in the process of being formed.

Mr. Townsend said that the office is in the process of designing its logo and website. He said that he can be reached via email at: [Shawn.Townsend@dc.gov](mailto:Shawn.Townsend@dc.gov).

Several commissioners and meeting attendees stressed the need for the office to balance the needs of nightlife businesses with the quality of life needs for nearby residents.

### **Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Agenda**

#### **TBD – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 1615 L Street NW**

Commissioner Downs moved to protest Officina Café, LLC's application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1615 L Street NW based on adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. Commissioner Hanlon seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B protests Officina Café, LLC’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license based on the 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.

#### **TBD – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 1100 15th Street NW**

Commissioner Hanlon moved to protest Midtown Center Restaurant, LLC’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1100 15th Street NW based on adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested. The motion was voted on and did not pass (VOTES: 4-4-0). The roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Landry: Nay  
Commissioner Hanlon: Yea  
Commissioner Cunningham: Yea  
Chair Warwick: Yea  
Commissioner Downs: Nay  
Commissioner Sampson: Nay  
Commissioner Schwartz: Yea  
Commissioner Barbieri: Nay

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

#### **Philotimo – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 1100 15th Street NW**

Commissioner Hanlon moved to protest Philotimo’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1100 15th Street NW based on adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. Chair Warwick seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested. The motion was voted on and passed (VOTES: 3-5-0). The roll call vote was as follows:

Commissioner Landry: Nay  
Commissioner Hanlon: Yea  
Commissioner Cunningham: Nay  
Chair Warwick: Yea  
Commissioner Downs: Nay  
Commissioner Sampson: Nay  
Commissioner Schwartz: Yea  
Commissioner Barbieri: Nay

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

CHIKO Dupont – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 2029 P Street NW

Chair Warwick moved to support CHIKO Dupont’s request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 2029 P Street NW. Commissioner Downs seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports CHIKO Dupont’s request for a stipulated license as part of the establishment’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license.

Chair Warwick moved to protest CHIKO Dupont’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 2029 P Street NW based on adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B protests CHIKO Dupont’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license based on the 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.

**Zoning, Preservation, and Development Agenda**

750 17th Street NW – Application by John Hancock Life Insurance Company for a Special Exception from the Penthouse Enclosure Requirements to Construct New Penthouse Structures on an Existing 12-Story Office Building

Commissioner Schwartz moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the project is within Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 2B,

WHEREAS, the applicant proposes a habitable penthouse with a non-uniform penthouse height, and

WHEREAS, the project plans seem minimal and within context of the building's surroundings.

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

1726 Swann Street NW – Concept / Addition and Alteration of Existing Two-Story Home

Commissioner Schwartz moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the project is within Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 2B and the Dupont Circle Historic District,

WHEREAS, the applicant proposes a rear addition to an existing rowhouse,

WHEREAS, the applicant proposes a two-story rear addition that is in line with, and does not protrude further than, other properties on the alley,

WHEREAS, the applicant plans to restore the front façade and stoop and repoint brick which will improve the street, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B is concerned that the proposed roof deck railing may be somewhat visible from the street due to the setback of 1724 Swann Street NW.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the project contingent on a flag test which verifies that no part of the roof deck will be visible from the street.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the applicant to coordinate with the 1722 Swann Street NW development project to minimize street disruption and noise while these two projects are ongoing in close proximity.

1746 Q Street NW – Concept / Two-Story Addition and Roof Addition

Commissioner Schwartz moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion. Chair Warwick moved to adopt a proposed amendment to the resolution. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion for the amendment, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The final motion was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B requests that the Historic Preservation Review Board delays consideration of the application for 1746 Q Street NW until March 2019 in order to provide the Dupont Circle Conservancy the opportunity to review the project.

1732 P Street NW – Concept / Second Story Garage Addition

Commissioner Cunningham moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Warwick seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0)

WHEREAS, the project is within the boundaries of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B and the Dupont Circle Historic District,

WHEREAS, the applicant proposes to alter, repair, and include a second-story addition to an existing free-standing garage structure,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B has not been able to find a mutually-convenient time by which to schedule a meeting with neighbors in the Avondale, a residential building that shares a party wall with the applicant, prior to the ANC 2B meeting on February 13, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B wants to incorporate the concerns of these neighbors into the Commission's communication, which is entitled great weight, to the Historic Preservation Review Board.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests a 30 business day delay of consideration of the project by the Historic Preservation Review Board.

**Public Space Committee Agenda**

Public Space Application by Tokyo Pearl for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 23 Tables and 43 Seats at 1301 Connecticut Avenue NW

Commissioner Cunningham moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Downs seconded the motion. Chair Warwick moved to adopt a proposed amendment to the resolution. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion for the amendment, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The final motion was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Tokyo Pearl has submitted a public space application requesting a new, un-enclosed sidewalk cafe with 23 tables, 43 seats, planters, and a retractable awning at 1301 Connecticut Avenue NW,

WHEREAS, the proposed location is in ANC 2B,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that sidewalk cafes are an important element in the urban ambiance and charm of the Dupont Circle community, while also promoting safety and economic development,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that public space use is a privilege, not a right,

WHEREAS, the proposed closing hours of the sidewalk cafe are 1:00 am on Sunday through Thursday and 2:00 am on Friday through Saturday,

WHEREAS, the proposed hours for the public space application do not align with ANC 2B's Public Space Guidelines, which suggest closing hours for sidewalk cafes and outdoor restaurants across the street from or proximate to residential housing of 11:00 pm on Sunday through Thursday and 12:00 am on Friday through Saturday, and

WHEREAS, the applicant has offered to take measures to mitigate the smoke emanating from hookah, which shall be offered at this location.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports Tokyo Pearls' public space application for a new un-enclosed sidewalk cafe at 1301 Connecticut Avenue NW, provided that the hours of the sidewalk cafe reflect ANC 2B's Public Space Guidelines of closing at 11:00 pm on Sunday through Thursday and at 12:00 am on Friday through Saturday, and that the applicant takes reasonable measures to mitigate smoke in and around the sidewalk cafe.

Public Space Application by Stream Realty Partners for Streetscaping Work, Including 2 New Leadwalks, New Bike Racks, New Planter Boxes, and Tree Planting, at 1771 N Street NW

Commissioner Downs moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Barbieri seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Stream Realty Partners has submitted a public space application for 1771 N Street NW for the purpose of streetscape improvements, including:

- two new leadwalks
- new bike racks
- new planter boxes
- new bio-retention swall
- native species plant and tree plantings, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the plans are an improvement to the built environment at 1771 N Street NW.

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

Public Space Application by Shawarma District for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 3 Tables, 10 Seats, and 2 Umbrellas at 818 18th Street NW

Commissioner Silverstein moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Shawarma District’s public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk café at 818 18th Street NW, with the understanding that the amended application includes ten feet of pedestrian passageway.

Public Space Application by Astoria for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 6 Tables and 14 Seats at 1521 17th Street NW

Commissioner Downs moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Astoria’s public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk café at 1521 17th Street NW. The ANC notes that while the proposed sidewalk cafe includes less than ten feet of pedestrian passageway along the adjacent sidewalk between the sidewalk café and the curb, the amount of passageway would be comparable to the adjacent sidewalk cafes along 17th Street NW and is consistent with the design of the streetscape.

**General Agenda**

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Impending Over-Enrollment Crisis at the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens

Commissioner Silverstein moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the School Without Walls Francis-Stevens (SWWFS) is a citywide educational resource serving students from all eight wards, with the majority of attendees living outside Ward 2,

WHEREAS, over the past several years, SWWFS has demonstrated one of the strongest year-over-year track records of academic improvement of any public elementary school in the city and currently has a waiting list of 700 students requesting enrollment,

WHEREAS, current enrollment at SWWFS is 474 students and, with a perfect distribution of students from preschool through grade 8, the building could reasonably accommodate a total of no more than 500,

WHEREAS, the middle school at SWWFS is currently budgeted and staffed to accommodate 150 students, while middle school enrollment for the next academic year now stands at 160 and a conservative estimate projects it may reach 190 or more,



depending on the number of eligible students from Thomson Elementary School and Ross Elementary School who choose to enroll,

WHEREAS, completion of the staff compound at the Chinese Embassy will inevitably result in an additional significant increase in the number of elementary school students at SWWFS in the coming academic year, and

WHEREAS, the need to recognize, support, and build upon academic success should be a first order imperative throughout the DC Public Schools (DCPS) system and the current enrollment surge at SWWFS, particularly in the middle school, represents a clear and present threat to the academic integrity of the school.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that DCPS immediately increase the funding available to SWWFS for the 2019-2020 school year by roughly \$600,000 in order to increase staffing to a level commensurate with the anticipated expanded enrollment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that DCPS prioritize needed renovations of the physical plant at SWWFS to increase available academic space by repurposing and subdividing the smaller of its two gyms to create six new classrooms. It is the belief of the ANC and the SWWFS community that, if undertaken in the next 45 days, such a renovation can be completed prior to the 2019-2020 academic year, thereby raising the overall capacity of the building by 150 students without materially affecting the physical education program, which can be reorganized to more efficiently operate in the single large gym without a meaningful loss of effectiveness.

#### Update Regarding the Proposed Redevelopment of Shaw Middle School

Commissioner Cunningham said that the ANC previously passed a resolution regarding the matter. She said that engagement sessions regarding the development plan for the Shaw Middle School site have begun. She encouraged local residents to follow the Save Shaw Middle School page on Facebook in order to stay up to date regarding the Save Shaw Middle School group's advocacy efforts.

Daniel Adler, a member of the Ross Elementary School's Local School Advisory Team (LSAT), said that the Ross Elementary School community is closely following the development plan for the Shaw Middle School site. He said that he hopes that he will be able to coordinate with the ANC regarding the Ross Elementary School LSAT's response to the development plan once it is finalized. He added that the Ross Elementary School community believes that there is also a need for more quality high school seats in the neighborhood.

#### **Administrative Matters**

##### Approval of the ANC's Regular January 2019 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Silverstein moved to approve the ANC's regular January 2019 meeting minutes. Commissioner Landry seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0).

Approval of Expenditures for the Purchase of a New Projector for the Dupont Circle Resource Center

Chair Warwick moved to approve expenditures up to \$900 for the purchase of a new projector for the Dupont Circle Resource Center. Commissioner Landry seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0).

**Adjournment**

Chair Warwick adjourned the meeting at 10:19 pm.