



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

### Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 8th, 2018; 7:00 p.m.  
Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies  
1717 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Room 500

### Call to Order

The regular August 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), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Kari Cunningham (2B07), and Beverly Schwartz (2B08).

### Announcements and Public Comments

#### Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Johnson said that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) has implemented a temporary bus bridge on Metrorail's red line between NoMa-Gallaudet U and Fort Totten stations. She said that the bus bridge will continue until Monday, September 3rd. She added that WMATA will be implementing single-tracking on Metrorail's blue, orange, and silver lines between McPherson Square and Smithsonian stations from Saturday, August 11th to Sunday, August 26th. She said that more information regarding both projects is available at [www.wmata.com](http://www.wmata.com).

#### 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), said that Mayor Bowser will be holding community forums regarding the search for a new DC Public Schools (DCPS) Chancellor on Tuesday, August 14th at 6:30 pm at Cardozo Education Campus, 1200 Clifton Street NW; on Tuesday, August 28th at 6:30 pm at Savoy Elementary School, 2400 Shannon Place SE; and on Tuesday, September 11th at 6:30 pm at Brookland Middle School, 1150 Michigan Avenue NE. He also gave an overview of the DC Government's preparations for the Unite the Right protest and counterprotests that will take place on Sunday, August 12th. He said that the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) goal is to keep the protestors and the counterprotestors physically separate from each other.

Inspector Wendy Cadell, a representative for the Department of Public Works (DPW), said that if property owners are carrying out construction work on their property, they need to obtain both a construction staging permit and a roll off dumpster permit. She said that, for construction work on residential properties, all construction waste needs to be properly stored each day and not left on the ground of the property. She also reminded property owners to cut down any overgrowth on their properties given the recent rain.

Inez Saki-Tay, the Community Outreach Specialist for Wards 1, 2, 3, and 4 for the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), said that local residents can reach out to her if they have any DCRA issues in the neighborhood. She said that she can be reached via email at: [Inez.Saki-Tay@dc.gov](mailto:Inez.Saki-Tay@dc.gov) or via phone at: (202) 299-2176.

Bill McLeod, the Executive Director of Historic Dupont Circle Main Streets, thanked the ANC and the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA) for supporting this year's 17th Street Festival. He said that the festival will take place on Saturday, August 25th from 12:00 to 6:00 pm. He said that anyone who is interested in volunteering for the event can email him at: [execdirector@dupontcircle.biz](mailto:execdirector@dupontcircle.biz).

Susan Volman, a representative for the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA), said that the organization's annual Dupont Circle House Tour event will take place on Sunday, October 21st from 12:00 to 5:00 pm. She added that the organization will also be tabling at the 17th Street Festival.

One local resident requested that the DC Government implement more traffic enforcement at the intersection of 17th Street and Rhode Island Avenue NW.

#### Introduction by Marina Streznewski, the Ward 2 Representative for DC's Pedestrian Advisory Council

Marina Streznewski, the Ward 2 Representative for DC's Pedestrian Advisory Council (DC PAC), said that the organization studies ways to make pedestrian conditions safer across the city. She said that the organization also supports DC's Vision Zero efforts. She said she can be reached via email at: [dcsuperpedestrian@gmail.com](mailto:dcsuperpedestrian@gmail.com). She added that she is working to organize a Ward 2 Pedestrian Summit for some time in October.

#### Presentation by the DC Chapter of the Citizens' Climate Lobby Regarding Climate Impacts to Dupont Circle

Tim Ryder, the owner of Green Drinks DC, and Max Broad, the leader of the DC chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby, said that they are both members of the DC Climate Coalition. They gave a visual presentation regarding climate change and its effects on DC and the Dupont Circle neighborhood.

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

#### **Public Space Committee Agenda**

Public Space Application to Install Bollards at the Front and Rear of the House at 1727 21st Street NW

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

WHEREAS, the owners of a residential home located at 1727 21st Street NW, a contributing structure in the Dupont Circle Historic District which was built in 1906, have submitted a public space application for installation of bollards at the front and rear corners of the property,

WHEREAS, the proposed surface-mount bollards would be no more than 4 in. wide and placed 2 in. from the home in a 12 ft. wide public alley accessed by vehicles associated with residences on 21st Street NW as well as commercial properties on the west side of the 1700 block of Connecticut Avenue NW,

WHEREAS, the homeowners have installed and repeatedly repaired concrete cladding along the front and rear corners of the home, which has been struck and damaged by vehicles multiple times since they purchased the home in 2014,

WHEREAS, residential property owners and residents of 21st Street NW generally support the application though they have expressed some concern about how the proposed rear bollard will affect vehicles turning,

WHEREAS, some commercial property tenants on Connecticut Avenue NW have expressed concern about a decreased alley width and its impact on their own vehicles as well vehicles providing cleaning, delivery, and waste management services to their establishments, while other commercial property representatives have no objections to the application,

WHEREAS, waste management vehicles servicing commercial properties do not and cannot currently turn into the portion of the alley parallel to Connecticut Avenue NW so the proposed bollards will not affect that access,

WHEREAS, there is a second entrance to this same alley located between 1707-1709 21st Street NW,

WHEREAS, there are public alleys in other locations of ANC 2B which are 10 ft., narrower than the proposed resulting width of the given alley, and which are effectively served by waste management companies,

WHEREAS, the basis for the application is to provide relief from vehicles that are accessing the alley who are hitting the home itself,

WHEREAS, bollards similar to those proposed currently exist in alleys throughout Dupont Circle, including adjacent to the second entrance to this same alley, and

WHEREAS, placement of the bollards could be achieved in such a manner in order to minimize a reduction in alley width while also providing the desired protection to a contributing historic structure.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports this public space application and encourages installation of the bollards so that the usable public alley space is decreased by no more than 6 in. (preferably a maximum of 4 in.) and further encourages testing of bollard placement prior to permanent installation.

Public Space Application by RARE Steakhouse & Tavern for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 10 Tables and 20 Seats at 1595 I Street NW

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

WHEREAS, RARE Steakhouse & Tavern has submitted a public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk café with 10 tables, 20 seats, and 4 umbrellas at 1595 I Street NW,

WHEREAS, the proposed location is within 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, and

WHEREAS, the public space application's proposed sidewalk cafe meets the ANC's published Public Space Guidelines, which state that sidewalk cafes should allow for a minimum of ten feet of sidewalk clearance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports RARE Steakhouse & Tavern's public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk cafe at 1595 I Street NW.

Public Space Application by Gregory's Coffee for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 4 Tables and 10 Seats at 1101 Connecticut Avenue NW

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

WHEREAS, Gregory's Coffee has submitted a public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk café with 4 tables and 10 seats at 1101 Connecticut Avenue NW,

WHEREAS, the proposed location is within 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, and

WHEREAS, the proposed sidewalk cafe meets the ANC's published Public Space Guidelines, which state that sidewalk cafes should allow for a minimum of ten feet of sidewalk clearance.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports Gregory's Coffee's public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk cafe at 1101 Connecticut Avenue NW.

### **General Agenda**

#### **Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the District Department of Transportation's Efforts to Improve Bicyclist Safety on the 1900 block of M Street NW**

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

WHEREAS, bicyclist Jeffrey Hammond Long died on July 8th, 2018 as a result of injuries suffered a day earlier when he was struck by a delivery truck while riding in the protected cycle track on M Street at New Hampshire Avenue NW,

WHEREAS, Jeffrey Hammond Long's death was caused by the driver making a right turn – a so-called right hook – apparently not seeing the bicyclist,

WHEREAS, a similar dangerous situation existed for weeks less than two blocks away, where a FedEx truck parked illegally in a No Parking zone just before a curb cut into a parking lot across from 1916 M Street NW, making it impossible for cars turning into the parking lot to see westbound bicyclists in the cycle track, leading to many near collisions,

WHEREAS, the same delivery van, with DC License Plate C-75986, was parked illegally in the same spot for up to an hour each day, day after day after day, creating a true and actual safety hazard, despite regular ticketing by the Department of Public Works (DPW),

WHEREAS, a constituent's calls to FedEx's local operations headquarters were met with empty promises that the company would look into the matter,

WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and District Department of Transportation's (DDOT) requests that the van not park in that illegal and dangerous spot were also in vain, and

WHEREAS, an ANC Commissioner's call to FedEx's government relations office in DC was met with an empty promise of a call-back that never materialized, but the next day, there was an identical FedEx van parked in the same illegal spot, however it had a different license plate,

WHEREAS, it appeared that FedEx had made a decision that the \$30 tickets received for illegal parking were simply the cost of doing business, as that is less than the cost of shipping a single 1-pound package from DC to New York with two day delivery, and this FedEx policy therefore places the value of DC bicyclists' lives and safety at \$30,

WHEREAS, a constituent and an ANC Commissioner were making a video on July 31st, 2018, highlighting the safety issues, when – only three minutes after they arrived – a right-hook crash was narrowly averted and they called both MPD and DDOT, and

WHEREAS, a DDOT work truck arrived promptly, waited for the FedEx van to leave and, once it did, immediately installed flex posts to prevent any illegal parking that would block the sightlines of cars turning into the parking lot from seeing bicyclists on the protected bike path.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B salutes the District Department of Transportation and Director Jeff Marootian for their prompt and decisive action in this matter, as well as their removal of the parking spaces directly adjacent to the spot where Jeffrey Hammond Long was killed, actions that will unquestionably enhance the safety of bicyclists using M Street NW.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B expresses its profound disappointment and anger at FedEx for the company's complete disregard for the safety and well-being of bicyclists, blatantly creating a deadly hazard less than two blocks from where a bicyclist was killed less than a month earlier.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the Government of the District of Columbia and its agencies and our neighbors to use a delivery service that values the lives of bicyclists as greater than the cost of a \$30 parking ticket.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding a DC Council Proposal to Ban the Riding of Bikes and Scooters on Sidewalks in Ward 2 Outside of the Central Business District

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

WHEREAS, ANC 2B was asked to consider a potential expansion of the ban of the riding of bicycles and scooters on sidewalks within the central business district to the entirety of Ward 2, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B discussed this potential ban at an ANC Transportation and Public Infrastructure (TPI) Committee meeting and at a regular ANC meeting.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B opposes the expansion of the ban.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B would be willing to revisit this proposed expansion of the ban to the entirety of Ward 2 once there is a full network of well-maintained, protected bike lanes within Ward 2.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Proposed Bicyclist and Pedestrian Safety Improvements

Chair Warwick moved to table consideration of a resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Johnson seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Stead Park Permit Application for the Washington Jewish Music Festival's Day in the Park Event on Sunday, September 30th, 2018

Commissioner Silverstein moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the Edlavitch DC Jewish Community Center and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) have requested the support of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B for a DPR permit to hold the 6th Annual Washington Jewish Music Festival in Stead Park on September 30th, 2018, with access from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (Permit Request #24039),

WHEREAS, the Washington Jewish Music Festival's Day in the Park is free to attend, open to the full community, and a family program that features musical performances, games, crafts, and other fun activities held annually in Stead Park,

WHEREAS, the Washington Jewish Music Festival and the Edlavitch DC Jewish Community Center are continuing users of Stead Park who provide important and popular cultural additions to our community, and

WHEREAS, the sponsors are experienced in managing this event and have presented plans that assure control of potential problems of concern to the neighboring community, for example with regards to noise levels.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the permitting of Stead Park for the Washington Jewish Music Festival.

## **Administrative Matters**

### **Consideration of Proposed Updates to the ANC's Bylaws**

Chair Warwick moved to adopt the proposed changes to the ANC's bylaws by consent with the exception of those changes that are identified by commissioners as needing further review. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion. Chair Warwick later withdrew the motion with Commissioner Silverstein's consent.

Commissioner Johnson moved to table consideration of a resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

### **Consideration of Proposed Updates to the ANC's Policies and Procedures Manual**

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

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

Commissioner Johnson moved to approve the ANC's regular July 2018 meeting minutes. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

### **Approval of the Special August 2018 Meeting Minutes**

Commissioner Silverstein moved to approve the ANC's special August 2018 meeting minutes. Commissioner DelleDonne seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

## **Adjournment**

Chair Warwick adjourned the meeting at 10:00 pm.