



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 8th, 2019; 7:00 p.m.

Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies
1717 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Room 500

Call to Order

The regular May 2019 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Vice Chair Kari Cunningham 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

Chair Warwick said that the ANC will hold a special May meeting to consider a historic landmark boundary expansion application and a concept application for the Scottish Rite Temple site at 1733 16th Street NW. He said that the meeting will take place on Thursday, May 16th at 7:00 pm at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, 1619 Massachusetts Avenue NW.

Commissioner Schwartz said that the DC Public Service Commission will hold a hearing regarding ongoing natural gas leaks on Wednesday, May 15th at 2:00 pm at the commission's offices at 1325 G Street NW, Suite 800. She encouraged local residents to attend the hearing.

Commissioner Barbieri said that the Corcoran Street neighbors will hold a block party on Sunday, June 16th on the portion of Corcoran Street between New Hampshire Avenue and 17th Street NW.

Commissioner Barbieri said that he and 25 other ANC commissioners recently managed to secure \$100,000 in funding as part of DC's FY 2020 budget for the creation of a new ANC community outreach platform.

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), said that the Mayor's Office and the Foggy Bottom Association will hold a roll-off day on Saturday, May 11th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the intersection of 24th Street and I Street NW. She also gave an overview of DC's Private Security Camera Rebate Program. She encouraged local residents to participate in the program.

Inspector Wendy Cadell, a Ward 2 solid waste inspector for the Department of Public Works (DPW), asked any Airbnb owners in the neighborhood to ensure that their renters adhere to the local trash regulations. She also asked everyone to ensure that they are regularly cutting their grass.

Susan Volman, a representative for the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA), gave an overview of the new DCCA grant program to address homeless and affordable housing in Dupont Circle. She said that more information regarding the grant program is available on the organization's website at: www.dupont-circle.org. She also said that Glenn Engelmann was recently elected as the organization's new President.

Nick DelleDonne, the Chair of the Dupont East Civic Action Association, gave an overview of the organization's historic landmark boundary expansion application for the Scottish Rite Temple site at 1733 16th Street NW. He said that the recent Historic Preservation Office (HPO) staff report regarding the application revealed the extensive existing boundaries of the current landmark site. He also said that the organization will hold an upcoming public meeting on Saturday, May 11th at 4:00 pm at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 1500 15th Street NW.

Presentation by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Regarding the Proposed Installation of a Canopy at the Dupont Circle Metrorail Station's North Entrance

John Thomas, the Chief Engineer for Design and Construction for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), gave a visual presentation regarding the proposed installation of a canopy at the Dupont Circle Metrorail station's north entrance. He said that the canopy will help protect riders and the escalator machinery from inclement weather. He said that the design for the canopy is similar to the "signature canopy design" that has been used for other canopies across the Metrorail system.

Mr. Thomas said that WMATA is currently carrying out the planning process for adding canopies at several locations that still lack canopies, including the Dupont Circle Metrorail station's north entrance. He said that the installation of the canopy will start at the end of the summer. He added that lane closures along 20th Street NW will begin in late July in order to accommodate the construction activity. He said that both entrances to the Metrorail station will remain open throughout the installation process.

Mr. Thomas provided an overview of WMATA's ongoing project to restore chilled air to the Dupont Circle and Farragut North Metrorail stations. He said that the project's construction team recently encountered an unknown pipe underneath the Connecticut Avenue NW roadway that has caused construction delays. He said that fans will be added inside both Metrorail stations until the chilled air is back up and running.

Other Public Announcements and General Comments or Future Agenda Items (Continued)

Deborah Shapley, the President of Restore Mass Ave, gave an overview of the organization's efforts to restore the tree canopy along Massachusetts Avenue NW. She also gave an overview of the organization's efforts to create a tree plaza adjacent to the PNC Bank at 1913 Massachusetts Avenue NW.

Ms. Shapley said that the organization would like to be included on the agenda for the ANC's regular June meeting in order for the ANC to endorse the organization's public space application for the tree plaza. Chair Warwick said that the ANC will be able to add the matter to the ANC's meeting agenda once the public space application has been filed.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Agenda

Anju – Application for a Substantial Change to the Establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 1805 18th Street NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Lupo Verde – Application to Terminate the Settlement Agreement for the Establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 1401 T Street NW

Chair Warwick moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Landry seconded the motion. A roll call vote was requested. The motion was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The roll call vote was as follows:

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

The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B protests Lupo Verde's application to terminate the settlement agreement for the establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license at 1401 T Street NW based on the adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood in order to renegotiate the settlement agreement with the establishment on the basis of consistency with proximate retailers with regards to outdoor heaters and patio music, as well as on the basis of the interim placement of trash receptacles outside when empty or during the cleaning of the kitchen.

Consideration of Several Alcoholic Beverage License Renewal Applications for Restaurants, Hotels, Multipurpose Facilities, Clubs, Marine Vessels, Arenas, and Caterers

Commissioner Hanlon moved to protest Lupo Verde’s application for renewal of the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1401 T Street NW based on the 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 passed (VOTES: 5-2-1). The roll call vote was as follows:

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

The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B protests Lupo Verde’s application for renewal of the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1401 T Street NW based on the adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood.

Commissioner Schwartz moved to protest Bar Charley’s application for renewal of the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1825 18th Street NW based on the adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. Commissioner Hanlon seconded the motion. Commissioner Hanlon moved to adopt a proposed amendment to the resolution to state that the ANC will withdraw its protest once the sound barriers are reinstalled. Commissioner Schwartz seconded the motion for the amendment, which was voted on and did not pass (VOTES: 1-7-0). The final motion regarding the resolution was voted on and did not pass (VOTES: 1-7-0).

Discussion Regarding the West Dupont Circle Moratorium Zone

Chair Warwick gave an overview of the history of the West Dupont Circle Moratorium Zone. He said that the current iteration of the moratorium only restricts the opening of new nightclubs in the moratorium zone. He said that the moratorium is set to expire later this year and that the ANC has to determine if it wants to ask the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board to renew the moratorium. He said that the community feedback he has received thus far has centered on the request to renew the moratorium. He said that the matter will be added to the ANC’s regular June meeting agenda for consideration of a resolution regarding the matter.

The commissioners and meeting attendees discussed the merits of renewing the moratorium.

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Zoning, Preservation, and Development Agenda

1229 19th Street NW – Concept / Addition, Second Floor on Detached Garage

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

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

WHEREAS, the project is primarily an interior renovation with a proposed second floor addition to the existing utility building that is currently a part of the property,

WHEREAS, concerns were raised about the windows of the second story addition which do not match the small paned panels on the original house,

WHEREAS, concerns were also raised about the new belt course around the accessory building and the connection to the existing garden wall vertical piers, as the architects have not resolved this connection; and it was suggested that the applicant make the belt course physically prominent and let the existing piers die up into the bottom of this new protruding belt course, and

WHEREAS, concerns were also raised about the roof material on the utility building, as the current plans showed it one way, the elevations showed it a different way, and the architect stated something different.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the second story addition but encourages the applicant to update plans to more accurately show the gutters on the new addition; the roofing material, preferably to match the historic material in slate; a resolution regarding the belt course connection; and other changes that were discussed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the applicant to preserve as much of the original planting as possible, particularly the 40-year-old crape myrtle and large dogwood trees on the right side of the property.

1449 Swann Street NW – Permit / Two-Story Rear Addition, Replace Front Stoop

Chair Warwick 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:

ANC 2B requests a 30 business day delay of consideration of the project at 1449 Swann Street NW by the Historic Preservation Review Board.

Public Space Committee Agenda

Public Space Application by Roti Modern Mediterranean for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 9 Tables, 28 Seats, and 2 Umbrellas at 1850 M Street NW

Commissioner Silverstein moved to support Roti Modern Mediterranean’s public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk cafe at 1850 M Street NW due to the fact that the proposed sidewalk cafe conforms to the ANC’s Public Space Guidelines. Commissioner Hanlon seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Roti Modern Mediterranean’s public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk café at 1850 M Street NW, as the proposed sidewalk cafe conforms to the ANC’s Public Space Guidelines.

General Agenda

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding DC’s Vision Zero Initiative

Commissioner Sampson moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Landry seconded the motion. Commissioner Landry moved to adopt a proposed amendment to the resolution to amend the sixth “Whereas” clause to state “changes to reduce traffic deaths above focusing on education.” Commissioner Hanlon seconded the motion for the amendment, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The final motion regarding the resolution was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, residents of ANC 2B are dismayed by the recent deaths of pedestrians and bicyclists on DC streets,

WHEREAS, Dave Salovesh, a staunch road safety advocate and friend of many Dupont Circle residents, was killed while on a bicycle on April 19, 2019,

WHEREAS, Dupont Circle, in particular, was impacted by last year’s deaths of Jeffrey Hammond Long and Carlos Sanchez-Martin while using a bicycle and a scooter,

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia established a Vision Zero Initiative in 2015 to eliminate road deaths by 2024,

WHEREAS, rather than reducing towards zero, road deaths in the District of Columbia have gone up year over year since 2015 with the rate of traffic deaths in 2019 on par with 2018,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that Vision Zero prioritizes system-wide street design and infrastructure changes to reduce traffic deaths above focusing on education to influence individual behavior,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B appreciates efforts made towards Vision Zero District-wide and in our community to influence individual behavior including education, enforcement, signage, and roadway markings,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that these efforts have led to severely insufficient progress towards Vision Zero in terms of system-wide street design and infrastructure changes, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that more action is needed in order to create complete and safe streets for residents who choose to walk, bike, and use low-carbon impact personal transportation options.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges Mayor Bowser, the DC Council, and agencies of the DC Government to prioritize system-wide street design and infrastructure changes to realistically and quantifiably achieve the vision of Vision Zero by 2024.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the Regular April 2019 Meeting Minutes

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

Approval of Expenditures for the 2019 Capital Pride Parade

Commissioner Silverstein moved to approve expenditures up to \$500 for the ANC's participation in the 2019 Capital Pride Parade. Commissioner Downs seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-1).

Approval of Expenditures for Accessibility Services During the ANC's Regular May Meeting

Chair Warwick moved to approve expenditures up to \$1,000 for accessibility services during the ANC's regular May meeting. Commissioner Cunningham seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0).

Approval of Expenditures for Accessibility Services During the ANC's Special May Meeting

Chair Warwick moved to approve expenditures up to \$1,000 for accessibility services during the ANC's special May meeting. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0).

Adjournment

Chair Warwick adjourned the meeting at 9:55 pm.