



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 10th, 2021; 7:00 p.m.
Online via Zoom

Call to Order

The regular February 2021 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: Meg Roggensack (2B01), Daniel Warwick (2B02), Robin Nunn (2B03), Mo Pasternak (2B04), William Herbig (2B05), Mike Silverstein (2B06), Michael Scott McKernan (2B07), Matthew Holden (2B08), and Kyle Mulhall (2B09).

Announcements and Public Comments

Commissioner Announcements

Chair Warwick and Commissioners Holden, Nunn, Silverstein, Roggensack, and Mulhall gave commissioner announcements.

Update from the District Department of Transportation Regarding the Agency's H Street and I Street NW Bus Lanes Project

Yohannes Eagle Bennehoff, a Transportation Management Specialist for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave an update regarding the agency's H Street and I Street NW Bus Lanes Project.

Update from the District Department of Transportation Regarding the Agency's 2020 Accomplishments and 2021 Goals for Ward 2

The commission delayed this update until the ANC's regular March 2021 meeting.

Other Public Announcements and General Comments or Future Agenda Items

Susan Volman, the Treasurer of the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA); Nick DelleDonne, the President of the Dupont East Civic Action Association (DECAA); Brian Romanowski, the Constituent Services Coordinator for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office; and Joe Florio, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and

Services (MOCRS), gave other public announcements and general comments or future agenda items.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Agenda

Bombay Street Food 3 – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 1915 18th Street NW

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

ANC 2B supports the request for a stipulated license as part of Bombay Street Food 3’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1915 18th Street NW.

Mi Casa – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 1647 20th Street NW

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

ANC 2B supports the request for a stipulated license as part of Mi Casa’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1647 20th Street NW.

Widget Wine – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “A” Internet License at 1050 Connecticut Avenue NW #500

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

ANC 2B supports the request for a stipulated license as part of Widget Wine’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “A” Internet license at 1050 Connecticut Avenue NW #500.

Zoning, Preservation, and Development Agenda

1600 M Street NW – Concept / Supplemental Information Regarding Proposed Relocation of Sculpture in Relation to Proposed Addition

Chair Warwick moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 2B has supported the renovation of National Geographic’s headquarters several times, including in July of 2019 in a resolution to the Historic Preservation Review Board (Attachment A).

ANC 2B reminds the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) that in July of 2019, the Board reviewed the concept for a new entrance pavilion addition and renovation of the ground floor public space and the 1600 M Street NW building with the following action:

“The Board approved the concept as compatible with the character of the 16th Street Historic District with the condition that the first-floor canopy projection on the 1963 building be retained. Final approval was delegated to staff. Vote: 7-0”

Subsequent to this approval, ANC 2B was surprised to learn that the Board did not delegate final approval to staff in regards to a portion of the approved plans: the Marabar sculpture, which was constructed in 1984, nearly 25 years after the end of the period of significance for the 16th Street Historic District, a period which ranges from 1815 to 1959.

Based on the particulars of this case, ANC 2B urges the Historic Preservation Review Board to not overturn its decisions as it can create a burden for applicants and chill development processes by increasing the uncertainty of entitlements. In addition, ANC 2B requests that the Board restricts its review to projects and elements of projects under which it has a statutory authority under the Historic Landmark and Historic District Protection Act of 1978, which does not contemplate review of noncontributing sculptures in front of a noncontributing building in a historic district.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the ANC’s Regular January 2021 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Silverstein moved to approve the ANC’s regular January 2021 meeting minutes. Commissioner Holden seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0).

Discussion of ANC Committees for 2021

Commissioner Pasternak moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the ANC’s Mobility Committee. Commissioner McKernan seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS how people get around is an important quality of life issue; and

WHEREAS a safe and effective transportation system for the residents and visitors of Dupont Circle is a worthy goal; and

WHEREAS there are a number of transportation issues that the ANC formally offers comment on; and

WHEREAS our ANC can play a vital role in enhancing communication between relevant government agencies and the general public on transportation issues;

NOW be it therefore RESOLVED:

That ANC 2B establishes a standing committee entitled the Mobility Committee, chaired by Commissioner Moshe Pasternak (2B04), to undertake activities related to how people move around our neighborhood.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

That Howard Bard of SMD 2B01, Paul Cadario of SMD 2B09, Matt Johnson of 2B06, Kira Marchenese of 2B04, Finn Vigeland of 2B04 and Susan Volman of 2B04, shall be members of the Committee for a 1 year term expiring February 28th, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED

That all commissioners shall be considered ex officio members of the Committee and are encouraged to attend meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That ANC 2B Policies and Procedures Manual, Version 2.1, Chapter X, Section H, Standing Committees, is amended as follows:

~~(3) (2) Transportation and Public Infrastructure Committee~~-Mobility Committee (by resolution of February 10th 2021)

The purposes of the Mobility Committee are to:

- Promote a safe and effective transportation system for the residents and visitors of Dupont Circle; and
- Improve the use of public space in our neighborhood.

To carry out these purposes, the Committee undertakes to:

- Serve as a forum for discussing and source of information for matters related to parking (including valet applications, loading zones, and residential and visitor parking); pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and safety; beautification, repair and streetscapes; public transit; matters before the DC Council related to transportation and public space; and ~~public parks~~ to make recommendations to the Commission.

- Serve as a resource for commissioners and as an additional point of contact for DDOT, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Administration (WMATA), other transit operators and DC Water.
- Facilitate training for commissioners and others on transportation issues and host meetings to gather public input.
- Develop guidance for consideration of public space issues for review by the ANC.
- Carry out such other tasks as the Commission may delegate from time to time.

Commissioner Herbig moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the ANC’s Land Use Committee. Commissioner Nunn seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that community planning for land use and growth requires a comprehensive, thoughtful, and community-driven vision for development,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that zoning, historic preservation, and physical development matters contribute to the community’s quality of life,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that there are a number of land use issues that the Commission formally offers comment on,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes its vital role in enhancing education, outreach and communication between relevant government agencies and community stakeholders regarding land use, physical planning and urban design;

\THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B establishes a standing committee entitled the Land Use Committee, chaired by Commissioner William Herbig (2B05), to provide recommendations on zoning, historic preservation, and physical development matters that balance the character of the Dupont Circle area while encouraging its economic and social vitality.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Michael Lee Beidler residing in ANC 2B06; Yonah Freemark residing in ANC 2B08; Jeffrey Alan Rueckgauer residing in ANC 2B02; and Beverly Schwartz residing in ANC 2B08 shall be members of the Committee for a 1-year term expiring February 28, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all commissioners shall be considered ex officio members of the Committee and are encouraged to attend meetings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ANC 2B Policies and Procedures Manual, Version 2.1, Part II, Chapter X, Section H, Standing Committees, is amended as follows:

(2) Land Use Committee

The purpose of the Land Use Committee (LUC) is to balance the community’s physical planning and architectural legacy with its economic and social vitality.

To carry out this purpose, the Committee undertakes to:

- Hold monthly committee meetings to hear applicants and to make recommendations to the Commission as a whole;
- Establish and maintain on-going working relations with those public and private entities with similar goals and purposes, including the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB), the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA), the Zoning Commission (ZC), the D.C. Office of Planning, and other community stakeholders and organizations;
- Track and, when appropriate, provide recommendations to the Commission regarding planning, zoning, and historic preservation policy and development proposals;
- Convene special meetings to hear applications on major projects and policy proposals and to make recommendation to the Commission as a whole;
- Maintain a committee web page, including links to relevant organizations;
- Propose updates to the Commission's Policy and Procedures Manual;
- Assist with ANC training as related to the goals and purposes of this Committee; and
- Carry out such other tasks as the Commission may delegate.
- When appropriate, seek the advice of outside expertise, such as architects, planners, historic preservationists, urban designers, and other land use professionals to guide the Committee in its work;
- When appropriate, undertake special projects such as, but not limited to special planning and urban design initiatives; and
- When appropriate, host educational forums for exploring planning and land use matters.

The Commission in 2011 tasked the LUC (formerly the Zoning, Preservation and Development Committee (ZPD)) with initial review of individual applications to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA), Zoning Commission (ZC), and/or Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) – for any application that the relevant SMD Commissioner and the Chair of the LUC Committee believe may take substantial time to review (i.e., greater than 15-20 minutes). The Committee hears these presentations first at a separate, public committee meeting. At that meeting, the Committee then formulates a recommendation for action to the full Commission. At the full Commission meeting, the applicant makes an abbreviated presentation, followed by introduction of the Committee's proposed action and questions and comments.

The default meeting time of the LUC Committee is the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., and the default location is the Dupont Circle Resource Center at 9 Dupont Circle NW.

Commissioner Mulhall moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the ANC's Education and Parks Working Group. Commissioner Herbig seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes the growing number of families with school-aged children has made education and recreation opportunities for children of all ages an increasing priority for many neighborhood residents,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that all residents have an interest in the preservation, improvement and expansion of our locally and federally administered parks and recreation facilities, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B is therefore creating an ad hoc committee (“working group”) to improve communications and engagement with local public schools, the DC School Board, parent teacher organizations, education advocacy groups, the DC Parks & Recreation agency, the National Park Service, neighborhood sports organizations, and the Friends of Stead Park and other parks supporters.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B establishes an ad hoc committee entitled the Education and Parks Working Group with Commissioner Kyle Mulhall and Amy Nasr as co-chairs, and Stephanie Straus as a committee member. This Working Group shall meet at such time and place as determined by the co-chairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B That ANC 2B Policies and Procedures Manual, Version 2.1, Chapter X, Section I, Ad Hoc Committees, is amended as follows:

Education & Parks Working Group

Objective of the Committee

The purpose of this ad hoc committee is to provide recommendations on matters relating to the support of education, the needs of children, and parks and recreation that impact the residents of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B.

Role of the Committee

The Committee undertakes to:

- Identify and forward items to the Commission to respond to community requests and provide support to families and youth across 2B and throughout the city.
- Communicate with Public Schools (DCPS) and with individual schools and related parent teacher organizations for those schools that educate children from 2B.
- Provide the Commission with appropriate information to keep community members informed on relevant issues related to education and area schools.
- Encourage volunteer and participation to support area youth and schools in 2B.
- Identify issues through communication with the community and the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) on issues relate to use, maintenance and modernization of DPR facilities within 2B.

- Communicate with Friends of Stead Park, neighborhood sport and recreation groups and other supporters of local parks to identify their needs and proposals for improving our local parks and those operated by the National Park Service in and near 2B.

Commissioner Roggensack moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the ANC's COVID-19 Emergency Response Task Force. Commissioner Mulhall seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 9-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS the coronavirus pandemic has severely affected our ANC's small businesses, our residents and our overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS there are a number of existing governmental and nongovernmental initiatives to respond to respond to this emergency, from the mayor's office and City Council to business and nonprofit community organizations and

WHEREAS our ANC can play a vital role in enhancing communication among and between stakeholders - residents, affected businesses and civic organizations - on pandemic mitigation and recovery efforts;

NOW be it therefore RESOLVED:

That ANC 2B establishes an ad hoc committee entitled the COVID Emergency Task Force, co-chaired by Commissioners Mike Silverstein (2B06) and Meg Roggensack (2B01), with Kyle Mulhall (2B09), committee member, to undertake activities in support of our community in response to the emergency;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That ANC 2B Policies and Procedures Manual, Version 2.1, Chapter X, Section I, Ad Hoc Committees, is amended as follows:

COVID Emergency Response Task Force

Objective

The purpose of this ad hoc committee is to help raise awareness of, facilitate access to and improve utilization of COVID emergency initiatives and other resources by small businesses and residents; identify gaps and work with relevant agencies and organizations to address these, and as necessary improve coordination and communication among and between these organizations and our ANC residents and businesses.

Role of the Task Force:

To achieve these objectives, the Task Force will:

- Establish working relationships with existing COVID task forces and working groups within the DC government and council and among the neighborhood organizations, including adjacent ANCs, and serve as an informal clearinghouse for ANC 2B on COVID related resources and concerns
- Solicit input from Commissioners, businesses and residents on COVID related concerns
- Convene a series of informational webinars with partner organizations, featuring experts and resources
- Co-sponsor promotional events for our small businesses, to raise resident awareness and enhance business opportunities
- Participate as useful in public hearings and convenings on COVID related issues, to forward any insights or recommendations to improve existing efforts

COVID EMERGENCY RESPONSE TASK FORCE

A standing task force for ANC 2B to identify and respond to special challenges of pandemic; this task force reports to the ANC and engages ANC Commissioners directly as appropriate and necessary.

Partnering organizations include Main Streets and Business Improvement Districts entities, Dupont Circle Citizens Association, and other entities and organizations as appropriate.

Activities posted on ANC blog and website as well as websites of partner organizations.

CHAIRS: Mike Silverstein, ANC 2B06: 2B06@anc.dc.gov
 Meg Roggensack, ANC 2B01: 2B01@anc.dc.gov
 MEMBER: Kyle Mulhall, ANC 2B09: 2B09@anc.dc.gov

Objective

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Adjournment

Chair Warwick adjourned the meeting at 8:57 pm.