



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

### Regular Meeting Minutes

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

### Call to Order

The regular March 2021 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: 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

#### Update from Councilmember Brooke Pinto

Councilmember Brooke Pinto gave an update from her office.

#### Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Nunn gave a commissioner announcement.

#### Committee Updates

Commissioner Pasternak, Chair of the ANC's Mobility Committee; Commissioner Herbig, Chair of the ANC's Land Use Committee; Commissioner Mulhall, Chair of the ANC's Education and Parks Working Group; and Commissioners Roggensack and Silverstein, Chairs of the ANC's COVID-19 Emergency Response Task Force, gave updates from their respective committees.

#### 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); Beverly Schwartz, a former ANC 2B commissioner; Deborah Shapley, the President of Restore Mass Ave; 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**

Heist – Application for a Substantial Change to the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “C” Nightclub License at 1216 18th Street NW

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

Herbal Alternatives II – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Dispensary License at 1710 Rhode Island Avenue NW

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

National Holistic Healing Center – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Dispensary License at 1718 Connecticut Avenue NW, Level T

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

Capitol Grounds Café – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “B” License at 1010 17th Street NW

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

Signature Lounge – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern License at 1727 Connecticut Avenue NW

Commissioner Roggensack 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 protests Signature Lounge’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern license at 1727 Connecticut Avenue NW based on the adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood, including noise and litter effects, until a settlement agreement has been successfully negotiated between the ANC and applicant.

Immigrant Food – Application for a Substantial Change to the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “D” Restaurant License at 1701 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Commissioner Silverstein 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 Immigrant Food’s application for a substantial change to the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “D” Restaurant license at 1701 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

## **Land Use Agenda**

### **1415 S Street NW – Application for Special Exceptions from the Lot Occupancy Requirements, the Rear Addition Requirements, and the Guard Rail Setback Requirements to Construct a One-Story, Rear Screened Porch Addition with Roof Deck, to an Existing, Attached, Two-Story Principal Dwelling Unit**

Commissioner Herbig 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:

WHEREAS, ANC 2B finds that the owner of 1415 S Street NW, the applicant for Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) application #20426, is seeking special exceptions from the lot occupancy requirements, rear yard requirements, and penthouse setbacks to construct a new, one-story porch addition with entry stairs to their existing attached principal dwelling unit,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B, in March of 2021, reviewed in a Zoom online meeting the architectural plans, elevations, and color photographs, and received a presentation on the project using the materials submitted to BZA by the applicant in January of 2021,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B's Land Use Committee (LUC) previously reviewed these plans on March 3rd, 2021 in a Zoom online meeting and did not find reason to oppose the relief sought,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that the owner represented that they reached out to adjacent neighbors and have received no replies from adjacent neighbors at 1413 S Street NW and 1417 S Street NW, and a support statement from the neighbor immediately behind the property at 1402 Swann Street NW, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the relief sought appears to be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the zoning regulations and zoning maps and does not appear to adversely affect the use of neighboring properties in this context.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports BZA application #20426 for 1413 S Street NW as presented in March of 2021.

## **General Agenda**

### **Consideration of a Resolution Regarding The Way Home Campaign's FY 2022 Budget Request**

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

WHEREAS, the term chronic homelessness is used to describe individuals who have experienced homelessness for at least a year or repeatedly, while struggling with a significant health condition,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has intensified the homelessness crisis and has highlighted the challenges and safety concerns associated with being homeless. As of March 1, 2021, 512 unhoused neighbors have tested positive and 25 people experiencing homelessness have died from COVID-19,

WHEREAS, numerous individuals experiencing homelessness have established encampments in the Dupont Circle neighborhood, notably in the vicinity of Dupont Circle and along 17th Street NW / Frank Kameny Way,

WHEREAS, housing is the only solution to homelessness and research shows that permanent supportive housing, using the “housing first” model, is the best way to end chronic homelessness. Permanent supportive housing combines affordable housing with voluntary specialty services that support the health needs of individuals that can help them eventually exit homelessness. This model puts housing first and does not have barriers such as requiring sobriety,

WHEREAS, quality, affordable housing is an essential element of a healthy community and a safe, permanent home promotes positive public health outcomes for individuals and the community at large,

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the number of individuals experiencing homelessness will significantly increase upon the imminent expiration of the current pandemic-related eviction moratorium,

WHEREAS, cities such as Houston, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, and New Orleans have ended chronic homelessness among their veterans, demonstrating the ability to end homelessness with targeted investments,

WHEREAS, in 2015, ANC 2B showed support for the Homeward DC program, which sought to end long term homelessness by 2020, and believes that DC must continue the progress made through this and similar initiatives, and

WHEREAS, during a March 1, 2021 oversight hearing focused on homelessness, Councilmember Pinto promoted a comprehensive approach based around permanent supportive housing, tweeting “Ward 2 supports moving more of our neighbors experiencing homelessness into housing and getting them the wraparound services they need to sustain it. Period.”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports The Way Home Campaign’s FY 2022 budget recommendations to end chronic homelessness in DC by investing \$96,126,983 in permanent supportive housing to end chronic homelessness for 2,761 individuals and 432 families.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B calls on the DC Council and the Mayor to fund programs to prevent homelessness and to ensure that DC continues to have a robust, housing-focused outreach team to best leverage these resources.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B calls on the DC Council and the Mayor to fund DC's robust network of homeless street outreach at least at last year's levels and to address funding gaps as needed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B calls on the DC Council and the Mayor to ensure that every person who is at high risk of dying from COVID-19 be offered a placement in a non-congregate shelter, such as the PEP-V program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B calls on the DC Council and the Mayor to expand homelessness prevention and diversion, including Project Reconnect and the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B calls on the DC Council and the Mayor to increase investment in low-income housing and large-scale rent relief through the Local Rent Supplement Program (LRSP) and the Housing Production Trust Fund (HPTF).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B calls on the DC Council and the Mayor to examine tactics to shorten the gap between a resident receiving a permanent supportive housing voucher and transitioning into housing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B calls on the DC Council and the Mayor to examine opportunities in Dupont Circle and Ward 2 to purchase or lease hotels with the purpose of converting them to humane emergency shelters or deeply affordable housing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B calls on the DC Council and the Mayor to examine opportunities in Dupont Circle and Ward 2 to convert vacant office space to humane emergency shelters or deeply affordable housing.

#### Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Funding for Commercial Trash Compactors

Commissioner Roggensack moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Mulhall seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-2-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, DC's Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD), in partnership with the Mayor's Office of the Clean City, began in FY 2019 disbursing grants to install trash compactors in targeted areas to minimize rodent populations in the city's commercial districts,

WHEREAS, the Commercial Compactor Demonstration Project Grant Program has helped businesses to reduce trash overflow that attracts rodents while at the same time

reducing the number of collection trips that contribute to increased carbon emissions and waterway pollution, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B has a large number of commercial corridors that could significantly reduce trash overflow and collection trips, and therefore reduce rodent populations and environmental impact, through shared compactor capacity.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B asks the Mayor and the DC Council to fund for FY 2022 the Commercial Compactor Demonstration Project Grant Program at a dollar amount no lower than provided in FY 2019 and that ANC 2B be designated as a target area.

### **Administrative Matters**

#### **Approval of the ANC's Regular February 2021 Meeting Minutes**

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

### **Adjournment**

Chair Warwick adjourned the meeting at 9:33 pm.