



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 9th, 2021; 7:00 p.m.
Online via Zoom

Call to Order

The regular June 2021 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Vice Chair Robin Nunn at 7:02 pm.

Introduction of Commissioners

The Commissioners identified their single member districts (SMDs). Present were: Meg Roggensack (2B01), 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 Metropolitan Police Department Second District Commander Duncan Bedlion

Commander Duncan Bedlion, the Commander of the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an update regarding the work of MPD's Second District.

Update from Ajan Brown, a Community Engagement Specialist for the DC Office of Human Rights

Ajan Brown, a Community Engagement Specialist for the DC Office of Human Rights, gave an update regarding the work of the office.

Commissioner Announcements

and

Committee Updates

Commissioners Roggensack, Nunn, Pasternak, Herbig, Silverstein, and Mulhall gave commissioner announcements and committee updates.

Other Public Announcements and General Comments or Future Agenda Items

Joe Florio, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS); 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 a local resident gave other public announcements and general comments or future agenda items.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Silverstein moved to consent to all of the items on the ANC’s Consent Agenda. Commissioner Holden seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolutions read as follows:

Connecticut Avenue Wine & Liquor – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 1529 Connecticut Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Crown Liquors – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 1325 Connecticut Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Benmoll Liquors – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 1700 U Street NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Barmy Wine and Liquors – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 1912 L Street NW]

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Universal Liquors – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 2018 Florida Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

S & R Liquors – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 1015 18th Street NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Widget Wine – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Internet License at 1050 Connecticut Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

State Liquors – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A”
Liquor Store License at 2159 P Street NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Ezra's – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Internet
License at 1420 U Street NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Bell Wine & Liquor – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class
“A” Liquor Store License at 1821 M Street NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Golden Triangle BID’s Public Art Building
Communities Grant Application for the Installation of a Temporary Sculpture at the
Intersection of K Street and Connecticut Avenue NW

WHEREAS, the Golden Triangle Business Improvement District (BID) seeks to install a temporary work of art in 2021 at the intersection of K Street and Connecticut Avenue NW,

WHEREAS, the proposed location of the public artwork is located within single-member districts 2B05 and 2B06 and the Golden Triangle BID,

WHEREAS, the proposed public artwork would utilize an existing sculpture pad designed to support works of art located in the Connecticut Avenue median at K Street and Connecticut Avenue NW,

WHEREAS, the Golden Triangle BID has convened an advisory panel to recommend and select artists based on qualifications, artistic merit, prior work experience, and professionalism necessary to complete the project,

WHEREAS, the Golden Triangle BID has successfully installed both permanent and temporary public artworks on the sidewalks, parks, and medians, and within Metrorail stations throughout the Golden Triangle neighborhood, and

WHEREAS, this project will continue the Golden Triangle BID’s ongoing public space improvement efforts that make the neighborhood a clean, safe, and vibrant place to live, work, and visit, and

WHEREAS, the Golden Triangle BID is applying for the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities’ FY 2022 Public Art Building Communities Grant to fund the proposed public artwork.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the Golden Triangle BID's application to install temporary public art at the intersection of K Street and Connecticut Avenue NW.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Dupont Underground's Public Art Building Communities Grant Application for the Re-Think Dupont Circle Installation

WHEREAS, Dupont Underground seeks to fabricate and install "The Portal," a permanent work of art, in 2021 at their main entrance near the corner of 19th Street and Massachusetts Avenue NW,

WHEREAS, the proposed location of the "The Portal" is located within single-member district 2B03,

WHEREAS, Dupont Underground has successfully activated the former streetcar tunnels beneath Dupont Circle through a series of permanent and temporary works of art and arts-related programming,

WHEREAS, Dupont Underground organized the Re-Think Dupont Circle Competition to focus on the redesign of Dupont Underground's main entrance and Dupont Circle as a whole,

WHEREAS, the committee of experts assembled by Dupont Underground chose "Illume" by Gensler, composed of "The Ring" and "The Portal," as the competition winner,

WHEREAS, "The Portal," also known as "The Illume Arch," is designed as a subtle neighborhood wayfinding feature to highlight entry to Dupont Underground and would mark the first phase of this winning design,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B looks forward to learning more about the second component of the winning design, "The Ring," at subsequent meetings, and

WHEREAS, Dupont Underground is applying for the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities' FY 2022 Public Art Building Communities Grant to fund the proposed public artwork.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports Dupont Underground's application to install "The Portal," a permanent work of art, in 2021.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Dedication of the 1200 Block of 18th Street NW

WHEREAS, streets and avenues in the District of Columbia are typically named for states, geographic locations, famous Americans, flowers, trees, and other things,

WHEREAS, very few of our streets and avenues are named after people who actually lived here and contributed to the life of our city and the quality of life of our fellow citizens,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B has led in the honorary renaming of streets within the ANC in honor of Frank Kameny and Annie Kaylor,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the renaming of streets should reflect the rich diversity of those who have contributed to the life of our city in every way,

WHEREAS, the block of 18th Street between M Street and Connecticut Avenue NW is the epicenter of an area called “Club Central,” an entertainment district known nationally for good times and great music,

WHEREAS, “Sam the Man” Burns was a beloved fixture in Club Central, known primarily as the DJ at the Eighteenth Street Lounge for three decades, the godfather of DC’s house music scene, a mentor to many, and a good friend to so many more,

WHEREAS, Sam Burns died unexpectedly on March 7, 2020, just days before the pandemic, leaving a hole in the hearts of so many at a time when there was no way to safely gather, mourn his passing, and memorialize him,

WHEREAS, media reports at the time of Sam Burns passing referred to him as “the Chuck Brown of House Music and most famous DJ in DC Nightlife” with thousands of fans, friends and supporters, and

WHEREAS, now that DC is reopening, ANC 2B believes that now is a proper time to recognize the contributions of “Sam the Man” and the role he played in DC’s music scene in our neighborhood.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the efforts of the family and friends of the late “Sam the Man” Burns to have the block of 18th Street between M Street and Connecticut Avenue NW renamed in his honor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the Mayor and the DC Council to support, pass, and sign into law legislation to honor DC’s rich music scene and the memory of Samuel Andre Burns by renaming that block of 18th Street NW in Club Central in his honor.

Consideration of a Resolution Honoring Danielle Vogel for Her Service to the Community

WHEREAS, Danielle Vogel, a fourth generation grocer, opened Glen’s Garden Market in the former Townhouse Grocery space at 2001 S Street NW on Earth Day in April of 2013,

WHEREAS, Glen’s Garden Market features almost 100% locally sourced items,

WHEREAS, nearly 100 of these local and sustainably oriented businesses were launched by Glen’s and over 60 were founded by women and 20 owned by persons of color,

WHEREAS, Glen’s puts the environment first in all decision making from the products it sells to its efforts to generate no food waste, to be solar powered, and to offer free composting,

WHEREAS, Glen’s has introduced Dupont Circle to the Good Food Movement and has been a center of and for the community,

WHEREAS, in the era of Amazon, Glen’s has provided an important alternative for customers who want to know where their food comes from and how it is produced,

WHEREAS, during the pandemic, Danielle Vogel took extra steps to keep both employees and customers safe, providing important leadership and stability to our community, and

WHEREAS, Glen’s’ Garden Market is transitioning to new ownership and a new name in June of 2021.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B declares Sunday, June 13th, 2021 to be Danielle Vogel Appreciation Day in recognition of her leadership and service to the community in founding Glen’s Garden Market and in ensuring that the transition to new ownership preserves Glen’s’ values and staff.

Approval of Expenditures for the 2021 Capital Pride Walk and Rally

The Commission approved expenditures up to \$1,500 for the 2021 Capital Pride Walk and Rally.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Agenda

S & R Liquors – Application to Terminate the Settlement Agreement as Part of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 1015 18th Street NW

Commissioner McKernan moved to protest S & R Liquors’ application to terminate the settlement agreement as part of the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store license at 1015 18th Street NW. Commissioner Mulhall seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Capitol Grounds Café – Application for a Substantial Change to the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “B” License at 1010 17th Street NW

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

ANC 2B took no action regarding Capitol Grounds Café’s application for a substantial change to the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “B” license at 1010 17th Street NW.

Land Use Agenda

1775 Swann Street NW – Concept / New Multifamily Building

Commissioner Holden moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Mulhall seconded the motion, which was then withdrawn.

Commissioner Holden moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Herbig seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, a concept application has been submitted to the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) for a proposed new, by-right residential building on Square 152, Lot 859 at 1775 Swann Street NW, located in ANC 2B,

WHEREAS, the project architect presented concept plans via Zoom to ANC 2B’s Land Use Committee (LUC) for review at its regular monthly public meeting on June 2, 2021,

WHEREAS, the proposed building is three stories plus a penthouse and cellar, providing seven condominium units plus two off-street parking spaces accessed from a rear alley,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B welcomes the improvement of a currently-vacant lot into new residences that will allow more people to live permanently in the Dupont Circle Historic District,

WHEREAS, questions were raised regarding the proposed building’s massing, height, and general appearance and whether they appropriately related to the historic character of Swann Street NW,

WHEREAS, suggestions were made to adjust the top floors to improve the massing and harmony with the street; consider setbacks and/or change the styling and materials of the third floor and penthouse for a less imposing, boxy presence; replace the first floor Juliet balcony and door with a window; explore alternatives to the wooden side yard fence to create a higher quality entry procession; and reduce the front window well to the legal minimum,

WHEREAS, while not of a historic nature, additional questions were raised regarding the operability of proposed off-street parking given the constrained width of the alley,

apparent lack of ADA accessibility, and adequate provisions for off-street trash and recycling,

WHEREAS, the Land Use Committee felt that further design revisions might satisfactorily address the issues raised, and

WHEREAS, the project could benefit from continued community outreach and engagement led by the applicant team.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the concept subject to design improvements addressing the aforementioned concerns.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the Historic Preservation Review Board does not delegate the project to staff review so that ANC 2B may remain a consulted party and have the ability to review and provide the ANC's comments to the Board as the plans are revised before final permit approval is granted.

1632 17th Street NW – Concept / Design Submission for Alterations to Existing Mixed-Used Building

Commissioner Herbig moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Holden seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, a concept application has been submitted to the Historic Preservation Review Board for a proposed renovation and change of use in order to create a mixed-use building on Square 155, Lot 250 at 1632 17th Street NW, located in ANC 2B,

WHEREAS, the property owner presented concept plans via Zoom to ANC 2B's Land Use Committee (LUC) for review at its regular monthly public meeting on June 2, 2021,

WHEREAS, the project intends to add a fourth floor and penthouse to the building and alter the street-level storefront along 17th Street NW,

WHEREAS, the proposed design incorporates a gambrel roof with arched dormer windows for the fourth floor and replaces the current exterior stair and stoop with street level retail space, windows, and entrance doors,

WHEREAS, the street-level redesign and treatment are welcome changes that are harmonious with the surrounding buildings and general charter of the Dupont Circle Historic District,

WHEREAS, the proposed gambrel roof and dormers appear imposing and out of character with the neighboring buildings,

WHEREAS, committee members suggest a more contemporary styling for the fourth floor and penthouse additions to provide contrast and delineation of the original and additional construction,

WHEREAS, committee members suggest the penthouse should have a greater setback from the primary building elevation to mitigate visibility from 17th Street NW and nearby environs, and

WHEREAS, the Land Use Committee feels that this project can be supported with the suggested changes.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports this project with agreeable changes to address the concerns with the proposed fourth floor and penthouse additions.

Public Space Committee Agenda

Public Space Application by Teasm for a Change of Size of the Seating Area for the Establishment's Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café to Have 10 Tables, 20 Seats, and 5 Umbrellas at 800 Connecticut Avenue NW

Commissioner Herbig moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Mulhall seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-1-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2B supports Teasm's public space application for a change of size of the seating area for the establishment's un-enclosed sidewalk café at 800 Connecticut Avenue NW.

Public Space Application by DC Pizza for a Change of Size of the Establishment's Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Area to Have 10 Tables, 20 Seats, and 4 Umbrellas at 1103 19th Street NW

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

ANC 2B supports DC Pizza's public space application for a change of size of the establishment's un-enclosed sidewalk cafe at 1103 19th Street NW.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the ANC's Regular April 2021 Meeting Minutes

and

Approval of the ANC's Regular May 2021 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Holden moved to post the draft minutes for the ANC's regular April 2021 and May 2021 meetings on the ANC's website while the ANC makes edits to the minutes. Commissioner Pasternak seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Approval of Updates to the ANC's Policies and Procedures Manual

Commissioner Holden moved to approve proposed changes to the ANC's Policies and Procedures Manual. Commissioner Silverstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-1-2).

Adjournment

Vice Chair Nunn adjourned the meeting at 10:08 pm.