



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

March 9, 2011

Chairman Charles Brodsky
Alcoholic Beverage Control Board
1250 U Street NW
Washington, DC 20009
martha.jenkins@dc.gov
cynthia.simms@dc.gov

Re: Proposed resolutions on renewal of the West Dupont Moratorium

Dear Chairman Brodsky:

At its regular meeting on March 9, 2011, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the soon-to-expire West Dupont Moratorium. We passed two final resolutions on the matter. With eight of nine Commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted 7-0 to support the following motion (one Commissioner was not participating):

Resolution to Exempt the Block of One Dupont Circle from the West Dupont Circle Liquor Moratorium

Whereas the 1400 block of 20th Street, NW (also known as One Dupont Circle) has previously been identified as part of the West Dupont Circle Liquor Moratorium Zone; and

Whereas this block has recently been identified as possibly having been previously exempted from the current West Dupont Circle Liquor Moratorium Zone and may have accidentally been re-included due to a technical error; and

Whereas public meetings held by the ad hoc ANC2B West Dupont Circle Moratorium Committee provided comments that overwhelmingly support the exemption of this block from the West Dupont Circle Moratorium zone; and

Whereas current business owners, residents and civic organizations have expressed their interest in removing this block from the West Dupont Circle Moratorium zone; and

Whereas the Metropolitan Police Department has stated that vacant property has an adverse impact on public safety; and

Whereas the current owner of the property on this block, the American Council on Education, provides space for 15 different non-profits and requires a commercial entity to assist in paying for their use of the space; and

Whereas the American Council on Education has been unable to attract retail tenants to their ground level space;

Therefore be it resolved that ANC2B petition the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration to remove the 1400 block of 20th Street, NW (also recognized as the 1900 block of P Street, NW or the 2000 Block of O Street, NW, or One Dupont Circle) from the West Dupont Circle Moratorium zone with immediate effect.

The Commission voted 6-1 to support the following motion (one Commissioner was not participating):

Resolution to Support the Extension of a Modified West Dupont Circle Liquor Moratorium

Whereas, the West Dupont Circle Moratorium (the Moratorium) has been recognized as an effective tool to protect against overconcentration, enhance public safety and protect the peace, order and quiet of the West Dupont Circle neighborhood; and

Whereas, a goal of the ANC is to promote the future of its neighborhoods, advocating for smart growth and sustainable, responsible economic development; and

Whereas, the Western Dupont Circle neighborhood has seen its businesses impacted both by both the economy and by the P Street redevelopment project; and

Whereas, the ANC has weighed the opinions of the impacted community, businesses, community organizations and the Dupont Circle neighborhood at-large; and

Whereas, the West Dupont Circle Moratorium is set to expire on March 23, 2011;

Therefore, be it resolved, that ANC2B petition the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) for the renewal of a modified West Dupont Circle Moratorium for a three-year period from the date of Board action;

Be it further resolved, that ANC2B recommends continuing the current number of licenses allowable be listed as the following:

- Class A: 2
- Class B: 3
- Class CT/DT: 6
- Class CN/DN: 0
- Class CX/DX: 2

Be it further resolved, that the restriction on the number of CR/DR licenses be lifted; and

Be it further resolved, that the western boundaries of the Moratorium now be listed as beginning at 22nd Street and Florida Avenue; North on Florida Avenue to R Street; East on R Street to 21st Street; South on 21st Street to Hillyer Place to 20th Street; South on 20th Street to N Street; West on N Street to 22nd Street; North on 22nd Street to Florida Avenue; and

Be it further resolved, that the current exemption for hotels continue; and

Be it further resolved, that the existing language pertaining to transfer of ownership be allowed to continue;

Be it further resolved, that the prohibition on the transfer of a CT/DT, CN/DN A or B license from outside the Moratorium zone to inside the Moratorium zone be prohibited; and

Be it further resolved, that the Moratorium shall prohibit the change of all CR/DR licenses to CT/DT or CN/DN licenses; and

Be it further resolved, that ANC2B recommends ABRA consider a method for blocks to “opt-in” to the Moratorium zone that would not require an extension of 600 or more feet; and

Be it further resolved that ANC 2B will track measures to determine the effectiveness of these changes. These will include: complaints registered with ABRA, complaints registered with the Commissioners of the Single-Member Districts within the Moratorium boundaries, and the number and type of new businesses in the Moratorium boundaries.

Commissioner Mike Silverstein did not participate due to his position on the ABC Board. Kevin O'Connor is the Commission's representative on this matter. You can reach him at kevin.oconnor@dupontcircleanc.net.

We also approved a final report on the West Dupont Moratorium, which is enclosed here.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,



Will Stephens, Chair