



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

August 3, 2023

Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie
Chair, Committee on Business and Economic Development
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 506
Washington, DC 20004
kmcduffie@dccouncil.gov

RE: DC Council Bill B25-0399 – the “Support for the Capital Pride Parade Amendment Act of 2023”

Dear Councilmember McDuffie,

At its regular meeting on July 12, 2023, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 8 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (8-0-0):

WHEREAS, the Capital Pride festivities in Washington, DC began in June 1975 with a “Gay Pride Day” block party hosted by Deacon Maccubbin on the 1700 block of 20th Street NW, outside of his bookstore, Lambda Rising, then located at 1724 20th Street NW,

WHEREAS, Deacon Maccubbin organized Pride festivities to include information booths with resources and community organizations,

WHEREAS, the information booths have been embraced nationally and internationally as a key component of Pride festivities,

WHEREAS, Deacon Maccubbin hosted and fostered Pride events from his bookstore until 1980, when they had become a successful tradition, a community-wide celebration, and an institution of Washington, DC,

WHEREAS, the Capital Pride Alliance has inherited Maccubbin’s role to coordinate and plan Capital Pride festivities throughout June as LGBTQ Pride Month,

WHEREAS, the festivities have evolved into a parade, a street festival, and a block party – in homage to Deacon Maccubbin’s original block party,

WHEREAS, the DC Government charges various fees to support the festivities, at great expense to the mostly volunteer-run nonprofit Capital Pride Alliance,

WHEREAS, those fees represent a sizeable financial burden,

WHEREAS, Councilmember Pinto has recognized this burden and supports Capital Pride festivities as “a wonderful demonstration of what makes DC so special: our commitment to not only welcoming diversity, inclusivity, and equality, but also celebrating it,” and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Pinto has crafted DC Council Bill B25-0399 – the “Support for the Capital Pride Parade Amendment Act of 2023” to waive city fees for future Capital Pride festivities, and the bill was co-introduced by you, Chair McDuffie, and Councilmembers Charles Allen, Vincent Gray, Janeese Lewis George, Zachary Parker, and Robert White.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B fully endorses Councilmember Pinto’s DC Council Bill B25-0399 – the “Support for the Capital Pride Parade Amendment Act of 2023” to waive city fees for future Capital Pride festivities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the DC Council to erect a historical marker near 20th Street and R Street NW to indicate the location of the first Gay Pride Day held in 1975, and that the marker be designed in consultation with ANC 2B and be consistent with other such markers in the neighborhood.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B desires that someday the DC Council renames the 1700 block of 20th Street NW in honor of Deacon Maccubbin for his many efforts to establish Capital Pride in the District, and his countless other efforts to build a sense of community over his more than 40 years as a proud, Out, Gay, successful businessman in Dupont Circle.

Commissioners Vincent Slatt (2B03@anc.dc.gov) and Meg Roggensack (2B01@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meg Roggensack", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Meg Roggensack
Chair