

Regular Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 7th, 2024; 7:00 p.m.
Online via Zoom

Call to Order

The regular February 2024 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Meg Roggensack at 7:03 pm.

Introduction of Commissioners

The Commissioners identified their single member districts (SMDs). Present were: Meg Roggensack (2B01), Jeffrey Rueckgauer (2B02), Vincent Slatt (2B03), Z Stein (2B05), Matt Johnson (2B06), Libby Franklin (2B07), Zach Adams (2B08), and Christopher Davis (2B09).

Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Roggensack adopted the ANC's meeting agenda by unanimous consent.

Announcements and Public Comments

Update from the ANC's Executive Director

Peter Sacco, the ANC's Executive Director, gave an update.

Reports from DC Government Representatives

Christopher Powell, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS); Pablo Velasco Rodriguez, the Constituent Services Coordinator for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office; Lieutenant Bobbette Forrest, a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District; and Harold Davis, a Solid Waste Inspector for the Department of Public Works (DPW), gave DC Government reports.

Commissioner Announcements

Chair Roggensack and Commissioner Franklin gave commissioner announcements.

Committee Updates

Commissioner Davis, Chair of the ANC's Land Use Committee (LUC), and Commissioner Rueckgauer, Chair of the ANC's Mobility Committee (MC), gave committee updates.

Other Public Announcements and General Comments or Future Agenda Items

Bill McLeod, the Executive Director of the Dupont Circle Business Improvement District (BID), and Susan Volman, the President of the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA), gave other public announcements and general comments or future agenda items.

Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board Agenda

Tokyo Pearl – Application for a Substantial Change to the Establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Tavern License at 1301 Connecticut Avenue NW

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

ANC 2B supports Tokyo Pearl's application for a substantial change to the establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1301 Connecticut Avenue NW.

Land Use Agenda

1901 18th Street NW – Concept / Partial Third Floor Addition Behind Existing False Mansard Roof

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

WHEREAS, the owner of 1901 18th Street NW has filed an application with the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) for approval of plans for renovation,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B's Land Use Committee (LUC) reviewed the submitted concept plans at its duly noticed monthly meeting held February 6, 2024 and heard testimony from the owner and the architect,

WHEREAS, the building is located in single member district (SMD) 2B08 and is a contributing structure in the Strivers' Section Historic District, and

WHEREAS, the renovation plans include a partial addition to the third floor behind an existing false mansard roof.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the HPRB application by the owner and commends the architect's suggestion to add a fence to screen the parking from the street.

1900-1902 16th Street NW – Concept / Partial Demolition and Renovation Into Single Family Residence (1900); Partial Demolition and Renovation Into Two Family Residence

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

WHEREAS, the owner of 1900 and 1902 16th Street NW has filed an application with the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) for approval of plans for renovation,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B's Land Use Committee (LUC) reviewed the submitted concept plans at its duly noticed monthly meeting held February 6, 2024 and heard testimony from the owner and neighbors,

WHEREAS, the buildings are located in single member district (SMD) 2B09 and are contributing structures in the Sixteenth Street Historic District,

WHEREAS, the properties were constructed in 1879 and predate most of the buildings in the historic district; at the time of their construction and during most of the following decades the census tract was majority Black,

WHEREAS, the ground floor of 1900 16th Street NW has served several commercial retail uses continuously since at least 1887 and is now the only remaining retail storefront on the six-mile stretch of 16th Street NW from K Street NW to Silver Spring, Maryland,

WHEREAS, in 2008 the zoning for the site was changed to RA-2/DC, making the historic footprint incompatible with the new lot occupancy requirements. The proposed design includes demolishing a portion of the rear of the historic building at 1900 16th Street NW in order to bring the footprint into line with the current zoning,

WHEREAS, the site is in convenient walking distance to a large surrounding neighborhood and is located on a well-served bus route. No parking is required for the zone and adding four off-street parking spaces is incompatible with the District's mode shift, Vision Zero, and carbon neutrality goals, and

WHEREAS, in 2020 the T Street NW south-facing wall of 1900 16th Street NW collapsed and the building is being structurally supported by temporary scaffolding while awaiting renovation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports the HPRB application, in part, for the expeditious renovation of 1902 16th Street NW and any work needed to stabilize 1900 16th Street NW in order to protect public health and safety.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the applicant and HPRB follow-up with the Office of Zoning on the plans for 1900 16th Street NW in order to allow the retention of the historic building footprint and to minimize demolition as much as possible. ANC 2B would also support a zoning variance or special exemption to allow the ground floor use to remain retail.

Public Space Committee Agenda

Public Space Application by Swingers for the Installation of Four Awnings with Signage and a New Planter at 1333 New Hampshire Avenue NW

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

ANC 2B supports Swingers' public space application for the installation of four awnings with signage and a new planter at 1333 New Hampshire Avenue NW.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the ANC's Regular January 2024 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Rueckgauer moved to approve the ANC's regular January 2024 meeting minutes. Commissioner Franklin seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Appointment of the Members of the ANC's Land Use Committee (LUC)

Commissioner Davis moved to appoint the members of the ANC's Land Use Committee, Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The members of the ANC's Land Use Committee are as follows:

- Beverly Schwartz

- Kyle Mulhall
- Jane Scinta

Appointment of the Members of the ANC's Mobility Committee (MC)

Commissioner Rueckgauer moved to appoint the members of the ANC's Mobility Committee. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The members of the ANC's Mobility Committee are as follows:

- Paul Cadario
- Sarah Dillard
- Ana Karimi
- Rudi Riet
- Giancarlo Valdetaro

Adjournment

Chair Roggensack adjourned the meeting at 8:46 pm.