



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 16th, 2020; 7:00 pm

Online via Zoom

Call to Order

Chair David Bender called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Establishment of Quorum

Commissioners David Bender (2D01) and Jeff Nestler (2D02) were present, establishing a quorum. There were 44 residents and visitors in attendance.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Nestler moved to approve the ANC's meeting agenda. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Remarks by Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto

Councilmember Brooke Pinto said that she is grateful to have been reelected. She said that she is troubled by the violence that occurred during the past weekend and stated that hate is not acceptable. She gave an overview of a recent hate crime that occurred at Valley Brook Tea in Dupont Circle. She said that she is working with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to ensure that the perpetrator is found. She added that she is focused on ensuring that additional hate crime legislation is passed during the DC Council's current legislative period.

Councilmember Pinto encouraged local residents to get tested for COVID, to wear masks, and to stay home if they are not feeling well. She said that she wants to work with the DC Public Schools (DCPS) administration, parents, and teachers to ensure that schools are able to reopen safely. She said that her team recently conducted "school ready" tours at all of the Ward 2 schools.

Councilmember Pinto said that she is committed to working with the Department of Human Services (DHS) and other agencies to ensure that individuals experiencing homelessness are being moved into safe places to live as quickly as possible. She encouraged local residents to call DC's shelter hotline at (202) 399-7093 if they see any individuals out in the cold during hypothermia season.

Councilmember Pinto encouraged local residents to attend an upcoming Ward 2 roundtable on the DC Comprehensive Plan that she is hosting. She also gave an overview of a DC Council bill that she has co-sponsored to extend the time period for restaurant streateries.

Councilmember Pinto said that she has heard from many local residents about continued safety concerns along Connecticut Avenue NW. She said that she is going to bring up the concerns with the leadership at the District Department of Transportation (DDOT).

Commissioner Nestler said that he heard that other DCPS principals had been fired after raising concerns about school reopening plans. Councilmember Pinto said that she would look into the matter.

A local resident asked about DC's upcoming budget deficit. Councilmember Pinto said the Mayor will be sending the DC Council a supplemental FY 2021 budget that is supposed to address the deficit. She said that surplus from DC's FY 2020 budget will also provide some relief from the upcoming deficit. She said that the DC Council will carefully review the Mayor's proposed supplemental budget.

Administrative and Financial Matters

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Nestler said that the DC Board of Elections (BOE) has not announced the write-in winners for the ANC's two districts as part of the 2020 general election. He said that he has enjoyed serving on the ANC during the past two years.

Chair Bender said that in May of 2021 DDOT is going to be creating a report on the PaveDC program. He encouraged local residents to reach out to DDOT if their streets or sidewalks are in bad condition.

Treasurer's Report

There were no updates regarding this matter.

DC Government Reports

Metropolitan Police Department (Police Service Area 208)

Lt. Jonathan Pongratz and Officer Jeremy Brady, representatives for MPD's Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Mayor's Office

Anna Noakes, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), said that DC's daily COVID case rate has been increasing. She said that approximately fifty percent of new cases are individuals with ages 25 to 44. She encouraged

local residents to wear masks, to stay at home, and to not attend any social events. She said that the Mayor is recommending that all DC residents attend Thanksgiving celebrations with only individuals in their immediate household. She said that anyone who is visiting DC must get tested within 72 hours of traveling to DC.

Chair Bender raised concerns regarding the maintenance of the fountain at the Spanish Steps. Ms. Noakes said that she will follow up with the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) regarding the matter.

Councilmember's Office

Genevieve Hulick, the Chief of Staff for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, said that she had no further updates from the Councilmember's Office.

Old Business

Personnel Matters at the School Without Walls

Commissioner Nestler said that the ANC previously submitted a resolution expressing concerns regarding personnel matters at the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens and School Without Walls High School. He said that DCPS has still not given any adequate explanations regarding the matters.

New Business

2020 Annual Report

Chair Bender said that the ANC will begin the process of compiling the ANC's 2020 Annual Report.

Leaf Collection Update

Chair Bender said that DPW's leaf collection efforts in Ward 2 recently started. He said that leaves no longer have to be bagged; they can instead be left by the sidewalk for collection by DPW.

Administrative and Financial Matters (Continued)

Meeting Dates for 2021

Chair Bender moved to approve Monday, January 11th, 2021 as the date for the ANC's regular January 2021 meeting. Commissioner Nestler seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Approval of October 19th, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Nestler moved to approve the ANC's October 19th, 2020 meeting minutes. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Announcements

A local resident said that the planned fencing and wall repairs at 2449 Tracy Place NW are expected to be completed soon.

Open Comments

There were not any open comments.

Date of Next Meeting

Chair Bender said that the ANC's next meeting will take place on Monday, January 11th, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Motion to Adjourn

Chair Bender adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm.