



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

### Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 27th, 2022; 7:00 pm

In-Person – St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 1830 Connecticut Ave. NW

Online via Zoom

### Call to Order and Election of Officers

Chair Warren called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

Chair Warren moved to elect Commissioner Feld as the ANC's Vice Chair and Treasurer. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

### Establishment of Quorum

Commissioners Ashley Warren (2D01) and Carole Feld (2D02) were present, establishing a quorum.

### Approval of Agenda

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

### Approval of April 2022 Meeting Minutes

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's April 2022 meeting minutes. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

### Administrative and Financial Matters

#### Commissioner's Comments

Chair Warren gave an overview of the ANC's meeting procedures. She said that all local residents can come to the ANC meetings to talk about any issues.

Chair Warren gave an overview of upcoming street parking closures on California Street NW due to District Department of Transportation (DDOT) work.

Commissioner Feld said that there are many neighborhood issues not on the ANC's meeting agenda that the ANC is still working to address.

#### Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Feld said that the current balance for the ANC's checking account is \$14,629.93.

### Bank Signatories

Chair Warren moved to add the ANC's new officers as authorized signatories on the bank signature card for the ANC's checking account and to remove the previous ANC officers. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

### Old Business

#### Update Regarding the Status of the District Department of Transportation's Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project

Shaun Davis, a Construction Manager for HNTB; Stacey Hemby, a project representative for DDOT; and Donovan Boyd, the Ward 2 Community Engagement Specialist for DDOT, were present. Mr. Davis gave an overview of the current roadway reconstruction work that the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project team is carrying out. He said the roadway work is the last major construction phase for the project.

Mr. Davis said that utility work is still continuing but that it is near completion. He said that parking areas have been set up for impacted locations and some driveway work has been completed at select locations. He added that the project team will continue to carry out door-to-door public outreach ahead of any construction work in a specific area.

Commissioners and meeting attendees had a discussion with Mr. Davis regarding concerns about construction worker parking, new utility markings near the construction work, project timing, the need to keep the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) updated about street closures, making sure that the project site is fully inspected after each workday, the variability of materials being used, and pedestrian passageway routing signage.

Mr. Davis said that he would look into the concerns regarding construction worker parking and would better communicate with MPD.

Aki Bayz, a local resident, gave an overview of the process for local residents to file property damage claims with the Office of Risk Management (ORM). He said that there are issues regarding the responsible parties due to overlapping Washington Gas and DDOT work. He said that there is a six month window to file a claim. He added that local residents can contact him if they have questions about the claims process.

#### Update Regarding the Status of the Embassy of Pakistan's Property at 2201 R Street NW

Patricia Gracyalny, an Assistant General Counsel for the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO), said that any outreach by the Government of Pakistan will not change the Office of Tax and Revenue's (OTR) determination to continue with the tax sale for the Embassy of Pakistan's

property at 2201 R Street NW. She said that the tax sale will take place on July 19th, 2022 and July 20th, 2022 at OTR's offices.

Ms. Gracyalny said that there are two property parcels that are part of the Embassy of Pakistan's property that will be part of the tax sale. She said that the combined total for the outstanding taxes on the parcels is about \$1.3 million. She said that the Embassy of Pakistan still has the option to pay off the taxes up until the last day of the tax sale. She added that the two parcels could be purchased separately.

Commissioners and meeting attendees had a discussion with Ms. Gracyalny regarding the need for OTR to proceed with the tax sale, the Embassy of Pakistan's history of trying to avoid a tax sale, and the possibility of the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) condemning the property.

## **Government Reports**

### **Metropolitan Police Department**

Lieutenant Charles Morris, a representative for MPD's Second District, introduced himself to meeting attendees. He said that he is the new Lieutenant for police service area (PSA) 208.

Commissioners and meeting attendees had a discussion with Lieutenant Morris regarding policing challenges in the PSA, recent police activity at the intersection of 23rd Street and S Street NW, ongoing issues at Assets at 1805 Connecticut Avenue NW, issues with off-road vehicles on DC streets, addressing illegal left turns at the intersection of Florida Avenue and Connecticut Avenue NW, and scooter and bike usage on sidewalks.

Lieutenant Morris encouraged contractors to not leave tools in their vehicles when parked and for local residents to call 9-1-1 if they see an issue in the neighborhood.

### **Mayor's Office**

*No one was present regarding this matter.*

### **Councilmember's Office**

Pablo Velasco Rodriguez, the Constituent Services Coordinator for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, said that the DC Council recently took its final vote on the new ANC boundaries. He thanked the members of the Ward 2 ANC Redistricting Task Force for their work on the task force. He encouraged local residents to report rat issues through DC's 3-1-1 system. He added that local residents can reach out to him about any 3-1-1 requests that are not getting resolved.

### **District Department of Transportation**

Mr. Boyd said that he continues to prioritize the installation of a speed camera at the intersection of Florida Avenue and Connecticut Avenue NW when future automated traffic enforcement (ATE) is planned to be installed. He said that additional funding has been set aside for the

purchasing of ATE equipment. He said that he is aware of ongoing concerns regarding speeding on S Street NW and that there are active traffic safety investigations (TSIs) for the street. He added that DDOT's Urban Forestry Division (UFD) does not have funding to address the erosion issues on Decatur Place NW but that DDOT is thinking about potential solutions.

Commissioners and meeting attendees had a discussion with Mr. Boyd regarding the need for designated parking at the American Fazl Mosque at 2141 Leroy Place NW and changing the residential permit parking (RPP) on Belmont Road NW.

### **New Business**

#### **Application by Sushi Ogawa for Renewal of the Establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 2100 Connecticut Avenue NW**

Chair Warren moved to take no action regarding the matter. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

#### **Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Maintaining Abortion Access in DC**

Chair Warren moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, abortion is a common and safe form of healthcare,

WHEREAS, Washington, DC was one of the few cities in the U.S. where abortion was legal in 1972. It was not until January 22, 1973 that the Supreme Court of the United States in the Roe v. Wade decision affirmed the constitutional right to privacy and a woman's right to choose whether or not to have an abortion,

WHEREAS, Washington, DC has laws protecting abortion even without Roe v. Wade,

WHEREAS, restrictions and bans on access to abortion services create financial, physical, and mental health risks to the people seeking them or who are denied needed procedures, and intimidation and physical obstruction are common tools used to deter individuals from accessing and providing abortion services, and

WHEREAS, Washington, DC is a city that respects the right of every citizen to maintain medical privacy, autonomy, and their right to choose, and sees those rights as inalienable.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2D urges the DC Council to guarantee access and affordability for reproductive health services in the District of Columbia to all who may seek it through DC Council Bill B24-0726 – the "Enhancing Reproductive Health Protections Amendment Act of 2022" and/or similar measures.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2D urges all relevant offices within the Government of the District of Columbia, including but not limited to the Mayor, the DC Council, the Office of the Attorney General, and DC Health, to continue to communicate to the general public that reproductive health services are available within the District of Columbia regardless of one's place of residence or citizenship, legal status of citizenship, race, age, ethnicity, income, gender identity, or religious credence or lack thereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2D urges the DC Council and the Mayor to pass and sign into law legislation protecting self-management of abortions and medical practitioners' right to offer abortions and related reproductive health services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2D urges the DC Council and the Mayor to pass and sign into law full Medicaid funding of abortion and other reproductive health services in the District of Columbia, including for self-medicated abortions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2D urges the Government of the District of Columbia to provide financial and logistical support to community organizations willing and able to provide safe travel to and from reproductive health service provider premises for individuals attempting to attain reproductive health services.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2D urges the DC Council and the Mayor to pass legislation prohibiting state courts from enforcing the penalties of another state against any individual who obtained reproductive health services which are illegal in another state, in the spirit of House Bill 5414 which was recently introduced in Connecticut.

Spanish Steps Wedding Permit Request for May 23rd, 2022

and

Spanish Steps Wedding Permit Request for June 28th, 2022

Chair Warren moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2D supports the Spanish Steps wedding permit request for May 23rd, 2022 and June 28th, 2022.

**Announcements and Open Comments**

Holly Sukenik, the Vice President of the Friends of Mitchell Park (FOMP), said that the summer issue of the organization's newsletter has been mailed out. She said that the newsletter can also be found on the organization's website at: <https://mitchellparkdc.org/>. She stated the dates for the organization's upcoming movies in Mitchell Park.

Chair Warren said that the building she lives in is for sale and that the building's residents are going through the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA) process. She said that the building's tenants association is currently soliciting buyers for the building. She encouraged local residents who may know any potential buyers to reach out to her.

### **Date of Next Meeting**

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's updated meeting schedule for the remainder of 2022. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The updated meeting schedule for the remainder of 2022 is as follows:

- Monday, August 8th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, September 20th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Monday, November 14th, 2022 at 7:00 pm

Chair Warren said that the ANC's next meeting will take place on Monday, August 8th, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Warren adjourned the meeting at 8:48 pm.