



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 18, 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 27 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).

Approval of February 10th, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Nestler moved to approve the ANC's February 10th, 2020 meeting minutes. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

DC Government Reports

Ward 2 DC Council Office

Sherri Kimbel, the Director of Constituent Services for the Ward 2 DC Council Office, gave an overview of the DC Council's upcoming hearing and voting schedules for DC's FY 2021 budget. She also gave an overview of the current Mayor's Order as it relates to social distancing and wearing masks, as well as the proposed plan to move to Phase One of DC's coronavirus reopening plan. She added that current DC regulations prevent renters from being evicted due to unpaid rent.

Administrative and Financial Matters

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Nestler said that Florida Avenue NW has been repaved and work seems to be completed. He said that he is working with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to try and have Decatur Place NW be repaved.

Commissioner Nestler said that the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) recently completed additional abatement activities at the Embassy of Pakistan's property at 2201 R Street NW.

Commissioner Nestler said that Annabelle 2132 Florida Ave NW has filed an application for a sidewalk cafe. He said that ANC 2B is currently considering the application. He added that if any local residents have any comments regarding the application, they can send them to himself in order to pass along to ANC 2B.

Commissioner Nestler said that Chair Bender and himself recently raised concerns regarding the lack of access to Belmont Road Park during the last Embassy Task Force meeting.

Chair Bender encouraged local residents to fill out their 2020 Census.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Nestler said that he had nothing to report for the treasurer's report.

Q2 FY20 Quarterly Financial Report

Commissioner Nestler moved to approve the ANC's FY 2020 Quarter 2 financial report. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

DC Government Reports (Continued)

Metropolitan Police Department (Police Service Area 208)

Captain Renato Caldwell and Officer Jeremy Brady, representatives for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood. Captain Caldwell said that there are two new mountain bike officers in Police Service Area (PSA) 208.

Officer Brady said that MPD recently made arrests for package thefts in the neighborhood.

Mayor's Office

Anna Noakes, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), gave an overview of the various metrics that have to be met in order to move through the phases of DC's coronavirus reopening plan. She said that she will soon be receiving a one-page overview of how DC's proposed FY 2021 budget affects Ward 2 and she will share the overview with the ANC once she receives it.

Pepco

A representative for Pepco, gave an overview of the company's new Reduce Energy Use DC pledge, which aims to reduce residents' and businesses' energy use in DC. He said that if residents take the pledge, they can enter drawings for credits to their power bill. He also gave an overview of upcoming Capital Grid Project construction work that will be taking place along 16th Street NW in Dupont Circle.

Old Business

Absentee Voting for June 2020 Elections

Chair Bender encouraged people to request their absentee ballots for the June 2nd and June 16th elections as soon as possible. He said that there will only be two in-person voting locations in Ward 2 and that neither location is convenient to Sheridan-Kalorama.

DDOT Road and Sidewalk Construction

Chair Bender gave an overview of the ongoing sidewalk and roadway construction work along Connecticut Avenue NW. He said that the ANC has not received any updates regarding DDOT's plans to rehabilitate Massachusetts Avenue NW.

Embassy of Zambia (Renewal of Temporary Zoning)

Chair Bender gave an overview of the ANC's previous resolution regarding the renewal of the temporary zoning allowance for the Embassy of Zambia.

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church Renovations

Chair Bender said that the ANC has not received any updates regarding the St. Margaret's Episcopal Church renovations.

2323 Tracy Place NW (Rear Additions and Renovations)

Chair Bender gave an overview of the ANC's previous opposition to the addition and renovations at 2323 Tracy Place NW. He said that the ANC has not received any recent updates regarding the project.

Voyager 888 LLC t/a Assets (Renewal of a Retailer's Class CN License)

Chair Bender said that the matter is currently on hold due to coronavirus delays at the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA).

New Business

There was not any new business.

Announcements

Daniel Warwick, the Chair of ANC 2B, said that there have been neighborhood conversations about a proposal to extend sidewalk cafes into the roadway during the Public Health Emergency. He said that the proposal would help with social distancing and would allow businesses that have small or no sidewalk cafes to have some outdoor space. He said that any residents who have comments about the proposal should reach out to their ANC commissioners, who will pass along the comments to ANC 2B.

Open Comments

Chair Bender moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the addition and renovation project at 2323 Tracy Place NW. Commissioner Nestler seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2D has continuing concerns regarding the proposed building renovations at 2323 Tracy Place NW, including concerns regarding the escalation of the basement, window replacement in keeping with the historic district, the replacement of the garage door and opening, and the treatment of the rear of the house. Without adequate study and examination, the ANC does not know what the plans are for the project that is currently being pursued.

ANC 2D also requests that the ANC be allowed to express its views regarding the proposed building renovations once the ANC receives plans for the project.

ANC 2D further requests that the Historic Preservation Office (HPO) and the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) provides the ANC and the property's neighbors with any new application and the accompanying plans for the property and that the ANC be given adequate time and opportunity to review and comment on them.

A local resident expressed concerns regarding the status of the dead trees on the Embassy of Ethiopia's property at 2134 Kalorama Road NW. Chair Bender said that he has passed along the concerns regarding the trees to an architect representing the Embassy of Ethiopia.

Date of Next Meeting

Chair Bender said that the ANC's next meeting will take place on Monday, June 15th, 2020 at 7:00 pm online via Zoom.

Motion to Adjourn

Chair Bender adjourned the meeting at 8:03 pm.