

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 9th, 2024; 7:00 p.m.

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 7:01 pm.

Commissioner Feld moved to elect Commissioner Warren as the ANC's Chair and Secretary for 2024. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Chair Warren moved to elect Commissioner Feld as the ANC's Vice Chair and Treasurer for 2024. 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 November 2023 Meeting Minutes

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's November 2023 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 encouraged local residents to schedule their flu shots and COVID boosters.

Commissioner Feld encouraged local residents to be COVID-cautious.

Approval of the ANC's 2024 Meeting Schedule

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's 2024 meeting schedule. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The 2024 meeting schedule is as follows:

- Regular January Meeting: Tuesday, January 9th, 2024 at 7:00 pm
- Regular February Meeting: Monday, February 12th, 2024 at 7:00 pm
- Regular March Meeting: Tuesday, March 12th, 2024 at 7:00 pm
- Regular April Meeting: Monday, April 8th, 2024 at 7:00 pm
- Regular May Meeting: Tuesday, May 14th, 2024 at 7:00 pm
- Regular June Meeting: Monday, June 10th, 2024 at 7:00 pm
- Regular September Meeting: Monday, September 9th, 2024 at 7:00 pm
- Regular October Meeting: Monday, October 7th, 2024 at 7:00 pm
- Regular November Meeting: Monday, November 18th, 2024 at 7:00 pm

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Feld said that the current balance for the ANC's checking account is \$17,769.82.

Security Fund Participation

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's participation in the 2024 ANC Security Fund. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Bank Signatories

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Government Reports

Metropolitan Police Department

Captain Sharde Harris, a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, introduced herself to meeting attendees and gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood. She encouraged local residents to not leave any valuables in their cars.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed car jackings, coat robberies, adding Apple AirTags to personal vehicles, pet snatches, panhandling, and community concerns for the new year with Captain Harris.

Mayor's Office

Grace Reeder, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), gave an overview of Mayor Bowser's launch of the Gallery Place/Chinatown Task Force to create recommendations for improving downtown. She said that more information regarding the Mayor's downtown initiatives can be found at: <https://bedowntown.dc.gov/>. She said that Mayor Bowser recently released the FY 2024 Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Opportunity Guide. She said that more information regarding the guide, which is also known as the Green Book, can be found at: <http://www.greenbookdc.com/>.

Ms. Reeder said that the second pass for Section B as part of the Department of Public Works' (DPW) leaf collection efforts recently began. She said that notifications will be sent out soon for Sections C and D. She said that holiday trees can continue to be placed curbside for collection through March 2nd, 2024. She encouraged local residents to sign up for emergency alerts at <https://alert.dc.gov/>. She gave an overview of the services that the DC Government offers during hypothermia alerts.

Ms. Reeder encouraged commissioners and local residents to send their FY 2025 budget requests to the Mayor's office. She also encouraged local residents to take advantage of the Private Security Camera Rebate Program. She gave an overview of the recent launch of DC's new Real-Time Crime Center (RTCC).

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed the protests at the Chinese Ambassador's residence at 2301 S Street NW, pending DC Council noise legislation, handicap parking, the missing call box at the intersection of 24th Street and Massachusetts Avenue NW, and the possible relocation of the Capitals and the Wizards with Ms. Reeder.

Councilmember's Office

Brian Romanowski, the Constituent Services Director for the Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, said that Councilmember Pinto will be hosting a Ward 2 Budget Forum on Tuesday, January 16th, 2024 at 7:00 pm. He encouraged commissioners and local residents to send their FY 2025 budget requests to the Councilmember's office. He gave an overview of the DC Council's review of Councilmember Pinto's Secure DC legislation. He encouraged local residents to convey their support of the Secure DC legislation to their at-large councilmembers.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed replacing the lightbulbs at the Spanish Steps and methods to effectively lobby the DC Council with Mr. Romanowski.

Traffic Safety Input (TSI) Updates from the District Department of Transportation

Christophe Wassmer, the Ward 2 Community Engagement Specialist for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave an overview of the speed camera and red light camera that have been installed near the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Florida Avenue NW. He said that citations have started being issued for the speed camera and gave an overview of the number of citations that have been issued so far for the speed camera. He also gave an overview of the mechanics of the newly-installed red light camera.

Mr. Wassmer gave an overview of the current crosswalk crossing times for the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Florida Avenue NW. He said that no ANC 2D Traffic Safety Inputs (TSIs) were selected for DDOT's next planning quarter. He gave an overview of select outstanding TSIs in ANC 2D. He gave an overview of DDOT's TSI evaluation and implementation process. He also gave an overview of how commissioners and local residents can file TSI requests

Mr. Wassmer gave an overview of DDOT's new program to address streets with missing sidewalks. He also gave an overview of various outstanding DDOT 3-1-1 requests in the neighborhood.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed prioritizing ANC 2D TSI requests and the need to address red light and speed violations going east and west on Florida Avenue NW at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Florida Avenue NW with Mr. Wassmer.

New Business

Update from the Chesapeake Climate Action Network Regarding Washington Gas' PROJECTpipes

Naomi Cohen-Shields, the D.C. Campaign Manager for the Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN), gave an overview of the organization. She said that DC's gas lines are old, leading to increased gas leaks. She said that Washington Gas has thus launched PROJECTpipes to replace the city's gas lines and the project is being paid for by Washington Gas ratepayers.

Ms. Cohen-Shields gave an overview of the budget for PROJECTpipes. She said that Washington Gas' latest PROJECTpipes budget request submitted to DC's Public Service Commission (PSC) is very large and will cost ratepayers approximately \$27,000 per ratepayer. She said that CCAN is opposed to PROJECTpipes because further investment in gas infrastructure in DC will result in more greenhouse gas emissions and will interfere with DC's climate goals. She provided an overview of the CCAN's campaign to pressure the PSC to reject PROJECTpipes.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed how to address older apartment buildings that do not have the money to convert to electric, the type of gas lines that are being replaced as part of PROJECTpipes, whether repairing or replacing the gas lines is better, and new technologies available for finding and repairing gas leaks with Ms. Cohen-Shields.

Updates

There were not any updates.

Announcements and Open Comment

There were not any announcements and open comment.

Date of Next Meeting

Chair Warren said that the ANC's next meeting will take place on Monday, February 12th, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

Chair Warren adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.