

# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

# **Regular Meeting Minutes**

Monday, January 10th, 2022; 7:00 pm Online via Zoom

### **Call to Order and Election of Officers**

Chair Warren called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.

Commissioner Untereiner moved to elect Chair Warren as the ANC's Chair for 2022. Chair Warren seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Chair Warren moved to elect Commissioner Untereiner as the ANC's Treasurer for 2022. Commissioner Untereiner seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Chair Warren moved to elect Commissioner Untereiner as the ANC's Vice Chair for 2022. Commissioner Untereiner seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Commissioner Untereiner moved to elect Chair Warren as the ANC's Secretary for 2022. Chair Warren seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

### **Establishment of Quorum**

Commissioners Ashley Warren (2D01) and Hannah Untereiner (2D02) were present, establishing a quorum. There were 30 residents and visitors in attendance.

## Approval of Agenda

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

# **Approval of November 2021 Meeting Minutes**

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's November 2021 meeting minutes. Commissioner Untereiner seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

## **Administrative and Financial Matters**

**Commissioner's Comments** 

There were not any commissioner's comments.

# Approval of the ANC's 2022 Meeting Schedule

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

- Regular January Meeting: Monday, January 10th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular February Meeting: Monday, February 14th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular March Meeting: Monday, March 21st, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular April Meeting: Monday, April 18th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular May Meeting: Monday, May 16th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular June Meeting: Monday, June 13th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular September Meeting: Monday, September 19th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular October Meeting: Tuesday, October 11th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular November Meeting: Monday, November 14th, 2022 at 7:00 pm

#### Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Untereiner said that the current balance for the ANC's checking account is \$14,650.69.

# Approval of the ANC's FY 2022 Quarter 1 Financial Report

Commissioner Untereiner moved to approve the ANC's FY 2022 Quarter 1 financial report. Chair Warren seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

# **Security Fund Participation**

Commissioner Untereiner moved to approve the ANC's participation in the 2022 ANC Security Fund. Chair Warren 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.

## **Discussion Regarding ANC Grants**

Commissioner Untereiner said that the ANC would like to revisit the ANC's current grant policies. She said that the recent changeover in the leadership of the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (OANC) provides a good time to revisit the grant policies. Chair Warren said that OANC appears to be adopting less strict policies regarding ANC grants given the OANC leadership changeover. She added that any neighborhood organizations interested in receiving an ANC grant should reach out to the ANC.

## **Government Reports**

# **District Department of Transportation**

Donovan Boyd, the Ward 2 Community Engagement Specialist for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), introduced himself to meeting attendees. A local resident expressed concerns regarding her neighbors' houses shaking during DDOT's Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project. She said that her neighbors are concerned about structural damage to their houses and possible damage to the gas lines in their houses. She added that DDOT has promised to issue monitors to her neighbors to monitor structural damage but the monitors have not been issued yet. Mr. Boyd said that he will follow up with the project team regarding the monitors.

A local resident expressed concerns regarding inadequate crossing times to cross Florida Avenue at Connecticut Avenue NW. She said that additional seconds that had been added to the crossing times have been taken away during rush hour. Mr. Boyd said that he will look into the crossing time changes. He added that DDOT is planning to increase the agency's automated traffic enforcement efforts in 2022.

Mr. Boyd said that the southbound direction of Connecticut Avenue NW over the Taft Bridge is high on DDOT's priority list for automated traffic enforcement. He added that DDOT is also looking to make some traffic changes on the 2300 block of Connecticut Avenue NW by the traffic island.

Chair Warren asked about the ANC's request to install speed bumps on S Street NW. Mr. Boyd said that DDOT is working on a traffic safety investigation for S Street NW.

Commissioner Untereiner asked about the ANC's request to reduce crashes from trucks on Decatur Place NW. Mr. Boyd said he is working with DDOT's curbside management team on some possible traffic improvements on Decatur Place NW. Commissioner Untereiner also asked about bike marking improvements at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Florida Avenue NW. Mr. Boyd said that he would look into the matter.

#### Metropolitan Police Department

No one was present regarding this matter.

#### Mayor's Office

Anna Noakes, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), gave an overview of DC's COVID vaccination mandate, which is set to begin on Saturday, January 15th. She said that, as part of the mandate, certain establishments will be required to check the vaccination status for those ages twelve and older. She said that DC will continue to distribute rapid COVID tests at eight libraries across the city. She said that DC's COVID testing sites continue to be listed online at <a href="https://coronavirus.dc.gov/">https://coronavirus.dc.gov/</a>. She said that DC residents can get two free rapid COVID test kits per day with proof of DC residency. She added

that six additional rapid COVID test distribution sites have been added at senior wellness centers across the city.

Ms. Noakes said that holiday tree and greenery collection efforts will continue until Monday, February 28th. She said that the Department of Public Works (DPW) is working hard to respond to the recent snowstorm and to stay on top of trash and holiday tree collection efforts. She also gave an overview of DC's ongoing COVID testing efforts for DC Public Schools (DCPS) and charter school students.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed DC's vaccination and mask mandates, along with COVID test distribution efforts, with Ms. Noakes.

#### Councilmember's Office

Pablo Velasco Rodriguez, the Constituent Services Coordinator for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, gave an overview of the DC Council's recent passage of Councilmember Pinto's "Expanding Student Access to Period Products Act of 2021." He also gave an overview of the DC Council's passage of legislation that provides the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) with grantmaking authority for small business rent relief, as well as the DC Council's first vote on the "Eviction Record Sealing Authority Amendment Act of 2021."

Mr. Rodriguez encouraged seniors and those with disabilities to reach out to Councilmember Pinto's office if they would like to be added to Serve DC's list of properties where volunteers can be sent after a snowstorm to shovel the sidewalks.

#### **Old Business**

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

Donald Sullivan, the Program Manager for the Vacant Building Administration of the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), said that the agency has taken all of the enforcement actions it is legally able to take under DC's administrative code against the Embassy of Pakistan's Property at 2201 R Street NW. He gave an overview of the Notices of Infraction that DCRA has issued against the property. He also gave an overview of the outstanding tax debt for the property. He said that DCRA has to consult with the U.S. Department of State regarding actions that DCRA can take against the property. He added that DCRA has worked closely with DPW and the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) regarding enforcement actions against the property.

Commissioner Untereiner said that she thought that the U.S. Department of State had revoked the diplomatic status for the property. Mr. Sullivan said that he has not received documentation of the revocation but that he would look into the matter.

Multiple local residents implored DC Government agencies to take additional legal and enforcement actions against the property, including a tax foreclosure, citing the property as a

public nuisance for the neighborhood. Residents gave an overview of other vacant embassy properties in the neighborhood and expressed skepticism of the Embassy of Pakistan's stated intention to sell the property. Mr. Sullivan said that he will follow up with the Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR) regarding any additional actions that office can take.

Commissioner Untereiner said that the ANC has been alerted about the DC Office of the Secretary's intention to restart the Embassy Task Force. She said that the ANC will continue to communicate the neighborhood's vacant embassy property issues with the task force.

## **New Business**

Spanish Steps Wedding Permit Request for December 27th, 2021

Chair Warren moved to support the Spanish Steps wedding permit request for December 27th, 2021. Commissioner Untereiner seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

# **Announcements and Open Comments**

A local resident expressed concerns regarding a house adjacent to the Spanish Steps that has garden waste accumulating outside. Commissioner Untereiner asked the resident to send the commissioners an email regarding the matter.

Kate Weitzel, a volunteer with Community Mediation DC, gave an overview of the organization, which is a free community mediation center available to all DC residents. She encouraged local residents to participate in one of the organization's free mediation trainings. She also gave an overview of ambassador trainings that the organization is offering to neighborhood leaders and ANC commissioners. She said that additional information regarding the organization can be found at: <a href="https://communitymediationdc.org/">https://communitymediationdc.org/</a>.

A local resident asked about the status of the Embassy of China providing access to the park adjacent to the embassy's apartment building at 2300 Connecticut Avenue NW. Chair Warren said that she would look into the matter.

## **Date of Next Meeting**

Chair Warren said that the ANC's next meeting will take place on Monday, February 14th, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Warren adjourned the meeting at 8:47 pm.