



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

Regular Meeting Minutes

January 8th, 2018, 7:00 pm
Our Lady Queen of the Americas Church
2200 California Street NW

Call to Order and Election of Officers

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

Commissioner Goldstein moved to elect Commissioner Bender as the ANC's Chair and Secretary and Commissioner Goldstein as the ANC's Vice Chair and Treasurer for 2018. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Establishment of Quorum

Commissioners David Bender (2D01) and Ellen Goldstein (2D02) were present, establishing a quorum. There were 16 residents and visitors in attendance.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the ANC's January 8th, 2018 meeting agenda. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Approval of November 20th, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the ANC's November 20th, 2017 meeting minutes. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Administrative and Financial Matters

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Goldstein said that the ANC looks forward to meeting with Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton in the near future to discuss helicopter noise issues and other issues of concern to local residents.

Commissioner Goldstein said that the Serbian Government has approved funding in order to carry out improvements to some of the government's properties in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Goldstein said that the CVS at 6 Dupont Circle NW has installed an unused prescription drug drop-off box inside of the store.

Chair Bender said that the DC Board of Elections have moved its offices to a new location at 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750.

Chair Bender reminded local residents about DC's sidewalk snow shoveling regulations. He said that local residents who are over the age of 65 can receive an exemption from the regulations if they apply for an exemption.

Chair Bender said that the Board of Zoning Adjustment has granted a special exemption for 2318 California Street NW.

Commissioner Goldstein encouraged local residents to sign-up for DC's volunteer snow shoveling team by visiting <http://snowteam.dc.gov>.

Treasurer's Report

Chair Bender moved to pay Peter Sacco, the ANC's Administrative Coordinator, \$300 for services performed as Administrative Coordinator during the months of October, November, and December 2017. Commissioner Goldstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Commissioner Goldstein moved to reimburse Peter Sacco for \$168 for the renewal of the ANC's website hosting service with Wix. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Security Fund Participation

Chair Bender moved to approve the ANC's participation in the 2018 ANC Security Fund and the respective \$25 expenditure to participate. Commissioner Goldstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Meeting Cancellation Policy

Chair Bender said that the ANC's meeting cancellation policy states that the ANC does not meet when the DC Government is closed due to inclement weather.

Bank Signatories

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

DC Government Reports

Metropolitan Police Department (Police Service Area 208)

Lt. Jerome Merrill, a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood. He gave an

overview of a recent robbery that occurred on Florida Avenue NW. He said that, other than the recent robbery, crime has been very low in the neighborhood.

Mayor's Office

There were no updates regarding this matter.

Department of Public Works

Reginald May, a representative for the Department of Public Works (DPW), gave an overview of the qualifications needed in order for local residents to qualify for an exemption from DC's snow shoveling regulations. He added that, as of January 1st, DPW will not collect electronics as part of bulk collections. He said that, instead, electronics need to be taken to DPW's Fort Totten Transfer Station at 4900 John McCormack Drive NE.

Mr. May said that he brought flyers that provide an overview of the items that DPW is now accepting for recycling. He gave an overview of the electronic recycling and shredding services that DPW offers at the Fort Totten Transfer Station, including electronic recycling on every Saturday of each month.

Chris Chapin, the President of the Sheridan-Kalorama Neighborhood Council, gave an overview of how easy the electronic recycling process at the Fort Totten Transfer Station is.

Mr. May said that he can be reached via email at Reginald.May2@dc.gov.

Presentation on Solar Power

Micah Feigelson, a representative for Ipsun Power, said that Pepco power bills continue to go up year after year. He said that if homeowners choose to install solar panels on their homes, they will be able to produce their own power, and any power that is not used will go back into the electrical grid. He added that, with the city's rapid growth, there are higher energy needs and higher energy prices that are resulting from the city's aging electrical infrastructure.

Mr. Feigelson gave an overview of the current federal tax incentives that promote the installation of solar panels. He also gave an overview of DC's own incentives, called Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs). He said that DC's SRECs are valued much more highly than the SRECs in Maryland and Virginia due to DC's current goals for solar power.

Mr. Feigelson said that when homeowners combine the federal tax incentives and DC's own incentives, an average solar system in DC pays for itself in three to four years and lasts an average of 25 years. He said that now is the optimal time to install solar power in DC.

Old Business

2320-2330 S Street NW Public Space Submission

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

ANC 2D supports the public space application for 2320-2330 S Street NW. Specifically, ANC 2D fully supports the proposed landscape design, balcony restoration on the Wood House and the front steps, relocation of the planters, and driveway adjustments as presented at the commission's meeting on January 8, 2018.

Short-Term Rental Regulation and Affordable Housing Protection Act of 2017

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

WHEREAS, ANC 2D represents a dense urban area with a diverse mix of residential and some business uses,

WHEREAS, ANC 2D residents have observed some increase in short-term rentals in recent years,

WHEREAS, ANC 2D recognizes the need to maintain a sufficient supply of long-term housing in the District; the need to provide residents flexibility on the use of their private property while minimizing negative impacts on the surrounding neighborhood; and the need to end the operation of illegal hotels that utilize multi-unit residential buildings that are subject to DC rent control provisions,

WHEREAS, ANC 2D recognizes that there are a variety of property owners who offer short-term rentals, including but not limited to:

1. Hosts who share their primary residence by frequently renting out a guest room while they are present,
2. Hosts who list their primary residence during extended absences for work travel,
3. Hosts who list a basement apartment adjoining their primary residence, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2D believes that the proposed legislation may be overly restrictive for individual homeowners and should take into account the unique living situations of local residents living in the nation's capital and the needs of visitors.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2D urges the DC Council to amend, modify, and clarify the Short-Term Rental Regulation and Housing Protection Act of 2017 to:

1. Ensure that short-term rentals are licensed to the same safety standards as any residential rental unit.

2. Ensure that hosting platforms list only short-term rentals that have the appropriate business licenses.
3. Ensure that such regulation does not unduly restrict residents' ability to rent out their permanent residence while they are away and while they are at home.
4. Avoid unduly restricting residents' ability to earn income from their private property.
5. Prohibit large-scale commercial operators from using short-term rental services as a way to operate as hotels without meeting strict regulatory standards.
6. Consider incorporating ANCs into the enforcement process.

New Business

2018 ANC 2D Grant Applications

Commissioner Goldstein said that the commission will begin accepting ANC grant applications for 2018. She said that the deadline to apply is February 1st.

Mitchell Park Field House Historic Landmark Nomination

Commissioner Goldstein said that the ANC has been notified of the historic landmarking application for the Mitchell Park Field House, which was submitted by an organization called Historic Washington Architecture.

Chair Bender said that he is concerned that a group outside of the neighborhood submitted the application without discussing the proposal with the key neighborhood stakeholders. He said that he is also concerned about the real-world stipulations of the landmarking application.

The commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Zoning Commission Amendments to Establish and Expand Child Development Centers

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

ANC 2D supports the concept of the amendments as proposed in an effort to increase the number of childcare centers, however the commission believes that there needs to be a process for keeping ANCs involved in the development of new childcare centers.

DC Government Reports (Continued)

Councilmember's Office

Joe Florio, a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' Office, said that the DC Council's first legislative session after returning from the holidays will take place tomorrow at 10:00 am.

Announcements

Sheridan-Kalorama Combined Neighborhood Annual Meeting

Kindy French, a local resident, announced that the Sheridan-Kalorama Combined Neighborhood Annual Meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 13th at 6:00 pm at the Woodrow Wilson House, 2340 S Street NW.

Chris Chapin, the President of the Sheridan-Kalorama Neighborhood Council, said that the organization is calling on Councilmember Mary Cheh and Councilmember Jack Evans to hold a DC Council hearing to discuss whether there is a need for the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project.

Mr. Chapin gave an overview of the Sheridan-Kalorama Neighborhood Council's ongoing work regarding the Federation of State Medical Boards' Board of Zoning Adjustment application for 2118 Leroy Place NW.

Holly Sukenik, a Board Member for Restore Mass Ave (RMA), said that RMA recently sent a document outlining the organization's concerns about the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW project to the District Department of Transportation, Councilmember Jack Evans, Councilmember Mary Cheh, and ANC 2B, among other key stakeholders.

Open Comments

There were no open comments.

Date of Next Meeting

Chair Bender said that the next ANC meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 20th at 7:00 pm at Our Lady Queen of the Americas Church, 2200 California Street NW.

Motion to Adjourn

Chair Bender adjourned the meeting at 8:49 pm.