



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

Regular Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2018, 7:00 pm
Our Lady Queen of the Americas Church
2200 California Street NW

Call to Order

Chair David Bender called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Establishment of Quorum

Commissioners David Bender (2D01) and Ellen Goldstein (2D02) were present, establishing a quorum. There were 24 residents and visitors in attendance.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the meeting agenda. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Approval of April 30, 2018 and May 21, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the April 30th, 2018 meeting minutes. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the May 21st, 2018 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 she and Chair Bender will be attending an upcoming meeting of the Mayor's Office's Embassy Task Force on Thursday, June 28th. She said that representatives from the U.S. Department of State and other DC Government agencies will also be attending the meeting. She said that the task force's first meeting was successful.

Commissioner Goldstein said that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) will continue to perform tree work on Decatur Place NW on Sunday, July 8th.

Commissioner Goldstein gave an overview of a recent forum that Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton held regarding helicopter noise in DC. She said that the forum focused on the increasing levels of helicopter noise that the city has experienced over the last few years.

Commissioner Goldstein said that, due to the increased temperatures expected this week, the Department of Public Works' (DPW) trash and recycling collections will begin at 6:00 am across the city.

Chair Bender said that DDOT recently removed a tree at the intersection of Decatur Place and California Street NW. He said that DDOT's Urban Forestry Division (UFD) had determined that the tree was dead.

Chair Bender said that U.S. Department of State has informed the ANC that the Embassy of China's new apartment building at 2310 Connecticut Avenue NW will use Belmont Road NW for the vehicular entrance to the building and will use Kalorama Road NW for the vehicular exit from the building.

DC Government Reports

Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans

Councilmember Jack Evans, the Councilmember for Ward 2, gave an overview of the five hats that he wears: Ward 2 Councilmember, Chairman of the DC Council's Committee on Finance and Revenue, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), National Committeeman for the DC Democratic Party, and the father of triplets.

Councilmember Evans gave an overview of WMATA's efforts to transport record crowds to and from Capital One Arena during the recent Stanley Cup games.

Councilmember Evans said that DC is continuing to thrive. He said that development continues to take place across the city. He gave an overview of the city's efforts to develop the southwest waterfront, including through the construction of Nationals Park. He said that the Sheridan-Kalorama neighborhood also continues to do well. He gave an overview of DDOT's Connecticut Avenue Streetscape and Deck-Over Project, which he said will help revitalize the businesses along Connecticut Avenue NW north of Dupont Circle.

Councilmember Evans said that the city continues to struggle with improving the city's public school system. He said that DC's increasing investments in the DC Public Schools (DCPS) have not significantly changed student outcomes. He said that the city continues to struggle with efforts to increase DCPS' graduation rate. He added that the city also continues to struggle with efforts to address homelessness. He said that Ward 2 has many homeless encampments that the city has been unable to close.

Councilmember Evans gave an overview of the region's efforts to secure dedicated funding for WMATA, which will be used to fix many of the agency's problems. He said that it will take a

significant amount of time to complete all the repair work that is needed for Metrorail. He said that two additional issues that WMATA needs to address are the leaking that is taking place in the Metrorail tunnels near the Medical Center Metrorail Station and the bottleneck that currently exists as trains approach the Rosslyn Metrorail Station.

Commissioner Goldstein thanked Councilmember Evans for his work to secure dedicated funding for WMATA, as well as funding for DDOT's Connecticut Avenue Streetscape and Deck-Over Project. She asked about the proposal to institute a flat fare for Metrorail. Councilmember Evans said that he supports the proposal for a flat fare. He said that riders traveling in from the Metrorail system's outer stations have to pay high fares in addition to parking fares, which disincentivizes some people from parking and taking Metrorail as opposed to driving into the city and paying to park downtown.

Multiple meeting attendees raised concerns regarding the prevalence of bikes and scooters being ridden on sidewalks in the neighborhood.

Metropolitan Police Department (PSA 208)

Lt. Jerome Merrill, a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, showed a video of a recent car break-in that occurred in Georgetown. He said that the video showed how quickly and discreetly thieves are able to steal belongings from cars. He encouraged local residents to not leave any valuables in their cars.

Lt. Merrill gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood, including the thefts from cars that recently took place on Phelps Place and Bancroft Place NW.

Administrative and Financial Matters (Continued)

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Goldstein said that the current balance of the ANC's checking account is \$10,302.35, which includes a recent DC Government allotment.

Commissioner Goldstein moved to re-issue a payment of \$470 to Restore Mass Ave as part of the grant that the ANC recently approved for the organization. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Commissioner Goldstein moved to pay Peter Sacco, the ANC's Administrative Coordinator, \$300 for services performed as Administrative Coordinator during the months of January, February, and March 2018. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

DC Government Reports (Continued)

Mayor's Office

Jerry Chapin, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), said that the Mayor's Office will be holding a community walk in Sheridan-Kalorama with representatives from various DC Government agencies next Thursday, June 28th. Commissioner Goldstein and Chair Bender raised concerns about how they were not aware of the scheduling for the walk and that they were both attending another meeting at the same time as the planned walk. Mr. Chapin said that he would work to find a new date and time for the walk.

Chair Bender requested that Mayor Bowser instruct the DC Government agency directors to remind agency staff that they need to respond to ANC Commissioner emails. He said that he has sent multiple emails to various agency staff members that he has yet to receive an acknowledgement from. Mr. Chapin said that he would look into the matter.

Councilmember's Office

Joe Florio, a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' Office, said that the DC Council will hold a final vote on DC's FY 2019 budget on Tuesday, June 26th. He added that the DC Council's Committee on Finance and Revenue will hold a hearing on Friday, July 6th regarding DC Council Bill B22-0667 - the "District of Columbia Education Charitable Donations Amendment Act of 2018."

Mr. Florio said that the DC Council's summer recess will start in mid-July. He said that the DC Council will be back in session by the date of the ANC's next regular meeting.

Update Alcoholic Beverage Regulations Administration

Sarah Fashbaugh, the Community Resource Officer for the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA), said that the agency issues all of the licenses that allow for the sale and service of alcoholic beverages in DC. She said that all on-premise consumption establishments will be up for renewal in 2019. She added that on-premise consumption establishments make up the vast majority of the alcoholic beverage licenses in DC. She said that local residents will be able to protest the license renewal applications for any establishments that they have concerns about.

Ms. Fashbaugh encouraged local residents to call ABRA's enforcement hotline at (202) 329-6347 if they have concerns about any alcoholic beverage establishments in the neighborhood, including issues with noise and trash.

Ms. Fashbaugh said that approximately 75 establishments across the city have signed up to participate in ABRA's extended hours program as part of the upcoming World Cup games. She said that the ABRA website, which can be found at www.abra.dc.gov, has a list of the establishments that are participating in the program. She added that ABRA also has a separate program that will allow establishments to open for extended hours during the upcoming All-Star Game.

Commissioner Goldstein commended ABRA and Ms. Fashbaugh for their responsiveness to the ANC and to community members.

Department of Public Works

Celeste Duffie, a Community Relations Specialist for the Department of Public Works (DPW), said that the agency provides parking enforcement, trash and recycling, grounds maintenance, and street sweeping services across the city. She said that DPW's street sweeping and grounds maintenance efforts are currently underway across the city. She said that if local residents notice any pocket parks or triangle parks in the neighborhood that have not been mowed in a while, they can report the needed maintenance to DC's 311 call center. She added that DPW is not responsible for the maintenance of the triangle parks and pocket parks that are owned by the National Park Service (NPS), however she said that the agency regularly refers maintenance requests to NPS.

Commissioner Goldstein asked about the status of possible DC Council legislation that would try to reclaim some of the pocket parks and triangle parks that are currently owned by NPS so that the DC Government can better maintain them. Mr. Florio said that NPS has traditionally opposed efforts to give up control of triangle parks and pocket parks in the city.

Ms. Duffie said that DPW is not responsible for the maintenance of private property. She said that the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) is responsible for taking enforcement actions against property owners who are not properly maintaining their private property.

Ms. Duffie said that in the fall DPW is planning to create a system that allows the DC Government and the public to better understand which agency is responsible for the maintenance of individual pieces of property across the city.

Commissioner Goldstein said that some embassy properties in the neighborhood do not properly handle their trash disposal, which causes rat problems for local residents. She said that there is a great deal of misunderstanding among DC Government agencies as to what the agencies can and cannot do with regards to improper trash disposal by embassy properties. Ms. Duffie said that she will have to research whether DPW is able to issue citations to embassy properties for improper trash disposal.

Old Business

Save Our Tips — Opposition to Initiative 77

Kevin Wrege, a representative for Save Our Tip System Initiative 77, gave an overview of the reasons why his organization believes that voters should vote against Initiative 77.

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

2300 California Street NW — The Myanmar Military Office

Chair Bender said that the Embassy of Myanmar has emailed the ANC that they are not ready to present regarding 2300 California Street NW and thus the matter will be tabled until the ANC's regular September 2018 meeting.

New Business

Bikes/Scooters on Sidewalks in Ward 2

Chair Bender said that the ANC already discussed the concerns regarding bikes and scooters being ridden on neighborhood sidewalks earlier in the meeting. He added that DDOT's Connecticut Avenue Streetscape and Deck-Over Project includes the proposed installation of bike lanes on Connecticut Avenue NW.

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Announcements

Lynne Lambert, a representative for the Friends of Mitchell Park, said that the organization will hold a concert on Sunday, September 30th at 4:00 pm at Mitchell Park. She said that the concert will feature students from the Catholic University's Benjamin T. Rome School of Music, Drama, and Art who will be performing songs from the musical Legally Blonde.

Commissioner Goldstein said that she will not be running for re-election this year. She encouraged any local residents who are interested in serving on the ANC to run for the position. Chair Bender said that he is planning on running for re-election this year.

Open Comments

A meeting attendee raised concerns regarding the amount of debris that has been left in the street as a result of recent tree work on Decatur Place NW. She said that the debris is preventing cars from being able to park in certain spots along the street. Commissioner Goldstein encouraged the meeting attendee to report her concerns to DC's 311 call center.

Date of Next Meeting

Chair Bender said that the ANC's next regular meeting will take place on Monday, September 17th 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 8:50 pm.