

ANC 2D

Minutes

September 15, 2014, 7:00PM

Our Lady Queen of the Americas

2200 California Street

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.
2. A quorum was established: Present were 2 Commissioners and 36 residents/guests.
3. Agenda was **Approved** as distributed.
4. Minutes of the June 16, 2014, Meeting were **Approved** as published.
5. Administrative/Financial Matters:
 - 5.1 Treasurer's Report...Treasurer Lamar reported the current fund balance is \$2,948.56. Commissioner Lamar moved, and it was seconded, to authorize the Treasurer to pay a bill for copying services of \$20.40. **Approved** Treasurer Lamar provided the Commission with the first draft of 2015 Budget.
6. DC Gov't Reports:
 - 6.1 MPD (PSA 208)...Chanel Dickerson, Team Leader; chanel.dickerson@dc.gov. Lieutenant Dickerson provided an update on recent crimes occurring in Sheridan-Kalorama. She stressed special attention is being given to Waterside Drive and the hazardous alley situation. Kindy French asked for greater enforcement of the "no parking" area at the corner of Belmont Road and Mass. Ave.
 - 6.2 Mayor's Office... Michael Fabrikant...michael.fabrikant@dc.gov
 - 6.3 Council Member's Office...Sherri Kimbel; skimbel@dccouncil.us...
7. Old Business:
 - 7.1 Tree Protections in DC Zoning Regulations: Following discussion, Commissioner Bender moved and it was seconded that, "ANC 2D supports the attached document (ANC 2D 2014-08) titled "Tree Protections in DC Zoning Regulations Statement dated September 8, 2014, Submitted to Zoning Regulation Review, Case 08-06A" as present to the Commission on September 15, 2014, by representatives of Restore Mass. Ave. **Approved** For document see Exhibit A
8. New Business:
 - 8.1 Real estate/property assessments...Chief Financial Officer Jeffrey S. DeWitt and Staff...CFO DeWitt provided an overview of the Departments activities, the Strategic Plan and briefly addressed the implementation of tax relief in the 2015 Fiscal Budget. He then turned the meeting over to two staff members (Robert Farr, Director, Real Property Tax Administration, and Steve Cordi, Deputy Chief Financial Officer, Office of Tax and Revenue) who answered specific questions

relating to property assessments, real estate and taxes. Following the presentation, a number of residents expressed their appreciation for the openness and willingness of the CFO and his staff. A welcomed change from the past.

8.2 Friends Meeting House Renovations...Commissioner Bender made a brief statement regarding the "Accessibility Link" being installed connecting two buildings at the Friends Meeting House. Without vote, the ANC voiced its support of the proposed renovation.

8.3 S-K Visitor Permit Parking and Other Parking Issues; Commissioner Lamar was thanked for his compilation of the September 2014 Sheridan-Kalorama Street Parking Inventory. Chair Bender provided an overview of the Visitor Parking Program and the decision made by ANC 2D not to participate in the current program. Following a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that further study and discussion was needed before a decision could be reached regarding future participation in the program. The second straw poll taken showed that 30 individuals selected not to participate in the program while 13 selected to participate. This is merely an indicator of the current thinking of the residents who responded to the recent mailing. Perhaps no one program fits the needs of the entire ANC. Chair Bender will request information on how to file a petition should it be decided that the ANC should participate in the program. Future discussion will be held.

8.4 40th Anniversary Home Rule Act...a brainstorming session was held on June 25, 2014, as to how the City could celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the passage of the Home Rule Act. It was proposed that the celebration could begin with many community events leading up to a large city-wide celebration in November 2014. No further word has been received.

9. Open Comments:

9.1 Bancroft and Leroy Places: A resident raised concern about the conditions of the sidewalks on the south side of Bancroft Place, the alley between Bancroft and Leroy and a section of the bricked sidewalk on Leroy Place removed during gas line installation. These conditions are not in keeping with the Mayor's emphasis on an Age-Friendly City for a number of senior residents live on these two blocks.

10. Announcements:

10.1 Fr. Evelio Nenjivar (Our Lady Queen of the Americas Church) announced that on **October 26 the annual procession of El Señor de los Milagros** will take place on California Street from noon to 6

pm. This is a major event that affects the entire neighborhood.
10.2 Kindy French shared the following DDOT Maintenance Activities;
Rock Creek Parkway Waterside Drive Maintenance On Monday, September 15 through Wednesday, September 17, Waterside Drive will be closed from Massachusetts Avenue to Rock Creek Park in both directions for maintenance activities. Additionally, the alleyway at Waterside Drive and Massachusetts Avenue will also be closed. Work will be conducted between the hours of 9:30 am and 2:30 pm.

10.3 Holly Sukenik spoke of 5 **Mitchell Park Projects**:

1. The Free Library Box has been installed and residents are making use of it. There is a need for children's books.

2. Art has been placed in various locations throughout the park in cooperative with the Washington Studio School.

3. On September 28th, Mitchell Park will host a musical performance in the Park (perhaps S-K's own Sunday afternoon in the park with George).

4. On November 19th, the Park will celebrate its 10th Anniversary.

5. On October 26th, the Park will hold its annual Fall Fun Day.

For further information on any of these items, contact Holly Sukenik, hsukenik@hotmail.com

11. Date of Next Meeting—October 20, 2014

12. Motion to Adjourn was made by Commissioner Lamar, seconded, and **Approved** at 8:20 PM.

EXHIBIT A:

Recommended Tree Protections in DC Zoning Regulations

Submitted to Zoning Regulation Review, Case 08-06A

September 8, 2014

ANC 2D recognizes the importance of the tree canopy to preserving the residential, commercial, and cultural vitality of the District of Columbia. The Zoning Regulations governing new development are crucial to preserving the health of the tree canopy. To that end, ANC2D recommends the following:

1. Definitions – Use of a uniform set of definitions so that the Urban Forestry Administration's (UFA) guidelines and definitions apply to residential, diplomatic, institutional, commercial, and government new construction projects and throughout the entire permitting process.

2. Applications for new construction- Should require plans to depict accurately all trees at risk from construction activity prior to permit review and approval. Plans

should show accurately trees' size and Critical Root Zone according to the uniform set of definitions.

3. Trees on adjacent land – Plans for new construction must show trees on all adjacent private and public land whose Critical Root Zones and/or crowns would be impacted by construction activity and the completed project.

4. Tree protection process-

- The Urban Forestry Administration should be required to review final plans of before the Zoning Administrator approves them.

- Tree Protection Plans submitted with plans for new construction should be completed by an ISA-certified arborist. They should include plans for maintaining the trees for a period of time as determined by the Urban Forestry Administration to ensure the trees' long term health.

5. The Zoning Administrator should rely on the expertise of the UFA in interpreting regulations as they apply to residential, commercial, institutional, diplomatic and government construction projects to ensure timely protection of endangered trees.

6. Modifications to plans – The UFA should be required to review any modifications to plans after initial approval.

7. Penalties- The period for delay for the granting of a permit for new construction following the removal or cutting of trees that would have been prohibited by the current regulations should remain seven (7) years as incentive to abide by the regulations.

8. Regulations applicable to tree protection should be located in a Tree Protection Chapter of the Regulations rather than being scattered throughout the Regulations as currently exists.