



# GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

## Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

### Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 12th, 2023; 7:00 p.m.

In-Person – St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 1830 Connecticut Ave. NW

Online via Zoom

### Call to Order

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

### 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 May 2023 Meeting Minutes

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's May 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 said that the ANC will not be meeting in July and August per the ANC's normal schedule. She said that Commissioner Feld and herself will still be working via email during that time period.

Commissioner Feld thanked St. Margaret's Episcopal Church for hosting the ANC meeting. She recognized Christine Warnke, the Chief of Protocol and International Officer for the Office of the Secretary, for her work on behalf of the neighborhood.

#### Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Feld said that the current balance for the ANC's checking account is \$14,869.78.

### Government Reports

## Metropolitan Police Department

*There was no one present regarding this matter.*

## Mayor's Office

Christopher Powell, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), said that last week Mayor Bowser announced a new security camera program for rideshare and delivery drivers. He gave an overview of several new executive appointments, including Richard Livingstone being named the new Director of MOCRS, Ashan Benedict being named the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Interim Chief of Police, Dr. Ayanna Bennett being named the Acting Director of DC Health, and Sam Abed being named the Acting Director of the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS).

Mr. Powell said that Mayor Bowser will be holding a community teletownhall on Thursday, June 15th, 2023 at 6:00 pm to discuss the community's priorities for the next MPD Chief of Police. He added that he had conversations with Director Livingstone regarding a possible ribbon cutting for the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed the missing callbox at the intersection of 24th Street and Massachusetts Avenue NW and the rideshare and delivery driver security camera program with Mr. Powell.

## Councilmember's Office

Aukima Benjamin, the Committee and Constituent Services Manager for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, said that the DC Council has one final vote left regarding the FY 2024 budget. She said that the Councilmember's office will be sending every ANC a list of projects in their ANC that are included in the FY 2024 budget. She added that the Councilmember's office has started receiving FY 2025 budget requests.

Ms. Benjamin gave an overview of the DC Council Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety's upcoming hearing regarding Mayor Bowser's proposed DC Council Bill B25-0291 - the "Safer Stronger Amendment Act of 2023." She gave an overview of Councilmember Pinto's introduction of DC Council Bill B25-0318 - the "Metro Safety Amendment Act of 2023." She also said that Councilmember Pinto has prioritized the re-accreditation of the Department of Forensic Sciences' (DFS) lab.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed the overflowing fountain at the Spanish Steps and scheduling the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project ribbon cutting with Ms. Benjamin.

## New Business

Public Space Application for the Installation of Two Planter Boxes Adjacent to the Walkway at 2475 Kalorama Road NW (DDOT #410203)

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

ANC 2D requests that the Public Space Committee delays consideration of the public space application for the installation of two planter boxes adjacent to the walkway at 2475 Kalorama Road NW until the ANC is able to discuss the project plans with the applicant.

Streatory Application for the Generator Hotel Washington DC at 1900 Connecticut Avenue NW

Allan Bella, a representative for the Generator Hotel Washington DC, said that the hotel would like to utilize its driveway to expand the space for the hotel's restaurant. He said that the hotel was granted a permit to open a streatory on the driveway. He said that the streatory was approved for 40 seats to be open from 7:00 am to midnight every day of the week. He added that the hotel is not planning to operate the streatory all the way until midnight.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed the streatory's seating arrangement, the streatory's hours of operation, the use of the streatory furniture after the streatory closes, the traffic arrangement for guests accessing the hotel's parking garage, the removal of the hotel's taxi stand, the possible installation of speed bumps near the hotel, and the possible installation of additional traffic signage near the hotel with Mr. Bella.

Mitchell Park Permit Request for the Friends of Mitchell Park's 2023 Films in the Field

Chair Warren moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

ANC 2D supports the Mitchell Park permit request for the Friends of Mitchell Park's 2023 Films in the Field.

Missing Call Box at the Intersection of 24th Street and Massachusetts Avenue NW

Chair Warren said the call box at the intersection of 24th Street and Massachusetts Avenue NW was reported missing towards the end of the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project construction process. She said that the project's contractor claims that the call box was stolen. She added that the neighborhood considers the call box to be an invaluable piece of neighborhood history.

Commissioner Feld said the project's contractor had placed the call box in some sort of construction holding area while project construction was taking place. She said that the Call Box Project team wants to work with the Mayor's office to rectify the situation. She gave an

overview of the work that the Call Box Project team does to restore each call box in the neighborhood.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed proper contacts with the Mayor's office, claiming damages on the project contractor's insurance policy, and looping in the Office of Risk Management (ORM) regarding the matter.

#### Expediting the District Department of Transportation's Repair of the Damaged Sidewalk on the 2100 Block of S Street NW by the Kalorama Square Condominiums

Commissioner Feld said that the Kalorama Square Condominiums have submitted several requests regarding repairing the damaged sidewalk on the 2100 block of S Street NW.

#### National Park Service Landscaping Maintenance of Robert Emmet Memorial Park and Trash Along Waterside Drive NW

Commissioner Feld said that Julia Washburn, the Superintendent of Rock Creek Park, has retired. She said that the park's Acting Superintendent, Brian Joyner, spoke with her, saying that the park was in the process of finding a new contractor to carry out the park's maintenance work. She said that the new contractor will be starting next week. She added that trash pickup along Waterside Drive NW will take place when the contractor does mowing along Waterside Drive NW.

#### Requesting that Residences, Embassies, and Other Properties on Massachusetts Avenue NW Regularly Water Newly Planted Street Trees

Commissioner Feld said that it is residents' responsibility to water the street trees adjacent to their properties. She said that the city is not responsible for watering the street trees. She added that residents along Massachusetts Avenue NW need to make sure that they are watering the new street trees along the avenue.

### **Updates**

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

Commissioner Feld said that the ANC has heard that there is a buyer for the Embassy of Pakistan's property at 2201 R Street NW. She said that the sale is supposed to close on June 30th, 2023 and that the Ambassador of Pakistan has signed the sale contract. She said that the ANC has also learned that there is a mortgage on the property.

#### Update Regarding the Spanish Steps

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

ANC 2D requests that the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) outlines a regular maintenance schedule for the fountain at the Spanish Steps, as well as investigates the fountain's drainage and overflow issues in order to find a permanent solution.

Update Regarding the District Department of Transportation

*There were not any updates regarding this matter.*

Update Regarding the Status of the District Department of Transportation's Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project

*There were not any updates regarding this matter.*

**Announcements and Open Comment**

Commissioner Feld said that the Public Space Committee held a hearing regarding the Embassy of China residence's proposed wall at 2301 S Street NW. She said that the committee tabled the matter so that the project representatives could rework the plan in order to have the wall be constructed only on private space.

Harold Davis, a Solid Waste Inspector for the Department of Public Works (DPW), said that DPW is in the process of cleaning all of the alleys in the city in order to address overgrowth and dirt build up. He reminded residents that they need to cut back any overgrowth on their property because they could be fined for any overgrowth that is protruding into public space.

**Date of Next Meeting**

Chair Warren said that the ANC's next meeting will take place on Monday, September 18th, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

**Adjournment**

Chair Warren adjourned the meeting at 8:08 pm.