



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

Regular Meeting Minutes

May 21, 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 21 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 Meeting Minutes

This matter was moved to a future ANC meeting.

Administrative and Financial Matters

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Goldstein said that Casey Trees is recruiting volunteers to help the National Park Service (NPS) with the pruning of the cherry trees along the Tidal Basin. She said that pruning sessions will take place on Saturday, June 23rd; Saturday, June 30th; Saturday, July 14th; and Saturday, July 28th; with all sessions taking place from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. She said that anyone interested in volunteering can sign up at: www.caseytrees.org/2018/05/sign-up-to-prune-the-famous-cherry-trees.

Commissioner Goldstein said that the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) will be holding a public meeting regarding WMATA's proposed changes to Metrobus routes L1 and L2 on Tuesday, June 5th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Chevy Chase Community Center, 5601 Connecticut Avenue NW. She added that there will also be a public meeting regarding WMATA's proposed changes to Metrobus routes 42 and 43 on Thursday, June 7th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at the Columbia Heights Community Center, 1480 Girard Street NW.

Commissioner Goldstein said that Pepco is providing incentives to DC residents who purchase electric cars. She said that DC residents can qualify for up to \$7,500 in federal tax credits.

Chair Bender said that the ANC has contacted the U.S. Department of State regarding the community concerns about the possible increase in traffic caused by the opening of the Chinese Embassy Apartment Building at 2300 Connecticut Avenue NW. He added that the ANC has not yet received a response from the U.S. Department of State.

Chair Bender said that Lt. Jerome Merrill, a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, has responded to the community concerns regarding the hazardous traffic situation at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Kalorama Road NW.

Chair Bender said that the ANC has contacted Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton's Office regarding the community concerns about the operational issues at the Temple Heights Post Office at 1921 Florida Avenue NW.

Chair Bender said that any local residents who are interested in running for the ANC can pick up petitions from the DC Board of Elections at 1015 Half Street SE, Suite 750 on Monday, July 9th. He said that candidates need to collect at least 25 signatures from registered voters and need to be a resident of the respective single member district (SMD) for at least 60 days.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Goldstein said that the current balance for the ANC's checking account is \$9,777.32.

ANC's FY 2018 Quarter 2 Financial Report

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the ANC's FY 2018 Quarter 2 financial report. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

DC Government Reports

Metropolitan Police Department

Lt. Jerome Merrill (jerome.merrill@dc.gov), a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood. He commended meeting attendees for the relatively low crime rate in the neighborhood over the past few weeks. He also gave an overview of two recent thefts from automobiles that occurred in the neighborhood.

Mayor's Office

Jerry Chapin (jerry.chapin@dc.gov), a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), encouraged local residents to go to the

Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) website at www.dpr.dc.gov to learn about the agency's summer programs, as well as the operating hours for the city's public swimming pools.

Mr. Chapin encouraged local residents to report any graffiti that they see, as well as potholes and other needed road and sidewalk maintenance, through the city's 3-1-1 system.

Chair Bender asked Mr. Chapin to talk with the Mayor about reminding DC Government agency Directors that agency staff members need to acknowledge ANC commissioner emails that are sent to the staff members.

Councilmember's Office

Joe Florio (jflorio@dccouncil.us), a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' Office, introduced Daniel Bassett (dBassett@dccouncil.us), a new staff member in the Councilmember's Office who will be serving as the office's new representative to ANC 2D.

Mr. Florio said that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) has extended the city's dockless bikeshare pilot program. He encouraged local residents to take note of the usual road closures that will occur in Dupont Circle for the 2018 Capital Pride Parade on Saturday, June 9th. He also said that the DC Council will be taking its final vote on DC's FY 2019 budget during the first week of June.

Chair Bender said that Councilmember Evans will be attending the ANC's regular June meeting on Monday, June 18th.

Department of Public Works

Sonya Street (sonya.chance@dc.gov), Ward 2's Lead Solid Waste Inspector for the Department of Public Works (DPW), said that, as of January 1st, 2018, DPW has launched a food waste drop off program. She said that there are two locations in Ward 2 where local residents can drop off their food waste: at the Glover Park-Burleith Farmers Market on Saturdays during the summer and at the Dupont Circle Farmers Market on Sundays year-round.

Commissioner Goldstein said that the neighborhood has had issues with trash and rat management surrounding a public trash can on California Street NW. She said that the few public trash cans in the neighborhood often fill up quickly, especially when events are taking place. She encouraged DPW to look into installing more public trash cans in the neighborhood, as well as emptying the trash cans more frequently.

Chair Bender said that a sizable amount of leaves and trash has accumulated along Connecticut Avenue adjacent to the Chinese Embassy Apartment Building at 2300 Connecticut Avenue NW.

Old Business

2318 California Street NW

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 extended roof addition and the enclosure of the third floor deck.

New Business

2300 California Street NW

Daniel Kim, a representative for the Embassy of Myanmar, gave a presentation regarding the embassy's proposal for exterior renovations to its Naval and Air Attaché property at 2300 California Street NW, including the construction of an iron gate and fence. Multiple meeting attendees raised concerns regarding the embassy's proposal for the iron gate and fence.

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, the Embassy of Myanmar is undertaking much-needed exterior renovation work on its Naval and Air Attaché property, also identified as the Union of Burma Military Office, at 2300 California Street NW,

WHEREAS, part of the project includes construction and installation of a new iron gate and fence at the driveway entrance at the rear of the house, and

WHEREAS, at the proposed height of 6 feet, the gate and fence exceed the height of such structures in Sheridan-Kalorama and would be inconsistent with the overall historic and residential character that Sheridan-Kalorama neighbors strive to achieve and uphold.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2D opposes the construction of the exterior iron gate and fence at 2300 California Street NW as currently proposed by the Embassy of Myanmar and urges the Historic Preservation Office to disapprove of the proposal.

Announcements

There were not any announcements.

Open Comments

Holly Sukenik, the Vice President of the Friends of Mitchell Park, said that the organization will be holding its annual "Films in the Field" programming on Thursday, June 14th at 8:40 pm (Kubo and the Two Strings); on Thursday, July 12th at 8:40 pm (Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom); on Thursday, August 9th at 8:15 pm (The Great Race); and on Friday, September 7th at 7:30 pm (A League of Their Own).

Date of Next Meeting

Chair Bender said that the ANC's next meeting will be on Monday, June 18th 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 7:57 pm.