

**Minutes for the Meeting of
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E**

June 1, 2010
Georgetown Visitation School, 35th and Volta Place, Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Commissioner Lewis, Chair, with Commissioners Solomon, Lewis, Golds, Starrels, Birch, and Eason present, constituting a quorum.

Administrative

Approval of June 1 Public Meeting Agenda

The agenda for ANC 2E's June 1, 2010 regular public meeting was approved unanimously on a motion by Commissioner Birch (Commissioner Eason seconded).

Approval of May 3 Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the meeting of ANC 2E held on May 3, 2010 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Eason (Commissioner Birch seconded) by a vote of 6-0.

Public Safety and Police Report

Commissioner Solomon reported on public safety matters and recent crimes in the community. He noted there has been an uptick in residential robberies in an adjoining PSA, but not in our area. The last major incident in PSA 206 was the robbery at TD Bank. There has been a slight increase in robberies in business community.

Lieutenant Hedgecock reported that serious crimes are down in PSA 206 and there has not been an incident in 2 weeks, but neighboring areas are experiencing an increase. Lieutenant Hedgecock and MPD are working hard to prevent these from coming into our area and are aware of suspects and vehicles. Residents should report any suspicious activity to 911 (the number for both emergencies and non-emergencies). MPD is preparing for new store openings, particularly Apple. The Lieutenant noted that the BID, CAG, and GU reimbursable detail programs have created a large MPD presence in the community and are partly responsible for PSA 206's reduced crime rates.

Financial Report

Commissioner Solomon reported on ANC 2E's finances, noting that ANC 2E still has not received any allotments, though the 4th Quarter FY 2009 report was approved. ANC 2E is up to date on all reports.

Transportation Report

Commissioners Lewis and Starrels reported on transportation matters in the community, noting that the street light rehabilitation is occurring and will continue until all are completed. DDOT is changing signs in Georgetown related to parking. They reminded the community to call 311 to report potholes.

Commissioner Solomon spoke about the O and P Street rehabilitation, mentioning that the design issues are wrapping up, and the more logistical issues for the actual work will be beginning. The Community Relations Team (CRT) will work on these issues to make the project go as smoothly as possible.

Commissioner Starrels updated the community on the canal bridge project, noting that 30th Street is wrapping up in the next month, and Thomas Jefferson Street will be next (closed for about 11 months). Details for this project are still being worked out.

Community Comment

Community members made comments regarding the recent issuing of tickets for trash in bags rather than cans. ANC 2E is working with DPW, but using cans is important for rat abatement. Commissioner Lewis mentioned that DPW needs clearer rules and should have issued warnings.

Community members and ANC commissioners discussed bike racks in the community; neon signs and other signage in the commercial areas; electric utility meters that can be located inside homes and read remotely; possible development plans for the Fillmore/Corcoran School property; and issues with mosquitoes and still water in alleyways.

Commissioner Lewis mentioned that there will be a meeting on the future of the Hurt Home (3050 R Street) on June 9, 6:30 at Jelleff. The topic for discussion is the Hurt Home's status as surplus D.C. government property.

Commissioner Lewis reminded the community to contact Ruth Werner in Councilman Evan's office when necessary.

Ellington Field Rehabilitation

Representatives from the community have held a meeting DCPS, and the school is going ahead with plans to replace the field, fence, and landscaping.

Volta Park Day—June 13, 3-6 pm

The community is invited to come and have fun at Volta Park Day on Sunday, June 13, 2010.

New Business

DDOT Proposal re streetcars along K Street, NW in Georgetown; additional proposal re streetcars along Wisconsin Avenue, NW

Scott Kubly, Associate Director of DDOT, presented DDOT's current thinking about possible streetcar lines in Georgetown. The discussion focused on where streetcars might run

in Georgetown, the presence or absence of overhead wires, and the effects on parking and traffic. After discussion by commissioners and community members, Commissioner Lewis made the following motion (Commissioner Starrels seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

The Georgetown community welcomes and depends upon efficient mass transit.

We believe that streetcars can be introduced in Georgetown to provide modern transportation in a way that is consistent with both the narrow streets in our community and the unique role and importance of Georgetown as the nation's best-known National Historic Landmark District.

1. The contemplated K Street route:

We urge that a K Street route in Georgetown be designed so that streetcars and vehicular traffic can share the same roadway (no dedicated streetcar lanes), with curb-lane parking preserved. We support that concept as the right mix between traffic-flow and on-street parking in our community.

We understand also that no decision has been made yet, pending technological developments over the next several years, about whether overhead wires might be contemplated on K Street in Georgetown. Our strong preference would be not to have overhead wires on this route in our community. We note, though, that the existence of the Whitehurst Freeway with its possibly uncertain future complicates this decision. We recommend therefore that if in the future DDOT is contemplating the possibility of overhead wires on the K Street route in Georgetown, DDOT should first consult with the Commission of Fine Arts and then respect such judgment as the Commission of Fine Arts makes at that time about such wires.

2. The possible Wisconsin Avenue route and a possible M Street route:

We understand it is possible a Wisconsin Avenue streetcar route may also be contemplated. We understand as well that DDOT may contemplate a route along M Street in Georgetown instead of K Street. We could support such a Wisconsin Avenue or M Street route if and only if (1) the streetcars share these relatively narrow roadways with vehicular traffic, preserving on-street parking; and (2) because of the central importance of the Wisconsin Avenue space and the M Street space to the Georgetown Historic District, a Wisconsin Avenue or M Street route through Georgetown would not be powered by overhead wires.

1834 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Café Divan, application for a public space permit for an outdoor seating area

Representatives from Café Divan presented their plans to add outdoor seating to their restaurant on the 34th Street, NW side. After discussion by commissioner and community members, Commissioner Solomon made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E acknowledges the community support for Café Divan as a popular neighborhood restaurant. However, ANC 2E cannot support an application for a

public space permit for the restaurant located at 1834 Wisconsin Avenue, NW on the 34th Street, NW (the west) side.

City regulations require ten feet of sidewalk from the curb, and there is not ample room on 34th Street, NW for seating – especially because a seating area would cause the loss of tree space and force pedestrians, including a large number of Hardy Middle School students, to walk in a narrow space much too close to the curb.

However, ANC 2E does support the addition of a small seating area on the north side where 34th Street, NW and Wisconsin Avenue, NW intersect, as requested by the applicant. ANC 2E recommends that any approval for the north side seating be approved for only six months so the effects on the community can be evaluated. We also ask that the restaurant seating be terminated by 10 pm as indicated by the applicant.

ITU Triathlon—June 20

A representative from the ITU triathlon presented information about this year's event. After discussion by commissioner and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Lewis seconded), which passed by a vote of 5-0 (Commissioner Eason out of the room):

ANC 2E appreciates the schedule of the triathlon and based on the schedule and their history of cooperation, we endorse the event as proposed.

ABC Issues

Early opening hours for ABC license establishments during World Cup month (June 11-July 11)

Commissioner Starrels spoke about the recently passed legislation permitting early morning hours during the World Cup. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC2E hereby agrees to temporarily amend all of its existing voluntary agreements, that limit hours, from June 11, 2010 through July 11, 2010 to allow establishments to open as early as 7AM (alcohol service beginning at 8AM Monday through Saturday and 10AM on Sunday), provided the following:

1. The establishment applies for the required special exceptions with the Alcohol Beverage Regulatory Administration;
2. For establishments that have food requirement, either via license class or through an existing VA, they serve food and
3. This temporary amendment DOES NOT APPLY to any outdoor seating areas, which remain governed by the provisions in the existing voluntary agreements.

1073 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Chop Sticks, Application for substantial change to license

Representatives from the restaurant spoke about their desire to change their current license.. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the change in hours to allow the establishment to remain open until 2 am Thursday night through Saturday night and until midnight on all other evenings.

1063 31st Street NW, Il Canale, Application for substantial change to license

Representatives from Il Canale spoke about their desires to change their license. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 5-0 (Commissioner Solomon was not present):

ANC 2E will agree to a change in the hours for the establishment to allow the restaurant to remain open until 3 am on Friday and Saturday nights and 2 am all other nights. The entertainment endorsement is limited until 10 pm.

Requests to Terminate the Following Voluntary Agreements

Cabanas, 3050 K Street, NW

Riverside Grille, 3050 K Street, NW

Tony and Joe's Seafood Restaurant, 3000 K Street, NW

Los Cuates, 1564 Wisconsin Avenue, NW

Mate, 3101 K Street, NW

Neyla, 3206 N Street, NW

Andrew Klein spoke on behalf of Cabanas, Riverside Grille and Tony and Joe's Seafood Restaurant about proposed changes in the applicable voluntary agreements. Commissioner Starrels and a representative of the Washington Harbour condominiums, Dr. Little, brought up issues in response, and Commissioner Starrels also spoke about the remaining voluntary agreements listed above.

After discussion by commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed.6-0:

ANC 2E objects to the requests to terminate the voluntary agreements for the following establishments:

Cabanas, 3050K Street, NW;

Riverside Grille, 3050K Street, NW;

Tony and Joe's Seafood Restaurant, 3000 K Street, NW;
Los Cuates, 1564 Wisconsin Avenue, NW;
Mate, 3101 K Street, NW; and
Neyla, 3206N Street, NW.

We believe voluntary agreements have been, and remain, necessary for the establishments. Each establishment has a voluntary agreement very specific to its location and they remain important to maintain peace, order, quiet, respectable parking and traffic in their areas.

License Renewals for the Following Establishment

Crepe Amour/Amma Vegetarian Kitchen, 3291 M Street, NW

Commissioner Starrels spoke about the new proposed hours: Sunday through Thursday, open until midnight and Friday and Saturday, open until 3am, as long as all seating is open at all times, food served at all times, no outside promoters are used.

Commissioner Starrels made the following motion regarding ANC 2E's protest of Crepe Amour/Amma Vegetarian Kitchen's license renewal (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

With regard to Crepe Amour/Amma Vegetarian Kitchen, 3291 M Street, NW, ANC 2E has reached, in principle, a cooperative agreement with this establishment regarding hours of alcoholic beverage service and operation. We plan to finalize this agreement and, in cooperation with this establishment, file it with the ABC Board prior to a hearing regarding license renewal in this matter. As and when such agreement is executed and approved, ANC 2E will withdraw its protest in this matter.

Commissioner Starrels also made the following motion asking ANC 2E to approve the above hours and conditions as a basis for negotiation of a new voluntary agreement (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E agrees to negotiate a voluntary agreement with Crepe Amour/Amma Vegetarian Kitchen located at 3291 M Street, NW within the guidelines that the establishment will be allowed to remain open until midnight Sunday through Thursday evenings and until 3 am on Friday and Saturday evenings; all seating will remain open at all times; food is served at all times; and there is no use of outside promoters on the premises.

Los Cuates, 1564 Wisconsin Avenue NW

The license renewal for this establishment, which was moved off of No Review per the request of a community member present at the meeting, was moved back to No Review without objection.

Old Georgetown Board

Commissioner Lewis recused himself from the consideration and vote of all of the following items relating to the Old Georgetown Board on the ANC 2E agenda for this meeting. Commissioner Birch chaired the meeting for consideration of the following OGB-related matters.

Regular Calendar

Private Projects

1029 31st Street, NW, OG 10-156 (HPA 10-284), Mixed-use retail/residential:

Representatives from the property presented designs for a two-story rear addition. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded) which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the concepts and is concerned with and has reservations about the access to the rear yard as a commercial enterprise and the potential impacts to the area. We would support a design that encloses the rear to prevent noise from bothering the neighborhood and a limit to lot coverage of 80% or less to keep with the existing residential properties on the block.

2818 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, OG 10-154 (HPA 10-282), Commercial:

Representatives from Georgetown Scoops presented plans for their awning and sign. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded) which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E objects to the awning presented and advises the OGB to consider an awning design that fits within the frame of the storefront window for Georgetown Scoops.

1044 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 10-155 (HPA 10-283), Commercial:

Representatives from Eagle Bank presented plans for a mural on their wall. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded) which passed by a vote of 5-0:

Although ANC 2E does appreciate the artwork and the intent, we do not approve of the mural for the following reasons: 1) the close identity of the mural with the business that occupies the building as the mural serves as advertising for the bank and 2) the size of the eagle is overpowering for the area.

1211 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 10-149 (HPA 10-275), Retail:

Representatives from Bebe presented their plans for an internally illuminated sign and a wall-mounted sign in the alley. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded) which passed by a vote of 4-0 (Commissioner Starrels out of the room):

ANC 2E has reservations about the internally-illuminated sign proposed for the front entrance to the extent that it may not be compatible with commercial signage in the

historic district. We do however object to the signage proposed on the south wall as being duplicative and oversized in design.

1529 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 10-151 (HPA 10-278), Restaurant:

Plans were presented for a new sign scheme and awning for Puro Cafe. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded) which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the awnings and signs that exist.

1545 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 10-159 (HPA 10-287), Bank:

Designs were presented by Capital One Bank's new back-lit signs. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded) which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the signage as proposed with one exception to the size of the letters over the front of the building which should comply with the 12 inch limit.

3014 Dent Place, NW, OG 10-106 (HPA 10-192), Dent Place Condominiums:

Plans were presented for rooftop antennas, dish and cabinet on the condominium. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Eason made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded) which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E advises the OGB that we have no objection to the proposed plans for rooftop antenna, dish and cabinet at 3014 Dent Place, NW.

1825 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 10-161A (HPA 10-289), Retail and 1815 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 10-161B (HPA 10-289), Retail:

Concept plans were presented for a new building. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Eason made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded) which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the basic concept, however we have concerns about the traffic pattern and the impact on Wisconsin Avenue NW and 34th Street NW and asks the OGB to take those into consideration as they review the concept. We would suggest that in developing the design of both buildings an attempt be made to represent the vernacular details of the existing commercial buildings in historic Georgetown.

At 10:20 p.m., with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Lewis moved (Commissioner Golds seconded) to adjourn this public session of ANC 2E. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted for the approval of ANC 2E,

Aaron Golds
Secretary, ANC 2E