



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 4th, 2019; 6:30 p.m.
Georgetown Visitation School, Heritage Room – 1524 35th Street NW

Call to Order

Commissioner Lisa Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. Commissioners Kishan Putta (2E01), Joe Gibbons (2E02), Lisa Palmer (2E05), Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06), Elizabeth Miller (2E07), and Matias Burdman (2E08) were present.

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the ANC's November 4th, 2019 Meeting Agenda

Vice Chair Palmer moved to approve the ANC's November 4th, 2019 meeting agenda. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Administrative

Public Safety and Police Report

Commissioner Duncan Bedlion, the Commander for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Approval of the ANC's FY 2019 Quarter 4 Financial Report

Vice Chair Palmer moved to approve the ANC's FY 2019 Quarter 4 financial report. Commissioner Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Community Comment

Consideration of a Proclamation Honoring the Washington Nationals

Commissioner Miller moved to adopt a proposed proclamation regarding the matter. Commissioner Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the hard work, dedication, talent, and exceptional team chemistry of the 2019 Washington Nationals baseball team has enabled them to win a World Series championship,

WHEREAS, the residents of Georgetown decorated their Halloween skeletons in Nats gear, donned flags in all of our flower baskets, hung banners emblazoned with Finish the Fight all around our community, and lost way too much sleep during the month of October,

WHEREAS, this team came back from 19-31 at the start of the season to accomplish what nobody said they could - bringing home a World Series championship to Washington, DC,

WHEREAS, the nationals are a shining example of grit, determination and resilience, serving as a model for our children and community at large, and

WHEREAS, in the words of manager Davey Martinez, “Bumpy roads lead to beautiful places.”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E salutes the Washington Nationals players and organization for exemplifying the very best of our Washington community.

Update from the Mayor’s Office

Amr Kotb, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), provided an update from the Mayor’s Office.

Update from Councilmember Jack Evans’ Office

Amorde Brabham, the Constituent Services Liaison for Councilmember Jack Evans’ Office, gave an update from the Councilmember’s office.

Update from Councilmember Robert White’s Office

Katie Whitehouse, a Legislative Assistant for Councilmember Robert White’s Office, gave an update from the Councilmember’s office.

Presentation by the National Park Service Regarding Improvements to the Old Stone House Garden

Julia Washburn, the Superintendent for Rock Creek Park, gave a presentation regarding improvements to the Old Stone House garden.

Presentation by the Department of Parks and Recreation Regarding the Rose Park Recreation Center Renovation

Ely Ross, the Chief of Staff for the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), gave a presentation regarding the Rose Park Recreation Center renovation project.

Update from Georgetown Main Street

Rachel Shank, the Executive Director of Georgetown Main Street, gave an update from the organization.

Announcement by the Georgetown BID Regarding the Joint BID, ANC, and Citizens Association of Georgetown Public Meeting on Jointly Furthering the BID’s Georgetown Retail Action Plan on Thursday, November 14th

Vice Chair Palmer gave an announcement regarding the joint Georgetown BID, ANC, and Citizens Association of Georgetown (CAG) public meeting on jointly furthering the BID's Georgetown Retail Action Plan on Thursday, November 14th.

Announcement by the Georgetown BID Regarding the 2019 Georgetown GLOW Program

Nancy Miyahira, the Vice President and Marketing Director for the Georgetown BID, gave an announcement regarding the 2019 Georgetown GLOW Program.

Announcement by Georgetown Heritage Regarding the Environmental Assessment for the Georgetown Canal Plan

Scott Walzak, the Georgetown Canal Plan Project Manager for Georgetown Heritage, gave an announcement regarding the environmental assessment for the Georgetown Canal Plan.

Announcement Regarding the National Environmental Policy Act Letter on DC's Smart Street Lighting Project

Commissioner Gibbon gave an announcement regarding the National Environmental Policy Act letter on DC's Smart Street Lighting Project.

Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Gibbons gave a commissioner announcement.

New Business

Discussion Regarding DC Council Bill B23-0453 – the “Flavored Electronic Smoking Device Prohibition Amendment Act of 2019”

Commissioner Burdman moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Putta seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, e-cigarette use by teenagers and young adults has reached epidemic proportions, having been used by five million middle and high school students over the past year,

WHEREAS, it has been shown that the flavor component in e-cigarettes is primarily responsible for its use by youth,

WHEREAS, ANC 2E has received comments from the parents of Hardy Middle School and Duke Ellington School of the Arts expressing their concern over the use of e-cigarettes by youth in the community,

WHEREAS, Flavors Hook Kids DC is a campaign that seeks to end the youth e-cigarette epidemic by prohibiting the sale of flavored e-cigarettes in the District of Columbia, and

WHEREAS, Flavors Hook Kids DC has earned the support of multiple reputable local and national organizations, including the American Lung Association, the American Heart Association, and MedStar Georgetown University Hospital.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E supports Flavors Hook Kids DC's campaign to end the sale of flavored e-cigarettes in the District of Columbia and urges the Council of the District of Columbia to pass DC Council Bill B23-0453 – the “Flavored Electronic Smoking Device Prohibition Amendment Act of 2019.”

Discussion Regarding the Appointment of an ANC Representative to Georgetown Main Street's Grants Committee

Vice Chair Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E appoints Commissioner Joe Gibbons to serve as the ANC's representative to Georgetown Main Street's Grants Committee.

Discussion Regarding the Recent Decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit on Small Cell Facilities

Commissioner Gibbons moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Burdman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

On August 24, 2018 the Public Space Committee of the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) promulgated Small Cell Design Guidelines that were premised on an order issued by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) that exempted the deployment of small cell facilities from review under, among other things, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (the “Small Cell Exemption”).

On October 8, 2019, the FCC issued an order deleting the Small Cell Exemption from the relevant FCC regulations. Therefore, as of October 8, 2019, all proposed small cell deployment in Georgetown must undergo the traditional historic review process. Before October 8th, there was a very unique exemption for small cells that no other telecommunications infrastructure has ever experienced. This reversal is a significant and positive change for Georgetown. The reversal occurred given the recent FCC order to recognize the relevance of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 in relation to small cell deployment.

Therefore, ANC 2E urges the Public Space Committee to carefully review and revise the Small Cell Design Guidelines to ensure that the guidelines are consistent with all relevant federal statutes and regulations.

Consideration of MedStar Georgetown University Hospital's Request for an After-Hours Construction Permit at 3800 Reservoir Road NW

Commissioner Gibbons moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Putta seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E is in receipt of a request by MedStar Health for the ANC's support of MedStar Health's plan for the delivery of oversized items to the construction site for MedStar Georgetown University Hospital's Medical/Surgical Pavilion project.

MedStar Health's request states that oversized deliveries will, to the greatest extent possible by the contractor and authorities having jurisdiction, including the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT), the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), and the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), be scheduled for after-hours delivery to the site. Tower crane oversized deliveries will need to be conducted during the day in order to facilitate safe delivery and erection of the equipment during daylight hours. Tower crane deliveries will occur across four consecutive days, with the majority of the deliveries occurring during the middle two days.

As such, the project requests after-hours permission for oversized deliveries, including Sunday delivery and associated same-day tower crane erection in order to facilitate peak crane oversized delivery days on consecutive Saturdays and Sundays, in order to limit potential traffic disruption on Reservoir Road NW during weekday hours.

ANC 2E believes that this plan is in the best interest of the surrounding neighborhoods, both within the ANC and elsewhere, and will lessen the negative impact on these surrounding neighborhoods.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Application by Donahue for a Substantial Change to the Establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Tavern License at 1338 Wisconsin Avenue NW

Vice Chair Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E designates Commissioners Rick Murphy and Joe Gibbons as its representatives to negotiate and sign any forthcoming settlement agreements with Donahue.

Vice Chair Palmer moved to adopt a second proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E protests Donahue's application for a substantial change to the establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license at 1338 Wisconsin Avenue NW based on the adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood.

Request for Amendments to the Settlement Agreement for Safeway at 1855 Wisconsin Avenue NW

Commissioner Miller moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E designates Commissioners Elizabeth Miller and Rick Murphy to negotiate amendments to the settlement agreement for Safeway at 1855 Wisconsin Avenue NW.

Consideration of Several Alcoholic Beverage License Applications

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Zoning

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application for a Variance from the Use Restrictions to Convert an Existing Beauty Shop Use to an Office Use in an Existing Building at 1510 31st Street NW

Commissioner Lohse moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has no comments regarding the Board of Zoning Adjustment application for 1510 31st Street NW.

Old Georgetown Board

SMD 2E03 - OG 20-026 (HPA 20-034) 1512 34th Street, NW

Commissioner Gibbons moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Burdman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E properly noticed its November 4th public meeting to review the Old Georgetown Board submission for 1512 34th Street NW. The applicant did not attend the meeting nor did it provide any prior communications that it was not going to present its Old Georgetown Board submission to the ANC.

ANC 2E believes, through reviewing the submitted plans for the ANC's November 4th public meeting, that the proposed addition is too large. Furthermore, the proposed addition appears to include a rear deck, which the ANC discourages.

Therefore, ANC 2E does not support this concept design.

SMD 2E05 - OG 20-021 (HPA 20-029) 1033 31st Street, NW

Vice Chair Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

The applicant for 1033 31st Street NW has not provided designs for the permit application for signage for a new restaurant at the address. As such, ANC 2E cannot support this permit application.

SMD 2E05 - OG 20-024 (HPA 20-032) 2900-2924 M Street, NW

Vice Chair Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has heard concerns from community members that the height of this building is not appropriate in the historic district and may also interfere with light on the buildings to the south. With this in mind, the ANC requests that the Old Georgetown Board pays particular attention to the height and mass of this concept design to ensure that it does not interfere with this block of historic buildings.

Additionally, the applicant has noted its interest in working with neighbors related to parking concerns and the ANC encourages the team to continue to do so.

Adjournment

Vice Chair Palmer adjourned the meeting at 8:49 pm.