



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 4th, 2017; 6:30 p.m.
Georgetown Visitation School, Heritage Room – 1524 35th Street NW

Call to Order

Chair Joe Gibbons called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm. Commissioners Ed Solomon (2E01), Joe Gibbons (2E02), Rick Murphy (2E03), Mara Goldman (2E04), Lisa Palmer (2E05), Jim Wilcox (2E06), Monica Roache (2E07), and Zac Schroepfer (2E08) were present.

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the ANC's December 4th, 2017 Meeting Agenda

Chair Gibbons moved to approve the ANC's December 4th, 2017 meeting agenda. Commissioner Wilcox seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Approval of the ANC's October 30th, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Chair Gibbons moved to approve the ANC's October 30th, 2017 meeting minutes. Commissioner Roache seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Community Comment

Presentation by Melinda Bolling, Director of the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, Regarding Illegal Construction in the Neighborhood

Melinda Bolling, the Director of the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), gave an overview of DCRA. She said that DCRA serves as the city's building department and licensing department for non-health professionals. She said that this licensing includes cosmetologists, home improvement contractors, and everyone in between.

Director Bolling gave an overview of DCRA's efforts to improve construction permit review times. She also gave an overview of DCRA's online business center, where the public can research, apply for, and receive business licensing for most business categories within an hour.

Director Bolling said that, if illegal construction is occurring, DCRA acts as the responsible enforcement agency. She said that DCRA has construction inspectors who can come out and determine if any construction that is occurring has been properly authorized. She added that DCRA's construction inspectors respond 365 days a year.

Director Bolling said that DCRA has a 24-hour duty officer on staff who can be reached via the city's 311 call center for emergency situations on construction sites. She asked meeting attendees to call DCRA's illegal construction hotline if anyone thinks that illegal construction is occurring in the neighborhood. She added that many of DCRA's illegal construction fines were recently increased.

Commissioner Wilcox gave an overview of the ANC's concerns regarding non-compliance with the DC's Historic District Neighbor Notification Act. Director Bolling gave an overview of DCRA's efforts to create an automatic neighbor notification process for applications that are filed. She said that the development of such an automatic process is still a work in progress.

Commissioner Schroepfer asked how DCRA could assist university students living off campus who have concerns about the safety of their residences. Director Bolling gave an overview of the inspection services that DCRA offers. She added that DCRA also has a task force that works with Georgetown University regarding off-campus student residence issues.

Administrative

Public Safety and Police Report

Two representatives for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Commissioner Roache raised concerns regarding how the recent rise in foot traffic in the Georgetown waterfront area might be leading to an increase in crime in the area.

Commissioner Solomon encouraged local residents to not leave any valuables in their cars, especially during the holidays, in order to deter thefts from cars.

Community Comment (Continued)

Update from the Mayor's Office

Richard Livingstone, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), said that Mayor Bowser will be attending the opening of the new West End Library this Saturday, December 9th at 10:30 am at the West End Library, 2301 L Street NW.

Mr. Livingstone said that the Department of Public Works' (DPW) leaf collection efforts are ongoing. He said that DPW's next round of leaf pickups will begin on December 18th.

Update from Councilmember Jack Evans' Office

Ruth Werner, a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' Office, said that the DC Council will be on recess during the week of December 25th.

Update from the Citizens Association of Georgetown

Elsa Santoyo, the Chair of the Citizens Association of Georgetown's (CAG) Historic Preservation and Zoning (HPZ) Committee, read the letter that CAG adopted regarding the Georgetown Heritage proposal for the C&O Canal aloud.

Update from the Burleith Citizens Association

Stacy Bernard Davis, a board member for the Burleith Citizens Association (BCA), said that BCA plans to survey the Burleith community regarding the proposal for enhanced residential permit parking (RPP) in ANC 2E. She said that BCA will factoring in the effects of the newly-opened Duke Ellington School of the Arts when carrying out the survey.

Ms. Davis said they BCA held its annual meeting on November 9th. She added that BCA also recently organized Santa visits in the neighborhood.

Update from the Georgetown BID

Joe Sternlieb, the CEO and President of the Georgetown BID, thanked community members for responding to the BID's recent retail survey. He said that the BID's annual Georgetown GLOW program kicks off this Friday, December 8th. He said that the program is a winter art-light festival which includes exhibits from Europe and China. He said that the art-light installations will be turned on from 5:00 to 10:00 pm every night.

Update from the Georgetown Business Association

Hope Solomon, the Vice President of the Georgetown Business Association (GBA), thanked the ANC for its support of DC Government funding for the creation of a Main Street organization in Georgetown. She introduced Jessie Himmelrich, the new Executive Director of Georgetown Main Street.

Ms. Himmelrich said that she is looking forward to working with the Georgetown BID and businesses in Georgetown. She said that Georgetown Main Street is officially open for business.

Announcement Regarding the Joint ANC 2A, 2B, and 2E Town Hall on the District Department of Transportation's Dockless Bikeshare Demonstration Program

Chair Gibbons gave an overview of the details for the joint ANC town hall on the District Department of Transportation's (DDOT) dockless bikeshare demonstration program. He said that an open house with the five dockless bikeshare companies currently operating in DC will begin at 7:00 pm and that the town hall will begin at 7:30 pm. He said that the program will take place at the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens, 2425 N Street NW.

Discussion Regarding a Proposal by Commissioners Gibbons and Wilcox, who are Members of the Georgetown Parking Working Group, for the Introduction of Enhanced Residential Permit Parking (RPP) in ANC 2E

Chair Gibbons said that Sam Zimbabwe, the Chief Project Delivery Officer for DDOT, recently sent him an email stating that DDOT is proposing to hold working group meetings in the next month or so to further discuss parking proposals for the neighborhood, including the proposal to implement enhanced RPP.

Chair Gibbons gave an overview of enhanced RPP. He said that, as part of the proposal, one side of each block with currently-existing RPP will be designated for only Zone 2 parking permit holders. He said that, as part of the proposal, individuals with temporary Zone 2 visitors parking passes will be able to continue to park on both sides of the street, and that non-Zone 2 parking permit holders will be able to park on the side of the street opposite the Zone 2 parking permit holder-only side for up to two hours. He added that the proposal will not have any effect on worshippers parking in the neighborhood on Sundays.

Several meeting attendees voiced their opinions for and against the proposal for enhanced RPP.

Commissioner Murphy thanked Chair Gibbons for delaying an ANC vote on the enhanced RPP proposal. He said that he hopes that the working group will be able to reach a solution that takes into account all of the neighborhood's stakeholders.

Commissioner Schroepfer says that the ANC has the opportunity to work with students, neighbors, and small businesses to come to a consensus solution.

Commissioner Solomon said that Georgetown University also supports a consensus solution. He said that it may have been previously misinterpreted that the university was asking for an exemption from the enhanced RPP proposal. He said that the working group should decide what the next steps are for the enhanced RPP proposal instead of the ANC.

Commissioner Solomon gave an overview of his concerns regarding how intra-Ward 2 parking problems would not be solved by the enhanced RPP proposal. He said that the neighborhood's parking issues are not simple, which is the reason why the ANC has not yet voted to support the enhanced RPP proposal.

Commissioner Wilcox said that several iterations of the neighborhood parking working group have met for ten years now and have not been able to reach a consensus. He said that Chair Gibbons has talked with many communities across DC that have already implemented enhanced RPP, including communities that have active business environments. He said that those communities have indicated that they continue to support enhanced RPP.

Commissioner Wilcox said that he is concerned that the Georgetown BID has supported other neighborhood proposals that reduce parking in the neighborhood, including the proposed bike lane on K Street and Water Street NW, but that the BID is against the enhanced RPP proposal.

Other Community Comments

Kishan Putta, a representative for DC Health Link, said that the deadline to apply for health insurance through DC Health Link is January 31st, 2018.

New Business

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding a Proposal for Residential Permit Parking on Streets Adjacent to the Duke Ellington School of the Arts at 3500 R Street NW

Commissioner Solomon moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has participated in numerous transportation management meetings with the Duke Ellington School of the Arts and the Washington International School. In addition to school administrators, participants included representatives from the Burleith Citizens Association and the Citizens Association of Georgetown. An ANC 2E commissioner has also met directly with senior administrators of both schools. All parties support the installation of residential permit parking (RPP) signs where appropriate around the perimeter of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts at 3500 R Street NW. The streets for the RPP signs include 35th Street NW on the west side, R Street NW on the south side, 36th Street NW on the east side, and Reservoir Road NW on the north side.

ANC 2E requests that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) install RPP parking signs with a 2-hour limit and Zone 2 exemption where appropriate along the curbs forming the perimeter of the Duke Ellington School of the Arts. The RPP signs should reflect the times of 2-hour parking enforcement from 7:00 am to 8:30 pm, Monday through Saturday. Reservoir Road NW should also have signs indicating “No Parking” during evening rush hours.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding a Proposal for Residential Permit Parking on Streets Adjacent to the Washington International School at 1690 36th Street NW

Commissioner Solomon moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Goldman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has participated in numerous transportation management meetings with the Duke Ellington School of the Arts and the Washington International School. In addition to school administrators, participants included representatives from the Burleith Citizens Association and the Citizens Association of Georgetown. An ANC 2E commissioner has also met directly with senior administrators of both schools. All parties support the installation of residential permit parking (RPP) signs where appropriate around the perimeter of the Washington International School at 1690 36th Street NW. The streets for the RPP signs include 36th Street NW on the west side, R Street NW on the south side, 37th Street NW on the east side, and Reservoir Road NW on the north side.

ANC 2E requests that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) install RPP parking signs with a 2-hour limit and Zone 2 exemption where appropriate along the curbs forming the perimeter of the Washington International School. The RPP signs should reflect the times of 2-hour parking enforcement from 7:00 am to 8:30 pm, Monday through Saturday. Reservoir Road NW should also have signs indicating “No Parking” during evening rush hours.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Marking of Parking Spaces at the Intersection of 33rd Street and M Street NW

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Roache seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E, in partnership with the Georgetown Business Improvement District (BID), notes that the first 80 feet of the east side of the 1200 block of 33rd Street NW is currently unmarked for parking. In an attempt to satisfy operational and traffic-related concerns for businesses, as well as the need for ample parking for residents, ANC 2E requests that this area be converted to a designated loading zone with hours of 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Monday through Friday for loading, and reverting to Zone 2 residential parking at all other times.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Application by Reverie for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 3210 Grace Street NW

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E protests the application by Reverie for a new Class “C” Restaurant license at 3210 Grace Street NW based on adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. Further, ANC 2E agrees to drop its protest if and when a settlement agreement is signed by both Reverie and ANC 2E.

ANC 2E designates either ANC 2E05 Commissioner Lisa Palmer or ANC 2E Chair Joe Gibbons as the designated representatives in this matter.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Extension of Holiday Hours for all Establishments with Settlement Agreements

Commissioner Solomon moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E supports the businesses in the ANC that have settlement agreements to allow them to stay open for one additional hour on New Year’s Eve from December 31st, 2017 to January 1st, 2018.

Zoning

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application for Variances from the Floor Area Ratio Requirements and the Non-Conforming Structure Requirements to Construct a Rear Attic Dormer in an Existing One-Family Dwelling at 2517 Q Street NW

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

WHEREAS, the applicant’s existing floor area ratio (FAR) of the dwelling at 2517 Q Street NW exceeds the maximum permitted FAR,

WHEREAS, the applicant’s proposed attic dormer addition extends the floor area ratio of the non-conforming structure,

WHEREAS, the applicant’s property, after completion of the proposed dormer addition, would still remain as one of the smallest lots in the immediate vicinity, and

WHEREAS, the applicant’s proposed dormer addition would not substantially impair the intent, purpose, and integrity of the zoning plan as embodied in the regulations due to its modest size.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E agrees with the applicant that there is no detriment to the public good or impairment of the intent, purpose, and integrity of the zoning plan as embodied in the regulations as stated above. Additionally, the ANC has not received any opposition to the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2E supports granting this zoning relief for 2517 Q Street NW.

Old Georgetown Board

SMD 2E03 - OG 18-049 (HPA 18-087) 3234 N Street, NW

Commissioner Murphy moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has no comment on this proposal.

SMD 2E03 - OG 18-061 (HPA 18-099) 3149 O Street, NW

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

ANC 2E, first, objects to the addition of balconies and access doors to the north façade of this non-contributing structure. They would be completely inconsistent with the structure as it now exists and should not be permitted.

Second, ANC 2E objects to extending the roof line from beneath the third floor of the building out over the stairway and above the proposed balconies. Once again, this is inconsistent with the building as it now exists and inappropriate in this neighborhood.

SMD 2E05 - OG 18-054 (HPA 18-092) 1026 31st Street, NW; SMD 2E05 - OG 18-053 (HPA 18-091) 1032 31st Street, NW; SMD 2E05 - OG 18-052 (HPA 18-090) 1040 31st Street, NW; SMD 2E05 - OG 18-051 (HPA 18-089) 1042 31st Street, NW; SMD 2E05 - OG 18-055 (HPA 18-093) 3103 South Street, NW; and SMD 2E05 - OG 18-056 (HPA 18-094) 3105 South Street, NW

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E is appreciative of the work proposed to the houses at 1026 31st Street NW, 1032 31st Street NW, 1040 31st Street NW, 1042 31st Street NW, 3103 South Street NW, and 3105 South Street NW. These houses are historic homes built in or around 1850 and, as such, deserve close attention and care. We are pleased to see that these houses and the surrounding stone wall are part of this concept design and generally approve of the work presented in the concept.

We do however have a few questions which we hope the Old Georgetown Board will specifically consider, including:

1. ANC 2E would like to ensure that any awnings attached to the rear portion of the buildings do not harm the masonry in any way. It is worth noting that ANC 2E would not support the addition of awnings on the 31st Street or South Street sides.

2. ANC 2E has concerns regarding the individuation of each unit and would like to ensure that this does not disappear throughout the renovation.

SMD 2E05 - OG 18-038 (HPA 18-075) 3131 M Street, NW

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E does not support the use of vinyl material for this purpose and also has questions regarding the appropriateness of the size of the fencing being proposed.

SMD 2E05 - OG 18-041 (HPA 18-079) 3050 K Street, NW

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E requests further clarification on the proposed concept design. We had difficulty reviewing the plans and, as such, are not able to offer significant feedback on the proposal.

SMD 2E05 - OG 18-006 (HPA 18-011) 3210 Grace Street, NW

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E welcomes the addition of bike racks on Grace Street NW, particularly those that do not take up much needed parking or pedestrian space on this heavily trafficked block. We generally approve of this concept.

However, ANC 2E also understands that there is an ongoing disagreement between the residential association at this building and the commercial owners as to who has the ability to make exterior alterations to this building. While the ANC is not and should not be privy to the details of this ongoing conversation, we request that the Old Georgetown Board make note of this issue when considering the appropriateness of this proposed concept design.

SMD 2E05 - OG 17-322 (HPA 17-550) 3100 South Street, NW

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

WHEREAS, the applicant has met with the Ritz Carlton Georgetown Residence Board,

WHEREAS, the historic structure as it exists was meant for commercial and industrial use and flexibility,

WHEREAS, the concept design of Option 1 maintains the transparency of the historic fabric. The concept design clearly distinguishes the historic from the new, and

WHEREAS, the concept design of Option 1 adds visual cues to our community that the old incinerator continues its vibrancy as intended in its original renovation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E supports the concept design of Option 1.

SMD 2E06 - OG 18-050 (HPA 18-088) 3044 N Street, NW

Commissioner Wilcox moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Murphy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E objects to the proposal submitted for 3044 N Street NW. Not only did the applicant fail to notify most of the adjacent neighbors in accordance with the neighbor notification rules, but the proposed addition reflects additional massing which is objectionable to the neighbors based on an adverse impact on air and light.

ANC 2E also requests and understands that the architect is willing to adjust his drawings on day 1 to more accurately state what is currently on top of the garage and whether it is a porch or just a garage roof. The ANC notes this as a point of clarification for the Old Georgetown Board.

SMD 2E07 - OG 18-059 (HPA 18-097) 1511 28th Street, NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

SMD 2E07 - OG 17-295 (HPA 17-520) 2449 P Street, NW

Chair Gibbons moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Schroepfer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has deep concerns with the process of construction at 2449 P Street NW but the ANC has no comment on the concept design.

SMD 2E07 - OG 18-047 (HPA 18-085) 3023 Q Street, NW

Commissioner Roache moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Gibbons seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-1-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E appreciates the applicant's neighborhood outreach, including removing the proposed concept design of a second story, east side addition. The applicant has support from the adjacent neighbor in writing. ANC 2E would be in favor of Scheme 2 and looks to the Old Georgetown Board for further feedback.

Adjournment

Chair Gibbons adjourned the meeting at 9:21 pm.