

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

March 1, 2005  
Georgetown Visitation School, 35<sup>th</sup> and Volta Place, Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM by the Vice-Chair, Commissioner Starrels, with Commissioners Eason, Moore, and Clements present, constituting a quorum.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**Minutes:** The minutes of the February 1, 2005 meeting were unanimously approved as distributed by Commissioner Clements.

*Commissioner Solomon arrived at this time.*

**Quarterly Financial Report:** The Chair, Commissioner Solomon, informed ANC 2E that the financial report would be presented when the Treasurer, Commissioner Lever, arrived.

**COMMUNITY COMMENT**

**Police Report:** Sergeant Bundy of MPD gave the police report for February. There were a total of 73 crimes reported in PSA 206 during the month. This included: nine assaults, six burglaries, six destructions of property, three robberies, six stolen autos, seven thefts, five simple assaults, one DUI, six DWIs, one aggravated assault, one cocaine possession, two urination in public offenses, forty-four possession of an open container of alcohol offenses, and two bench warrants served. In addition there were 3 61-D violations at the following addresses: 3251 Prospect Street, 1803 37<sup>th</sup> Street, and 3635 S Street. Sergeant Bundy also notified ANC 2E that an arrest had been made for the robbery at 1234 Potomac.

**Georgetown Project Update:** Len Levine informed ANC 2E that work was still on schedule and barring any unforeseen circumstances would be completed by July of 2005. WASA has completed all work except that north of Q Street. New fire hydrants and service lines will be installed at the intersection of Wisconsin Avenue and R Street later this month. Pepco connections to service lines will be made in late April. At that time, all sidewalks will be completed. Mr. Levine told the community, that if they had any emergency situations with WASA, such as a broken water main, the phone number is (202) 612-3400.

*At this time, Commissioners Lever and Skelsey arrived.*

**Financial Quarterly Report:** At this time the Treasurer, Commissioner Lever, presented the Financial Quarterly report to the Commission. Commissioner Clements moved

(Eason Second) to approve the Financial Quarterly Report as presented by Commissioner Lever. This passed by a vote of 7-0.

**Update of C & O Canal Repairs and Visitor Center Renovation:** Kevin Brandt, Park Superintendent, presented the plans for work being done on the Canal during the summer of 2005. All work should be completed by September. The work will include the repair of Lock #4 so that it will again be a fully functioning lock and the renovation of the old visitor center. After Lock #4 is repaired, the Canal boat ride will continue to the length that was previously possible, before the damage to this lock last summer. Commissioner Starrels inquired about the leakage from Lock #4 that resulted in water damage to the Wadsworth House Condominium which is south of lock #4. Mr. Brandt responded that these repairs will solve that problem and with the repaired lock, water will only be held at level three for approximately an hour at a time. Also, the parking area and park will be cleaned at the completion of the work.

**Lead Service Line Replacement:** Karen DeWitt of WASA presented plans to the ANC about the lead service line replacement project to solve the lead issues in the District of Columbia. She began with a short video explaining the history of the lead service lines, which were used until just after World War II. All homeowners who will be having their lines replaced as part of the project should receive a brochure explaining the process a few weeks before work commences. Ms. DeWitt distributed sample brochures to the community. Questions were raised as to whether brick sidewalks would be reinstalled following the work, noting that, in the past, some city agencies did not do this work properly. Ms. DeWitt said that the WASA would put the brick back as found.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Special Items***

**Closing of Public Alley on the North Side of the 3400 Block of R Street:** Peter Califuera, resident of 3413 R Street made as request to close a public alley adjoining the rear of his property with his garage. Mr. Califuera stated that the alley had not been used for at least 35 years. He had often discovered teenagers participating in illegal and illicit activities in the alley. Trash was also often left in the alley. While the property owner maintained that the owner of the adjoining property, whose fence exit would be affected, entered into an agreement about the proposed closing, the adjoining owner, Janet Saxon, stated that she no longer supported the project. Several other neighbors were in attendance to protest the closure. One neighbor stated that he would no longer be able to open the gate at the rear of his property due to the new fence. Also, delivery trucks often utilized this portion of the alley, because of the lack of parking in the area. Commissioner Solomon moved (Starrels Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 6-0 (Clements abstained):

ANC 2E requests against the proposed closure.

**Resurfacing of Blue Alley:** Ardeshir Nafici and John Deatrick appeared to represent DDOT in this matter. They began by announcing that a contractor had been selected for the 33<sup>rd</sup>, 34<sup>th</sup>, and Potomac Street bridges. The project should be completed in 400 days. Also, a decision had been made concerning the street car tracks on P Street and O Street. All cobblestone and tracks would be removed except for the section on O Street between Wisconsin and Potomac. Concerning the Blues Alley repaving project, dark gray concrete with two foot by two foot scoring would be the material of choice for DDOT. Commissioner Starrels stated that Eastbanc was able to use yellow paving brick on Bank Street at a cost of \$85,000 to \$90,000, a lower estimate than DDOT has given for Blues Alley concrete. Mr. Deatrick stated that the heavy traffic on Blues Alley for deliveries would require a tougher material. Also, the DC procurement procedures would prevent DDOT from obtaining brick at that price. Commissioner Starrels moved (Eason Second) for the following:

ANC 2E requests that DDOT provide exact numbers of both the brick and concrete projects within the next few weeks.

Commissioner Solomon moved for the following amendment (Starrels Second):

Once the figures are in, if DDOT cannot meet the cost of brick, ANC 2E requests that the project proceed.

Both the amendment and the motion, in its entirety, were passed by a vote of 7-0.

**BID Hanging Baskets on Wisconsin Avenue and M Street:** At the November 30, 2004 meeting of ANC 2E, the Georgetown BID did not request permit approval from the ANC for the hanging baskets on the light posts of Wisconsin Avenue and M Street. The OGB and Fine Arts Commission did endorse the plans. ANC 2E looked at the issue retroactively. Many neighbors and commissioners were concerned with the procedures taken by Ken Gray and BID in respect to the ANC. Al Wheeler, neighbor and business owner, spoke for the added benefit of plants in an urban setting. Ken Gray stated that the cost to BID of the baskets would be approximately \$75,000 annually. Commissioner Solomon moved (Starrels Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 5-2 (Moore and Eason Opposed):

ANC 2E supports the continuance of the hanging baskets on M Street and Wisconsin Avenue, but is very concerned by the procedure taken in the original installation of the baskets. Additionally, ANC 2E should look at the baskets in one years time to review.

**Proposed 5K “Run for Rigby”:** Georgetown University students, Ben Purcell and Mike Glick, presented plans for a 5K run in honor of student Daniel Rigby who died in a basement fire on Prospect Street last fall. The Students of Georgetown Incorporated (The Corp) provided a grant for the project that will mark the beginning of a student organization devoted to student safety issues. Hopefully, DCRA and the DC Fire Department will be involved in publicity efforts the morning of the run, on April 24,

2005. Commissioner Clements moved (Solomon Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E supports the 5K run in memoriam of Daniel Rigby and its proposed course. In addition, we hope that the run raises awareness to the many safety concerns of renters in the area.

### ***ABC Matters***

At this time Commissioner Starrels, chair of the ABC committee, noted that the DC ABC Board had come down with a ruling on Smith Point of Wisconsin Avenue. The Board upheld the past ABC license, limiting capacity to 85 persons, as a part of the ANC 2E Voluntary Agreement with the establishment.

**3101 K Street, Mate (ABC No. 72014):** The concept for this new restaurant, at 3105 K Street, was presented by the owner and his attorney. The license would be a transfer from a previous license currently in safe keeping. The Latin themed restaurant would serve lunch and dinner. Occasionally, a Latin or Jazz combo would provide music with a “bip.” The owner stated that while there would not be a dance floor, he could not prevent patrons from standing up and dancing between tables if they so desired. The seating capacity would be 90-95 with a total occupancy of 166. Commissioner Starrels moved (Solomon Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 6-1 (Eason Opposing):

ANC 2E welcomes said establishment and we will not protest the license transfer as long as a voluntary agreement is put forward concerning occupancy and promoters.

**3206 N Street, Neyla (ABC No 21020):** The owner of Neyla presented plans for increased occupancy of twenty two seats, plus forty in a private room. The restaurant currently offers a curbside valet service. Some neighbors were concerned as to the amount of available parking in an area saturated with restaurants. Commissioner Starrels moved (Eason Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E protests the substantial change at this time, while we revise the Voluntary agreement.

### ***Zoning and Planning***

**3800 Reservoir Road, Georgetown University Hospital (05-020):** Regina Knox Woods and the architect for the CyberKnife project at Georgetown University Medical Center. The CyberKnife would be the second for the hospital which needs the facilities due to increased demand for the procedure which injects highly localized radiation into cancerous tumors. A 1000 foot exterior addition is needed to accommodate equipment and the new vault. The request is only for OGB concept and it was noted that the decision would not reflect in any way an opinion on the Georgetown University ten year plan or the BZA. Commissioner Eason moved (Clements Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no opposition to the CyberKnife project as presented, but we are not commenting on Zoning or the campus plan.

**1042 Wisconsin Avenue (05-053):** The owner of the Prince Café presented updated plans for outdoor seating and a sidewalk café. Commissioner Starrels moved for the following (Solomon Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 4-1 (Clements opposed):

ANC 2E endorses the concept of outside seating as long as it does not deviate from the plans as presented.

**1242 Potomac Avenue (05-095):** The owners and their architect presented plans for a two-story rear addition connecting the main structure to a 1930s era carriage house. The Citizens Association of Georgetown (CAG) opposed the special exceptions that change lot coverage. Neighbors Steve and Betsy Cooley and Gary Heurich opposed the project as it would restrict light on their properties. Mr. Heurich presented pictures of tarps hung in the place where new walls would exist after the addition. Commissioner Starrels moved (Clements Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E does not approve because of changes to lot coverage, light, and open spaces.

**3344 Prospect Street (05-112):** The proposed addition to the Rotsaert & Sirtaine would include a penthouse with a roof deck. The roof deck would be visible from 34<sup>th</sup> Street. Also, the architect stated that not all neighbors were informed of the proposed plans. Commissioner Starrels moved (Eason Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E cannot endorse the proposed roof deck as it would set a poor precedent for this block. Also, we were disappointed that not all the neighbors were notified.

**3345 Reservoir Road (05-073):** Noting that most of the changes were not substantial and that no neighbors were in attendance to oppose the project, Commissioner Lever moved (Starrels Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E supports the plans as presented.

**1611 Wisconsin Avenue (05-099):** Michael Foster of MTFA Architecture presented the plans for changes to the proposed site of Commerce Bank, formerly the Reed Electric Building. The new plans would pull the façade back from the street some, but it was noted that the steps to the building would still extend onto the sidewalk further than the other building on the block. It was also noted that the south side of the building would be constructed mainly of glass and metal. Commissioner Lever moved (Clements Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E endorses the use of setback of the project, but would recommend increasing the sidewalk depth and the use of more masonry.

**1667 34<sup>th</sup> Street (05-107):** With no opposition, this project was moved to the consent calendar.

**3138 P Street (05-106):** The proposed changes to the Mitchell residence would be alterations to the front façade and a rear addition. Neighbors on both sides of the property showed support for the project. Commissioner Moore moved (Lever Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E supports the proposed front facade and the rear addition as presented which reflects the wishes of the immediate neighbors with the understanding that the lot line on the east side of the property will be resolved.

**1237 Wisconsin Avenue (05-094):** The local architect presented changes proposed by Bergmeyer in Boston, the United States headquarters of Puma. The changes would involve changes to the storefront as well as five Puma signs. In addition, glass doors and new hardware would be installed. A halo lit sign would be used at the front of the entrance. A second entry door would be available to the left of the main entrance, providing direct access to the second floor of the store. Commissioner Moore moved (Lever Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E is supportive of new business coming to Georgetown but we do have concerns over two of the five signs presented: one is the proposed blade sign and the other is the signage over the single door.

***At 11:12 PM, with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Starrels moved (Lever second) to adjourn this public session of ANC 2E. The motion passed with a 7-0 vote.***

Submitted for the Approval of ANC 2E,

Brett F. Clements  
Secretary, ANC 2E