

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

April 4, 2011
Georgetown Visitation School, 35th and Volta Place, Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:39 p.m. by Commissioner Lewis, Chair, with Commissioners Solomon, Lewis, Jones, Sticka, Starrels, and Eason present, constituting a quorum. Commissioner Birch arrived at 7:01.

Administrative

Approval of April 4, 2011 Meeting Agenda

The agenda for the April 4 ANC 2E public meeting was approved on a motion by Commissioner Lewis (Commissioner Starrels seconded) by a vote of 6-0.

Approval of February 28, 2011 Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the meeting of ANC 2E held on February 28, 2011 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Lewis (Commissioner Solomon seconded) by a vote of 6-0.

Financial Report

Commissioner Solomon reported on ANC 2E's finances, noting that the Commissioner has been approved for its 3rd quarter allotment and that our financial documentation is in order.

Transportation Report

Commissioner Lewis reported on transportation matters in the community. Commissioner Lewis mentioned that DDOT's "Pothole-palooza" is underway and encouraged community members to report them in order to ensure that they are fixed. Commissioner Lewis also said that DDOT is looking into the addition of a Circulator stop on 35th Street, north of Whitehaven, as requested by a community member at ANC 2E's March meeting.

Commissioner Lewis also asked Georgetown University representative Linda Greenan about the valet parking issues discussed at the March meeting. Ms. Greenan said that the issues stemmed from a new contractor and that the contractor now understood the stipulation forbidding them from parking on residential streets near the university's campus.

Commissioner Solomon and Commissioner Jones spoke about the O and P Street trolley track project. Commissioner Solomon said that a major issue at the moment is determining the route of the G2 bus during construction. Commissioner Jones expressed concern that the size of the project is expanding in size as the contractor's work advances more quickly than utilities work, leading to a back-up. Commissioner Jones also said that cars without a Zone 2

sticker will not be allowed to park on one side of the street on some blocks in the construction area and that the project is currently on time for completion. Commissioner Solomon added that rat problems caused by the construction are being combated, that some trees may have to be removed in the process, and that residents can find out more information about the work at FixingOandPSt.com.

Public Safety and Police Report

Lt. Hedgecock spoke about public safety matters and recent crime in the community. Lt. Hedgecock said that violent crime is down in Georgetown, Burleith, and Hillandale while property crime has dramatically increased, as it has citywide. Lt. Hedgecock said he will reach out to the community to hold a meeting with the community to discuss the specifics concerning burglaries and thefts. He asked that the community communicate to MPD about anything they find suspicious, emphasizing that anonymity in such calls is possible. Commissioner Starrels asked Lt. Hedgecock about MPD resources near K Street and the Washington Harbor. Lt. Hedgecock said that there will be more resources used along those areas as the weather continues to get warmer.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Jones reported that enforcement on sanitation issues continues. Commissioner Jones said that the quarterly meeting for DPW is next month and he has inquired about trashcans but that DPW is out of them for at least the next month.

Community Comment

Commissioner Lewis informed the community that Zoning Commission's hearings on Georgetown University's Campus Plan were approaching on April 14th and that ANC 2E was prepared to testify at these hearings. Commissioner Lewis also alerted the community to the fact that the University had made recent amendments to their Campus Plan, with a commitment to add beds to campus made. None of the commissioners who voted in favor of ANC 2E's original resolution on GU's Campus Plan felt as though these concessions were sufficient to change their position.

The Georgetown BID's Marketing Director presented on the French Market Event set to take place April 29-30, 2011. Commissioner Lewis praised the event as a strong contribution to the Georgetown business community. The founder and Chair of the Georgetown Village then spoke to how the Village is part of a national movement for individuals to be able to live among their friends throughout their life and encouraged the community to seek out further information. Patrick Clawson then announced that the university and CAG had organized a community clean-up for 9am April 9th at Rose Park and Volta Park.

Commissioner Lewis spoke on the agreement discussions between the Old Georgetown Board and Washington Gas regarding the use of inside meters. Under the current agreement, Washington Gas does not have the authority to use outside meters in Georgetown exempt in a limited number of unusual cases. Commissioner Solomon says that Washington Gas was invited to the meeting of the O and P Street community relations team and that going forward

every attempt will be made to ensure the utilities better coordinate their work with each other and with the DDOT contractor's roadway construction.

Ann Goodman spoke about her issues with tree boxes around Georgetown, stating that most were not 18 inches back from the street. Commissioner Lewis asked that community members report these locations to ANC 2E. Jennifer Altemus of CAG said that CAG is fixing old ones and asked that community members notify her as needed. John Goodrich-Mahoney said that Washington Gas meters can be read electronically but they have not been honest about this fact.

Ruth Werner from Councilmember Evans' office notified the community that their local taxes did not need to be paid until April 18th because of Emancipation Day. She also said that the mayor will soon present his budget to the City Council. She then said that redistricting hearings will be held with Councilmembers Evans and Brown chairing, and Councilmember Mendelson serving on the committee as well. She said that the process will be two-step, with ward boundaries coming first, followed by ANC and SMD redistricting.

New Business

Washington Area Bicyclist Association Bike Event

A representative from Washington Area Bicyclist Association spoke about an upcoming bicyclist information event that his organization was holding. Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed 7-0:

ANC 2E is proud to support the WABABE being held near K Street and Water Street on April 23, 2011.

Friends of Rose Park

Commissioner Birch and members of the community spoke about the need for designating Friends of Rose Park as the official community representative to the National Parks Service. After discussion, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Jones seconded), which passed 7-0:

ANC 2E is proud to designate the Friends of Rose Park as the official community representative for Rose Park.

Concerts in the Parks

A representative from CAG spoke about the desire to have the ANC support the concerts in the park series that is now entering its ninth year. Commissioner Lewis made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed 7-0:

ANC 2E supports the summer concerts in the park series by the Citizens Association of Georgetown. These are popular community events and we recommend approval of permitting for them.

Georgetown University proposed early and late hours for summer construction at its Nevils building and proposed plan for construction traffic to use residential streets

Commissioner Lewis introduced Georgetown University's proposal for construction on their Nevils dormitory from May 15th through the end of August, with some exterior work extending into the fall. The University was seeking building permits that would allow early morning and late night construction, with 24-hour construction for the first several weeks and possibly beyond. Representing the university, Linda Greenan spoke about why the project was needed and why the timeframe was so short.

Several community members and Commissioners expressed concerns about the proposed hours of construction and the University's proposal to use the residential streets for construction traffic rather than routing that traffic through the University's campus. After considerable discussion about these issues, Commissioner Lewis made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed 7-0:

The proposed construction by Georgetown University on the Nevils student housing building over the summer could, unless managed carefully, be very disruptive to the adjacent residential community. ANC 2E looks forward to entering into a construction management agreement with the university similar to agreements entered into for other large projects in the community such as the Jelleff field reconstruction. The agreement would include such elements designed to protect the community as permissible work hours; construction traffic routing, which we anticipate would be through the university's campus and the Canal Road entrance, with minimal use of residential streets; construction noise; pedestrian safety and access to sidewalks; availability by cell phone of a construction manager; remote parking for workers and maximum use of remote or on-site, off-street placement of construction equipment; and cleanliness. ANC 2E designates commissioners Jones, Starrels and Sticka to negotiate and enter into such an agreement with Georgetown University, subject to later ratification by ANC 2E.

Zoning and Planning

1072 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW, BZA Application No. 18201

Representative spoke on the proposal for a variance that would allow for a four-story rear addition to an existing building for commercial and residential occupancy. In addition to the variance relief for the rear yard requirement, this project will require a variance from the open court requirements and a special exception to remove the three existing parking spaces on the property. Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Starrels seconded), which passed 7-0:

In view of the objective of the ANC to preserve the existing structure facing Thomas Jefferson Street, NW and improvements to the rear of the property, ANC 2E has no objection to the application for a rear yard variance, variance for the open court requirement and the special exemption regarding the removal of parking spaces at the rear of property.

2912 Dumbarton Street, NW, BZA Application No. 18211

Representative from the property spoke on their application for a special exception to allow a rear deck addition on an existing one-family row dwelling not meeting lot occupancy and nonconforming structure requirements. After discussion by Commissioners, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Solomon seconded) which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the request for a special exception for a rear deck exception at 2912 Dumbarton Street, NW in view of the minimal impact on neighboring properties.

3053 M Street, NW, BZA Application No. 18212

Representative from Colonial Parking spoke about the special exemption being sought for a renewal on a parking lot that has been a parking lot for the last 50 years, according to the representatives. They expect to ask the BZA remove the stipulation that the exemption be reviewed every 10 years. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Solomon seconded) which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E, recognizing the need for quality parking in Georgetown and the quality service of Colonial Parking, has no objection to the application for a 10-year special exception for continued use of this site as a parking lot.

Old Georgetown Board

Commissioner Lewis rescued 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.

Large-Scale and Public Projects:

1045 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 11-110 (HPA 11-170)

Representatives from the property spoke about modifications that have been made to the plan since the last month after consultation with ANC 2E and the Old Georgetown Board. Changes included a simplified massing and use of new materials. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E likes the evolution of the design from last month's meeting and likes the changes in massing and materials. We also like the cut-out and believe that the project has improved considerably since last month. ANC 2E appreciates the design of the project and has no objection to it.

3601-3607 M Street, NW, OG 11-109 (HPA 11-169)

Representatives from the property spoke about modifications that have been made to the plan since the last month after consultation with ANC 2E and the Old Georgetown Board. Among the changes made were the inclusion of additional brick and sandstone with balconies included with the sandstone. Other changes include an increase in the alley size between the building and its neighbor to the north and changes in rooftop pool location. ANC 2E took no action on the changes and instead referred to its resolution from last month.

Private Projects

With regard to 1640 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 11-143 (HPA 11-223)

A representative from the African Union Mission property spoke about proposed alterations, replacement doors, elevator overrun, and new signage. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Jones seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the proposed placement of the flagpole, doors, windows, and the ramp at the entrance as a part of this application. We object to placement and size of the proposed seal. We propose that a small and appropriate seal be added to the front of the building. Our opinion is strongly influenced by the high visibility of this building as the northern gateway to our community.

With regard to 1059 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW, OG 11-150 (HPA 11-229):

A representative from the property spoke on the proposed rear addition, underground addition, and in-fill dog leg. After discussion by Commissioners and members of the community, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has mixed feelings about the concept as presented. We have some concern about the effects that this extension and its relationship with the C & O Canal and those coming to the canal for the enjoyment of this historical place. We have received a letter of concern from the neighbor to the north but have not had an opportunity to clarify these objections. We appreciate the Old Georgetown Board using their expertise to shape the design of this building

With regard to 1071 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 11-061 (HPA (11 – 089)

Following no representative from the property appearing before ANC 2E, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E is disappointed that no representative from the property has taken the time to represent the project to ANC 2E. ANC 2E would greatly appreciate the Old Georgetown Board using its expertise to ensure that the property's signage conforms to the historical standards of the neighborhood.

With regard to 2723 Q Street, NW, OG 11-130 (HPA 11-205):

Representatives from the property spoke on their proposal for a new front porch, new window at the side, and alternations to the garage. After discussion by Commissioners, Commissioner Eason proposed the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the concept as proposed with the understanding that the owner will consult with their neighbors.

With regard to 1725 34th Street, NW, OG 11-127 (HPA 11-200)

Representatives from the property spoke on their proposal for a two-story rear addition. After discussion by the representative and Commissioners, Commissioner Solomon proposed the following motion (Commissioner Starrels seconded), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the project as presented and has no objection to the project as proposed.

At 9:47 p.m., with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Lewis moved (Commissioner Birch seconded) to adjourn this public session of ANC 2E. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted for the approval of ANC 2E,

Jake Sticka
Secretary, ANC 2E