

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

November 1, 2011
Georgetown Visitation School, 35th and Volta Place, Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Commissioner Lewis, Chair, with Commissioners Solomon, Lewis, Starrels, Jones, Sticka, Birch, and Eason present, constituting a quorum.

Administrative

Approval of November 1 Agenda

The agenda for the November 1, 2011 ANC 2E public meeting was approved on a motion by Commissioner Lewis (Commissioner Birch seconded) by a vote of 7-0.

Approval of Oct 3 Minutes

Approval of the October 3 minutes was deferred until the next public meeting at the suggestion of Commissioner Lewis.

Public Safety and Police Report

Commissioner Solomon introduced Metropolitan Police Department Captain Jeffrey Herold and Lieutenant John Hedgecock who together offered a public safety report. Captain Herold updated the community on several incidents that occurred in the community on Halloween. Among these incidents was a shooting on M Street. Captain Herold reported that every incident that occurred has since resulted in an arrest. Three weapons were also recovered on the evening. Captain Herold then answered several questions from Commissioner Birch about the shooting and about why Halloween is generally disruptive in Georgetown.

Lt. Hedgecock reported that in the last month, excluding Halloween, street robberies have been down. Lt. Hedgecock also said that residential burglaries continue to be an issue. Lt. Hedgecock reminded the community and Georgetown University students to lock their doors to prevent burglaries. Commissioners Solomon and Birch raised concerns about traffic enforcement issues on Wisconsin Ave. and in residential areas.

Financial Report

Commissioner Solomon offered a financial report, reporting that the ANC 2E finances remain secure.

Commissioner Lewis moved to adopt the FY2012 Budget (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0.

Transportation Report

Commissioner Starrels reported that District Department of Transportation has completed a project to make Thomas Jefferson Street two-way north of K Street.

Commissioner Solomon reported that citywide there have been problems with cooper being stolen from construction sites. Commissioner Solomon encouraged residents to report these issues if they see them, especially around the O & P Street rehabilitation zone.

Commissioner Solomon also reported that the O & P Streets rehabilitation project remains on time and on budget. He said that he was optimistic that parking issues would be resolved by Christmastime. Commissioner Solomon also reported that during Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years construction will be postponed.

Public Works

Commissioner Jones reported that the Department of Public Works is planning to reinstate sweep inspectors. Commissioner Jones said that major problems remain with individuals not following the trash rules. Finally, Commissioner Jones said that DPW is working with the Office of Planning and the Department of Environment for the Mayor's Sustainable DC initiative. Part of the DPW effort is to improve Washington DC's recycling rate and the fuel efficiency of vehicles in the city's fleet.

Community Comment

Vince Cohen, the Principal Assistant United States Attorney for the District of Columbia spoke, about the type of work that the US Attorney's Office does in Washington DC. He spoke about the rationale behind instituting the Community Prosecutor system in DC and introduced Trena Carrington, the Second District Community Prosecutor. Ms. Carrington introduced herself and spoke about the initiatives that her office has been working on in the community.

United States Attorney for the District of Columbia Ronald Machen then spoke about his belief in the importance of community involvement in cases before the US Attorney. Commissioner Solomon asked Mr. Machen about the process that goes into resolving burglaries cases.

Commissioner Lewis opened community comment by a follow-up on last month's visit from Mayor Gray. Since that meeting, Mayor Gray has, at the prompting of a representative from the Friends of Volta Park present at the last meeting, committed to working with the Friends of Volta Park to fund the resurfacing of the tot lot area of the park.

Commissioner Lewis also discussed the sale of West Power Plant at K Street and 29th Street to GSA. According to Commissioner Starrels, GSA has yet to decide on what process will be used to move the property from their possession. Commissioner Starrels said that a number of options are possible for the property. Commissioner Lewis said that GSA will likely be presenting at a future meeting about this project.

Commissioner Eason spoke about community interest in the possible expansion of the 7-Eleven on P Street. A representative from 7-Eleven spoke about their current plan to add an additional entrance to the store. Residents from the surrounding area voiced their strong opposition to this addition. Commissioner Eason concluded the discussion by encouraging both sides to continue having a dialogue on the issue.

New Business

Lawyers Have Heart 10K, American Heart Association

A representative from the Lawyers Have Heart 10K spoke about the walk they are proposing for June 9, 2012. Commissioner Lewis prompted the representative to clarify that the proposed times and road closures are the same that they have been in the past. Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E endorses the American Heart Association's Lawyers Have Heart 10K Run and Fun Walk to be held on June 9, 2012. We would appreciate the race planners considering not having music at the start of the race.

Circulator stop changes around M Street and Wisconsin Ave.

Commissioner Starrels reported that he and Councilmember Evans had received several constituent emails about the cancellation of certain Circulator stops. A community member spoke on behalf of a number of neighbors on the negative impacts that these changes have had on the residents of Cecil Place and the Paper Mill residences.

After discussion with residents, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Lewis seconded), which passed 7-0:

ANC 2E requests that the Circulator stop on M Street, NW located mid-block between Wisconsin Ave, NW and 31st Street, NW on the eastbound route be reinstated. ANC 2E also requests that the stops on P Street, NW for the northbound and southbound buses be reinstated. We appreciate the Circulator service and how popular it is for the residents of ANC 2E. We thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Proposed legislation providing for periodic notification to property owners in historic districts

Commissioner Birch and Ruth Werner from Councilmember Jack Evans' office spoke about legislation that the City Council is currently considering. If the legislation is enacted, the city will send residents a periodic notification that they live in a historic district.

Zoning

1045 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Application No. 18285

A representative from the property spoke about their application for variance from the requirements of addition to a non-conforming structure, building height, floor area ratio, lot occupancy, and rear yard set back.

After discussion, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed 7-0:

Given the careful review this Commission has given to the design of this project and the interest that the community has in gaining useful and attractive development at this unusual location, along with the unique constraints of this site given the existing and continuing use of the site, ANC 2E has no objection to application for variance from the requirements of addition to non-conforming structure, building height, floor area ratio, lot occupancy, and rear yard set back.

3127 P Street, NW, BZA Application No. 18288

A representative from the property spoke about their application for a special exception to allow an addition to an existing one-family semi-detached dwelling not meeting the lot dimensions, lot occupancy, side yard, and non-conforming structure requirements.

After discussion, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed 7-0:

In view of the constraints of this project's site as a semi-detached dwelling at the end of a row and the reviews conducted by ANC 2E at previous meetings arriving at a design with little to no adverse impact on views and in view of the support of the neighbor to the west that could have their view impacted, ANC 2E has no objection to Application No. 18288 at 3127 P Street, NW for a special exception regarding issues of lot coverage and non-conforming side yard.

ABC

3236 Prospect Street, NW, License No ABRA-087240

A representative from the property spoke about their application for a liquor license.

After discussion, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed 7-0:

ANC 2E protests the proposed license 3236 Prospect Street, NW, License No ABRA-087240. We are protesting due to concern over peace, order, and quiet. We are concerned with the hours, the noise, and the summer garden.

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.

Regular Calendar

Large-Scale and Public Projects

With regard to 1215 31st Street, NW, OG 11-022 (HPA 12-022):

A representative from the project proposed at the Georgetown Post Office site spoke about recent changes made to the plan. Due to historical preservation concerns, the developer is now proposing a basement office building under existing structures.

After discussion between Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Birch proposed the following motion (Commissioner Jones seconded), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the design proposed at the Old Georgetown Post Office at 31st Street, NW.

With regard to 1623 28th Street, NW, OG 12-005 (HPA 12-005):

A representative from the project spoke about their plans to add a new garage structure to the Evermay site.

After discussion between Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Birch proposed the following motion (Commissioner Jones seconded), which passed 7-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the concept of a garage structure at 1628 28th Street, NW as proposed.

Private Projects

With regard to 3249 M Street, NW, OG 11-251 (HPA 11-431):

A representative from the property spoke about their proposal to restore the property's façade and add a 2-story rear addition with basement. The representative spoke about the changes made to the proposal since ANC 2E last reviewed this project.

After discussion by neighbors and the representative, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the evolution of this project. The restoration of the façade and the treatment of the entrance and cornice are important features to the project. We would like the Old Georgetown Board to pay attention to the design elements and materials to be used for that area of the restoration. ANC 2E does not have any strong objections to the addition but we do question the proposed addition of a sliding gate. ANC 2E appreciates the Old Georgetown Board paying attention to the historical significance of this building on M Street.

With regard to 3423 M Street, NW, OG 12-008 (HPA 12-008):

A representative from the property spoke about their proposed signage. After discussion by Commissioners, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the presentation and has no objection to the signage as presented.

With regard to 3009 Dumbarton Street, NW OG 12-011 (HPA 12-011):

A representative from the property spoke about the alterations to the proposal of a 1-story rear addition.

After discussion by Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Sticka seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the plans as presented at 3009 Dumbarton Street, NW.

With regard to 3052 R Street, NW OG 12-021 (HPA 12-021):

A representative from the property spoke about the proposed replacement windows, roof, landscaping, and alley widening.

After discussion by Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Eason made the following motion (Commissioner Sticka seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the plans as presented at 3052 R Street, NW.

At 10:00 p.m., with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Birch moved (Commissioner Starrels 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