

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

April 3, 2007  
Georgetown Visitation School, 35<sup>th</sup> and Volta Place, Heritage Room

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

### **POLICE REPORT**

Lieutenant Lucas presented the police report for March 2007, comparing statistics on various categories of crimes with year-ago statistics. These statistics are available at <http://crimemap.dc.gov/presentation/query.asp> Lt. Lucas also reported on a pilot program for electronic real-time alerts about crimes in progress for Georgetown businesses; thefts of packages from doorsteps; and police protection during the NCAA Final Four weekend.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

#### ***Approval of Minutes***

The minutes for the meeting of ANC 2E held on February 27, 2007 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Eason (Birch second) by a vote of 4-0.

#### ***Treasurer's Report***

Commissioner Eason, Treasurer of ANC 2E, reported that ANC 2E had received a quarterly financial allotment from the D.C. government and reported that he is assembling information to complete the reconciliation of finances for earlier periods in response to an auditor's letter.

#### ***Application Process for ANC community grants***

Commissioners Solomon, Birch and Eason described the availability of ANC community grants for nonprofit organizations and announced that the application deadline is May 4 for grants to be considered at the June 5 ANC meeting. Grant guidelines are available on the ANC 2E web site, <http://anc2e.com>

### **COMMUNITY COMMENT**

**Georgetown Spring Cleanup.** Brenda Moorman, vice president of the Citizens Association of Georgetown and chair of CAG's beautification committee, announced that Spring Cleanup would be held April 14 from 9:00 a.m. to noon, assembling at Volta Park. The event is sponsored by CAG and Georgetown University. Ms. Moorman also announced plans by CAG to pick up residents' hazardous waste at curbside on April 21 for delivery to the D.C. government's drop-off site at 16<sup>th</sup> and Kennedy Streets N.W.

**New Circulator Bus Routes in Georgetown.** Juanita Crabb, Executive Director of the Georgetown Business Improvement District, announced that the District’s “Circulator” busses would begin serving Wisconsin Avenue up to the Safeway, as well as M Street, replacing the BID’s “blue busses” on that route. The blue busses will continue to operate between Rosslyn and Dupont Circle. Ms. Crabb and a representative of the Circulator operations described the new Circulator route and the schedule calling for service every seven to ten minutes.

Commissioner Skelsey joined the meeting at this point.

**Filming in West Georgetown on Easter Sunday.** A production company for a Disney film proposed to film on 34<sup>th</sup> Street, 35<sup>th</sup> Street, and several cross streets from 2:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Easter Sunday, April 8. The D.C. government was proposing to accommodate this by posting no-parking signs on seven streets in the area. Commissioners, residents and Holy Trinity Church representatives criticized the proposal for the disruption it would cause and for the lack of consultation with the community.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***ABC Matters***

#### **Georgetown Wine and Spirits**

Commissioners Eason and Birch reported that ANC 2E has filed a protest in accordance with the resolution adopted at the ANC’s meeting on February 27 and that the protest is pending.

#### **Morton’s of Chicago**

A proposal was presented by Morton’s of Chicago, 3251 Prospect Street, for a “summer garden” consisting of some 34 seats on private property, operating from 5:30 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. During discussion by Commissioners and community members, concerns were raised about additional seats in this area of Georgetown. After discussion, Commissioner Solomon moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E **protests** Morton’s of Chicago’s request of the ABC Board for a substantial change in their license with the addition of thirty-four seats on the basis of the adverse affect on peace, order and quiet and concerns for vehicular and pedestrian safety in this already highly congested area of Georgetown.

### ***Special Items***

#### **Request to endorse Volta Park Day scheduled for June 10, 2007**

Commissioner Lewis reported that the Friends of Volta Park had requested that ANC 2E support holding Volta Park Day in Volta Park on June 10, 2007, from noon to 4:00 p.m. After discussion, Commissioner Lewis moved (Eason second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E endorses the request for Volta Park Day to be held on Sunday, June 10, 2007 from noon to 4:00 p.m. in Volta Park. This annual event has always been a great success and enjoyed by all who come, and we enthusiastically support scheduling it for June 10 this year.

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

**1645 31<sup>st</sup> Street (OGB 06-214):** Revised plans were presented for the property. The applicant's representative stated that earlier plans, which requested review of an addition to the existing house and also a proposed new house, were now being split, so that only the addition to the existing house would be shown at this time. During discussion, concerns were raised about the appropriateness of splitting the request and were again raised about design and subdivision aspects of the proposal. After discussion by the Commissioners and community members, two resolutions were proposed. Commissioner Eason moved (Skelsey second) to adopt the following resolution directed to the Old Georgetown Board, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E continues to have serious concerns about the massing of the addition to the existing house and the relation of the proposal for the existing house to the entire historic property. We are concerned that the Old Georgetown Board is now being asked by the applicant to proceed on the basis of inadequate information. The applicant has chosen not to provide information at this time about the proposed second house on the property – while at the same time confirming that a second house will soon be re-proposed – but nevertheless is asking for approval now not only of changes to the existing house, out of its broader context, but also of proposed modifications to the garages intended for use in connection with the second, as-yet-undescribed house. Since this puts the community and the Old Georgetown Board at an unnecessary disadvantage in assessing the contextual impact of the proposal, we urge that the Old Georgetown Board consider deferring further consideration until all relevant information is made available by the applicant.

Because the applicant's representative would not commit to appearing at an ANC meeting before submitting any subdivision proposal to the Historic Preservation Review Board or the zoning authorities, Commissioner Eason moved (Skelsey second) to adopt the following resolution as a protective matter, directed to the Historic Preservation Review Board and the zoning authorities as need be, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E objects to a proposed subdivision of the subject property because the ANC believes a second house on the site is inappropriate and out of keeping with the character of this important historic property and because such a subdivision would involve a pipe-stem lot, an alley dwelling, or both.

**3259 P Street (OGB 07-087):** Plans were presented for extending an existing basement under the rear garden of the property and for work on a garage. During discussion, concerns were expressed about the scale of the project and its effect on neighboring properties as well as about design features of the garage. After discussion by the

Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Skelsey moved (Solomon second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E is very concerned about the dramatic scale of this proposal and the potential impact on adjacent properties, including concern about the effect of this structure and its foundations on the adjacent structures and trees and the apparent high water table on this block. We are concerned as well about the design of the proposed garage, particularly the commercial nature of the proposed fenestration. We encourage the Old Georgetown Board to examine this proposal very closely.

**3306 M Street, Ligne Roset (OGB 07-104):** After discussion, no resolution was put forward and so ANC 2E took no position on the proposal.

**1310 Wisconsin Avenue, Hotel Ralph Pucci (OGB 07-097):** Plans were presented for renovations to this property, currently the Georgetown Inn. After discussion by the Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Skelsey moved (Birch second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E has several concerns about the proposals for 1310 Wisconsin Avenue as follows:

- The visibility and appearance of the proposed roof top mechanical equipment and we request that the visibility of that proposed structure be demonstrated to the Commission and that our concerns for its presence there be addressed.
- The lack of sensitivity of the proposed sleek, granite and plate glass façade at the sidewalk level.
- The proposal to paint the Wisconsin Avenue façade in recognition of the general desire to keep unpainted brick buildings unpainted.

We very much appreciate the proposal for the N Street garage façade as an improvement to the streetscape.

**1235 34<sup>th</sup> Street (OGB 07-085):** Plans were presented for a new basement entrance, new windows and excavation on this property. After discussion by the Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Skelsey moved (Solomon second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E is concerned about the lack of consultation to date with all of the adjacent neighbors before moving forward on this project. We are concerned as well that an exterior basement-level entrance and windows would not be in keeping with the scale and appearance of this property and concerned that a precedent not be set that could encourage a proliferation of such basement entrances where none were originally.

**3245 P Street (OGB 07-086):** Plans were presented for replacing windows and a door. After discussion by the Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Skelsey moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E requests that the Old Georgetown Board look closely at the proposed windows and doors for 3245 P Street as the information provided was inadequate for an evaluation of the appropriateness for historic Georgetown.

**1681 32<sup>nd</sup> Street (OGB 07-095):** The applicant for this proposal to replace a retaining wall did not appear at the ANC meeting or submit any requested documents. After discussion, Commissioner Eason moved (Solomon second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

Since the applicant did not appear at the ANC meeting nor submit any requested documents for a retaining wall at 1681 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, ANC 2E cannot support the project.

**3251 Prospect Street, Bangkok Bistro (OBG 07-106):** Plans were submitted to enclose an arcade on private property. Questions arose relating to ABC issues, particularly whether an increase in seating is being sought. These questions were not resolved during the meeting and remain open. On design review, after discussion, Commissioner Skelsey moved (Eason second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

With respect to the Old Georgetown Board, ANC 2E takes no position on the proposed arcade enclosure at the Bangkok Bistro restaurant.

**Consent Calendar:** Commissioner Eason moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

The following items are considered to be on ANC 2E's Consent Calendar and will be sent to the Old Georgetown Board and other agencies without objection:

OGB 07-091, 1242 Wisconsin Avenue

OGB 07-109, 1665 34<sup>th</sup> Street

OGB 07-099, 3040 Dent Place

*At 9:57 p.m., with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Solomon moved (Lewis second) to adjourn this public session of ANC 2E. The motion passed unanimously.*

Submitted for the approval of ANC 2E,

Ron Lewis  
Secretary, ANC 2E