

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

December 2, 2013
Georgetown Visitation School, 35th and Volta Place, Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Commissioner Lewis, Chair, with Commissioners Starrels, Solomon, Lewis, Birch, Jones, and Cassey present, constituting a quorum.

Administrative

Approval of December 2, 2013, ANC 2E Public Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Solomon moved to approve the agenda of the December 2, 2013, ANC 2E public meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Approval of November 4, 2013, Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the minutes of the November 4, 2013, ANC 2E public meeting. Commissioner Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Public Safety Report

Lieutenant Hedgecock of the Metropolitan Police Department reported on public safety matters in the neighborhood. He began with a discussion of 2 street robberies in the east end of Georgetown. He also addressed traffic concerns, i.e. speeding on Reservoir Road and stop sign violations. There will be additional police presence during the holiday season. Police Academy recruits, wearing tan uniforms and neon vests, and some wearing full uniforms close to graduation will supplement the usual foot patrols.

Financial Report

Commissioner Jones commented that ANC 2E is on budget and bank accounts are healthy.

Department of Public Works Report

Commissioner Jones discussed leaf pick-up which is in its 2nd phase. He also discussed preparations for winter, which may include a neighborhood snow shoveling team. Take note of any neighbors who might need help. Homeowners are responsible for shoveling sidewalks 24 hours after snowfall.

DC DPW will provide new trash super-cans and recycling bins in Georgetown. Homeowners will receive a sticker to place on old trash cans and recycling bins, which DC DPW will pick up.

New ANC 2E Public Meeting Date

Commissioner Lewis made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Because of the upcoming holidays and an unusually early meeting date of January 2nd scheduled for the Old Georgetown Board, ANC 2E will hold its next public meeting on Thursday, December 19th at 6:30 p.m. instead of the previously scheduled Monday, December 30th.

Community Comment

Ruth Werner from Jack Evans office discussed that Councilmember Evans does not support the rooftop performance space or deck at the Duke Ellington modernization project.

Commissioner Lewis announced that Ellen Steury will be the new Commissioner for SMD 07.

Haseem Dawkins of DC Sustainable Energy discussed that DC SEU could provide information about how businesses and residents at all income levels can access new energy technology and cheaper rates. DC SEU is supported by our utility dollars and can help residents get reimbursement for energy efficient installation and rebates on energy efficient appliances. Go to DC SEU.com

Lauralynn Lee, Associate VP for Community Engagement and Strategic Initiatives at Georgetown University commented that the Georgetown University Campus Plan was an active and robust partnership with community and that the first year of the Plan has been spent putting in place initiatives intended to produce significant progress in the years to come. GU has plans under way to provide additional on-campus undergraduate housing, has moved 65 students off Magis Row, and has relocated 1000 graduate students to a new GU downtown location. The GU Office of Neighborhood Life has been restructured. GU is supporting student social life on campus with New South Student Center, 24 hour food service, shuttle service, bike shares and zip cars. Contact Cory Peterson, Director of Office of Neighborhood Life, at Neighborhood@georgetown.edu at 36th and N Streets, NW, 202-687-5138 about concerns or for further information. The first annual Campus Plan report is available on line at the Zoning Commission and the Georgetown University website.

Joe Sternlieb, CEO of the Georgetown BID discussed Georgetown 2028, what Georgetown would be like in 15 years, how to create a stronger commercial district without adversely impacting residents, transportation, physical improvements and economy.

New Business

Resolution for the WMATA Board re a Metro stop in Georgetown

Commissioner Lewis made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Starrels. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E, serving Georgetown and Burleith, joins the Georgetown Business Improvement District, the Georgetown Citizens Association, and Georgetown University in expressing strong support for the construction of a Georgetown Metro station as part of the WMATA Momentum Plan.

A Metro station in Georgetown will provide better transportation service not only for the residential, business and university communities in Georgetown and Burleith but will enhance the regional Metro network as well, by greatly improving transportation options for the millions of visitors who come to the Georgetown Historic District each year.

ANC 2E representatives have worked with the Georgetown Business Improvement District's 15-year planning effort, Georgetown 2028. A Georgetown Metro station has emerged as the top transportation priority of this planning effort, with the goal of operating Metro service in Georgetown by the end of the Georgetown 2028 planning period.

We strongly encourage the WMATA Board to plan for and approve the construction of a Georgetown Metro station in the immediate future.

Breakfast with Santa event at Volta Park December 8th

Commissioner Lewis made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Solomon. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

ANC 2E supports the Breakfast with Santa planned by the Friends of Volta Park for December 8, 2013.

Wisconsin Avenue lane configuration north of 34th Street, NW

Commissioner Solomon made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Starrels. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

ANC 2E agrees with the ANC 3B commissioners for Glover Park who now are supporting a return to a six-lane configuration of Wisconsin Avenue between 34th Street NW and Calvert Street NW.

As many residents and businesses in our community as well as in Glover Park have noted, the removal of traffic lanes has caused both disruptive congestion on Wisconsin Avenue and cut-through traffic on residential streets. The experiment has simply not worked as intended. The original six-lane configuration now should be restored.

We would also support appropriate measures to enhance pedestrian safety on Wisconsin Avenue, such as considering speed cameras, crosswalk delineation by color or material that differs from the ordinary roadway paving, and signalization of the intersection of 35th Street NW and Wisconsin Avenue, with two-way traffic on 35th Street NW between Whitehaven Parkway NW and Wisconsin Avenue. We trust that DDOT will confer and consult with all of the affected communities when considering and before implementing such safety measures.

Old Georgetown Board

Regular Calendar

MAJOR PROJECTS

SMD 03, 1351 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 14-007 (HPA 14-011) (former Georgetown Theater) Commercial, Demolition, roof top addition, rear addition, alterations, Concept – revised design

Commissioner Jones made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Cassey. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

ANC2E continues to have concerns about this proposal due to the additions creating a large footprint, excessive scale and length and the reduction of open space. ANC2E does not oppose the 2nd floor addition on the current commercial building.

SMD 05, 1230 29th Street, NW, 3111 K Street, NW, 1000 Potomac Street, NW, New concrete covers on public space for expanded vaults for Comcast, Public space permit

Commissioner Starrels made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

ANC2E appreciates the plans as pres by Comcast for this project. With expectations of work as presented, with expectations of the work hours as presented and with expectations of proper people onsite with main contact via cell phone as described, ANC2E does not object to Comcast's plans.

Additionally, Comcast must be aware of endangerment to a tree at the 1200 block of 29th Street, NW, and should request an arborist from DDOT to advise.

PRIVATE PROJECTS

SMD 05, 1071 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW, OG 14-038 (HPA 14-061) Mixed-use, 3-story rear addition with basement – options, Concept

Commissioner Starrels made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Solomon. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

After careful consideration of both options, A and B, ANC2E finds that Option B is preferable to Option A. We believe Option B is the better of the two because of less massing compared to the other option, which is reflected in the use of the brick and the benefits of stepping back as the addition goes up.

ANC2E would like OGB to consider the windows used in the proposed additions. ANC2E would suggest that windows more closely replicate the traditional windows used on the neighboring properties to the south and to the north, as they would be more appropriate than the large windows as proposed. We want the design of the façade including the windows to blend in better with the neighboring properties.

It is desirable that the ground floor window treatment is being changed. It is important that the glass on the ground level in the rear does stand out from the design of the neighboring properties. We would like OGB to pay attention to this design element.

We hope the metal railings be tasteful and not too heavy or “cage-like”. (We do not want the “cage-like” appearance of the building to the south).

The proposed addition should not be visible from Thomas Jefferson Street, NW.

SMD 06, 2709-2713 N Street NW, OG 14-047 (HPA 14-071) Alexander Memorial Baptist Church, Residential, Additions, alterations, site work, curb-cut, Concept

Commissioner Birch made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Starrels. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

ANC 2E welcomes the proposal to convert the property to a single family residence. We recognize significant neighborhood support for the plan, including the proposed curb cut on the north side of N Street to accommodate a garage under the property.

We are supportive of the plan to restore the design of the southern façade of the historic Asaph Hall residence and we have no objection to infill and addition to the Hall residence as proposed on the north facade.

Our concerns, which are not considerable, address the historic significance of the property and the impact of the proposed plans on the immediate neighbors and the character of the neighborhood.

We urge the minimum amount of loss to historic fabric in the plans, and

maintaining a sense of open space on the street front to the extent possible.

We are concerned about the extent of an addition to the height of the structure and the negative impact that might have on the light available to the abutting and adjacent neighbors to the east.

We are attentive to minimizing fenestration along the eastern façade of the church building in order to preserve the zone of privacy enjoyed by the neighbors.

We seek to retain access to the alleyway passage between the church structure and the house to the east to provide the use enjoyed by successive property owners for the past decades.

At 9:22 p.m., with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Lewis moved to adjourn the public meeting session of ANC 2E. Commissioner Cassey seconded the motion. With a vote of 6-0, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Gisler
for
Peter Prindiville
Secretary, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E