

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

February 28, 2011  
Georgetown Visitation School, 35<sup>th</sup> and Volta Place, Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:17 p.m. by Commissioner Lewis, Chair, with Commissioners Solomon, Lewis, Jones, Sticka, Starrels, Birch and Eason present, constituting a quorum. Eason arrived at 6:23.

**Administrative**

***Approval of February 28 Agenda***

The agenda for the February 28 ANC 2E public meeting was approved on a motion by Commissioner Lewis (Commissioner Solomon seconded) by a vote of 7-0.

***Approval of January 3 and February 2 Meeting Minutes***

The minutes for the meeting of ANC 2E held on January 3, 2011 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Lewis (Commissioner Solomon seconded) by a vote of 7-0.

The minutes for the meeting of ANC 2E held on February 2, 2011 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Lewis (Commissioner Solomon seconded) by a vote of 7-0.

***Public Safety and Police Report***

Commander Michael Reese of Metropolitan Police Department, District 2, reported on public safety matters in the community. Commander Reese, who was recently appointed to command MPD's Second District, introduced himself to the community, speaking about his background in MPD and his excitement about working in our area. Commander Reese spoke about recent incidents, including underage drinking at night clubs. He characterized these night clubs as particularly problematic recently. He also spoke about a recent burglary in the neighborhood and advised the community to be careful about leaving valuable packages on their doorstep.

Commander Reese went on to take questions from Commissioners and neighbors. Reese said that the recently passed noise ordinance would be applied as reasonably as possible, noting that the law had room for some flexibility built into it. He also warned the community about further acts of vandalism including a recent incident involving the burning of signage objecting to Georgetown University's campus plan in a neighbor's yard. He also discussed a fatality that had occurred the morning before on the Key Bridge.

***Councilmember Jack Evans***

Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans discussed a number of issues facing the community and the District of Columbia. He began by speaking about the ground-breaking for the long-awaited project to rehabilitate O and P Streets from Wisconsin Avenue to 37<sup>th</sup> Street, including restoration of the trolley tracks and cobblestones on the blocks nearest Wisconsin Avenue. He then described the budget problems that the city is facing, saying that while the city is in better financial condition than many states and cities, the budget is still very tight due to revenue declines and a failure in past years to limit expenditures sufficiently.

CM Evans went on to solicit community input on the possibility of Patrick Pope returning as principal of the Hardy Middle School. A discussion with Commissioners and community members followed about this issue.

Commissioner Lewis noted Councilmember Evans' strong opposition to Georgetown University's proposed 2010-2020 campus plan and thanked CM Evans for supporting the community on this. CM Evans closed his appearance by engaging in dialogue on several constituent service issues.

### ***By-law amendment (officers)***

Commissioner Lewis proposed an amendment to the by-laws to automatically designate each serving ANC 2E Commissioners who formerly served as Chair of ANC2E Chairs as a Vice Chair of ANC 2E, noting that this would immediately apply to Commissioners Solomon and Birch. The proposed amendment, as required by the bylaws, had been presented to Commissioners for consideration at least two weeks before the date of this meeting. The amendment, seconded by Commissioner Starrels, passed by a vote of 7-0.

### ***Commendation***

Commissioner Jones moved to offer the following community commendation for outgoing Commissioner Bill Skelsky, which was seconded by Commissioner Lewis and passed by a vote of 7-0:

*[Jake – please get the text of the resolution from Jeff if you don't have it and insert it here]*

### ***Transportation Report***

Commissioner Solomon spoke about the O and P Street trolley track project. Commissioner Jones objected to Georgetown University's use of valet parking near the university's front gates that parked cars in Zone 2 Residential Permit Parking spaces, contrary to DDOT rules, and then moved them around to avoid the two-hour restriction. He urged Georgetown University's representative at the meeting, Linda Greenan, to see that this practice did not continue.

### ***Public Works***

Commissioner Jones reported on public works issues. He had several announcements regarding collection and recycling (DC will no longer provide trashcans and recycling bins)

and sanitation enforcement (inspectors will now be actively looking for violations, which include trash outside of bins, lack of bin lids, and lack of plastic bag use).

### **Community Comment**

Community members spoke on a number of issues. A neighbor expressed concern that ~~block~~ there were continuing trash problems in the area near the intersection of 35<sup>th</sup> and O Streets. Another neighbor lodged a trash complaint against Los Cuates. Commissioners Lewis and Jones suggested that the neighbor contact the BID to help address the problem at Los Cuates. Neighbors also were disturbed by the construction surrounding the new Crate & Barrel. They said they had received proper notification of the design of this project. Another neighbor expressed the hope that the Circulator bus could allow passengers to board while the bus is stopped on 35<sup>th</sup> street north of Whitehaven.

### **New Business**

#### ***GU Campus Plan Vote***

Following discussion earlier in the evening of the Georgetown University proposed 2010-2020 campus plan in a meeting of ANC 2E's Committee of the Whole, Commissioner Lewis moved to adopt the Committee of the Whole's findings and recommendations as the findings and recommendations of ANC 2E (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-1 (Commissioner Sticka voting against). The findings and recommendations as adopted are attached to these minutes.

#### ***Circulator Funding***

Commissioners Starrels noted the possibility that a committee of the D.C. Council might propose no Circulator funding for 2012 fiscal year and noted the benefits of the service provided by the Circulator. After discussion, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0:

The Circulator bus has been very important since its inception for the constituents of ANC2E who live and work in Georgetown and Burleith as well as the residents of the District of Columbia as a whole. The ridership numbers have far exceeded projections every month and year of its service. The ridership continues to grow. The Circulator Bus is important to residents, businesses, employees and tourists. ANC2E encourages Chairman Tommy Wells and the Council as a whole to fund the Circulator Bus for 2012.

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

##### **3053 R Street NW, Hurt House, Z.C. Case No. 10-27**

The design aspects of this project had been approved at an earlier ANC 2E meeting, so the project's representatives spoke briefly about the zoning aspects. Commissioner

Eason made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E resolves that they have no objection to the proposed relief for Z.C. Case No. 10-27 as it relates to 3053, R Street NEW

### **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**

##### **1215 31<sup>st</sup> Street NW, OG 11-043 (HPA 11-063), Georgetown Post Office, Concept:**

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

ANC 2E has, in our past review of this project, had no objection to an addition to the rear of the Old Post Office Building. We appreciate the shifting of the proposed new structure to the south and the location of the building's entrance within the center of the property to minimize the impact that it will have on the neighbors. At the same time, we encourage the Old Georgetown Board to recognize the extent to which the glass façade remains on the north side of the proposed structure and encourage the Old Georgetown Board to carefully consider this façade for the sake of the privacy enjoyment of the neighbors who live next to this building and for those who will work within it.

#### **Private Projects**

##### **With regard to 3333 Q Street, NW, OG 11-122 (HPA 11-182):**

Representatives from the property spoke about a three-story rear addition with basement garage, roof decks, and window replacements. The proposal also involves the combination of two lots into one lot via a connection bridge between the two of them, making the resulting homes semi-dethatched. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Solomon made the following motion (Commissioner Jones seconded) which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has serious objections to the size and scope of the proposed project. We have concerns that it does not conform to the historical character of the neighborhood.

We are also concerned that the affected neighbors have not had adequate opportunity to review the scope of the plans.

**With regard to 1290 K Street, NW, OG 11-104 (HPA 11-104):**

The project's representative spoke on an update to an existing sign. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded) which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the signage as proposed.

**With regard to 3000-3050 K Street, NW, OG 11-125 (HPA 11-185):**

Representatives spoke on proposed changes to the Washington Harbor, with proposed alternations to storefronts, planters, light fixtures, and fountain being a part of the package. Commissioner Starrels asked the representatives about if attempts had been made to contact neighboring properties. The representatives agreed that the condominium association leader needed to be contacted and agreed to do so. After discussion by Commissioners, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded) which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the overall concept of updating the Washington Harbor. We view the treatment of the canopies and updates on signage to be an overall positive. We ask the Old Georgetown Board to take a hard look at the window treatments and related design aspects. ANC 2E would prefer that no action be taken at this time on the fountain or the metal canopy over the office space. ANC 2E also thinks that the changing of the trees as presented is a positive for all concerned.

**With regard to 1239 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 11-106 (HPA 11-166):**

Representatives from the property spoke a new sign scheme, rooftop mechanical equipment, and door replacement. After discussion from Commissioners on the importance of the historical nature of Georgetown, Commissioner Birch proposed the following motion (Commissioner Starrels seconded), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E objects to the 24 inch sign over the door because it is oversized and redundant but has no objection to the 12 inch signs nor the door replacement.

**With regard to 3336 M Street, NW, OG 11-092 (HPA 11-148):**

Representatives spoke about a proposed new banner for their M Street storefront. After discussion by the representative and Commissioners, Commissioner Starrels proposed the following motion (Commissioner Sticka seconded), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E objects to the banner as it is out of place on M Street. ANC 2E also objects to the up-and-down lights as presented as they are unnecessary for the property.

**With regard to 3601-3607 M Street, NW, OG 11-109 (HPA 11-169):**

Representatives from the property spoke about the proposed construction of a five-story condominium on the current Exxon gas station site, which is scheduled to close in 2012. Neighbors expressed serious concern about the project, encouraging the developer to lower the building height and speaking to their fear of losing Potomac views. After discussion by the representative as well as neighbors and Commissioners, Commissioner Starrels proposed the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded [*Jake: proofread, please!*]), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the dialogue between the neighbors and EastBanc. ANC 2E also appreciates the presentation. However, ANC 2E would like the Old Georgetown Board to pay careful attention to the overall massing of the building and the height of the project. We would also like the Old Georgetown Board to study the setbacks of the building and how these setbacks affect the visuals of the neighboring properties. Finally, ANC 2E wants the Old Georgetown Board to pay particular attention to the overall design of the building and the appearance of the building to those entering Georgetown from Virginia.

**With regard to 1072 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW, OG 11-070 (HPA 11-098):**

Representatives from the property spoke about the proposed construction of a 4-story rear addition to the mixed-use residential / office building. Neighbors expressed gratitude for the dialogue that they have had with the property owner but still expressed concern that the addition would reduce the historical character of the area. After discussion by the representative as well as neighbors and Commissioners, Commissioner Starrels proposed the following motion (Commissioner Jones seconded), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the revised design as presented and appreciates the additional setback in the newer design. However, we would like Old Georgetown Board to pay attention to the setback and its affect on the neighbor to the left.

**With regard to 1045 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 11-110 (HPA 11-170):**

Representatives from the property spoke about the proposed addition of residential levels above ground and parking garage below grade. After discussion by the representative as well as neighbors and Commissioners, Commissioner Starrels proposed the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the project as presented and would like the Old Georgetown Board to look at the massing and ensure it fits the space. We would also like the Old Georgetown Board to take into consideration any visual implications of the building when looking from M Street down Wisconsin Avenue to the south. ANC 2E appreciates the presentation and is optimistic about what it could add to the community.

**With regard to 3026 N Street, NW, OG 11-118 (HPA 11-178):**

Representatives from the property spoke about the proposed two-story rear addition to the existing property. After discussion by the representative as well as neighbors and Commissioners, Commissioner Birch proposed the following motion (Commissioner Eason), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the concept as presented.

**With regard to 1699 31<sup>st</sup> Sreet, NW, OG 11-121 (HPA 11-181):**

Representatives from the property spoke about the enclosure of the rear porch and alterations for window wells. Commissioner Starrels noted ANC 2E's displeasure with the lack of communication that the property owner had had with the neighbors. After discussion by the representative as well as neighbors and Commissioners, Commissioner Eason proposed the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed 5-0:

ANC 2E does not object to the concept as presented with the understanding that the neighbors will be contacted about the project.

**With regard to 3203 R Street, NW, OG 11-123 (HPA 11-183):**

Representatives from the property spoke about the proposed 1-story rear addition with basement. After discussion by the representative as well as neighbors and Commissioners, Commissioner Eason proposed the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the concept as presented.

**With regard to 3020 Dumbarton Street, NW, OG 11-119 (HPA 11-179):**

Representatives from the property spoke about the proposed rear addition and alternation to roof deck. Commissioner Birch spoke to the representative about neighbor objections. Neighbors expressed concern with the project and with the lack of consultation. After discussion by the representative as well as neighbors and Commissioners, Commissioner Birch proposed the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E recognizes that the neighbors to the property have varying positions on the proposed roof deck. ANC 2E is in principle opposed to roof decks to the extent that they have the potential to compromise the private enjoyment of neighboring properties. We call this principle to the attention of the Historic Preservation Review Board. We also ask that HRB look carefully at the proposal to change the slope of the roof from its original design. That said, we are appreciative of the recent dialogue

between the property owner and the neighbors and hope that this dialogue will continue.

**At 10:44 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