

Minutes for the Meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

May 1, 2007

Georgetown Visitation School, 35th and Volta Place, Heritage Room

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

POLICE REPORT

Sergeant Bundy presented the police report for April 2007, comparing statistics on various categories of crimes with year-ago statistics. These statistics are available at <http://crimemap.dc.gov/presentation/query.asp> Sgt. Bundy also reported that the monthly MPD-sponsored community meetings for PSA 206 will now be held at the Second District police station on the second Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m., beginning on May 12. Commander Solberg reported that each MPD District Commander will prepare a plan for the chief of police that looks forward and projects resource utilization and needs for the PSA's within each District.

SPECIAL REPORT ON GEORGETOWN LIBRARY FIRE

Councilmember Jack Evans reported that after the recent fire at the Georgetown branch of the public library, 80 to 90 percent of the Peabody Collection of historic Georgetown documents may be safe or savable, thanks to the steps taken by the D.C. Fire Department during the fire to protect the contents of the Peabody Room from damage. Councilmember Evans also reported that funds should be available to rebuild the library, and he urged the community to come together quickly on a consensus proposal for a rebuilding plan.

D.C. Fire Chief Dennis Rubin, accompanied by Fire Department Lt. Craig Duck, reported on details of the library fire. They said the cause of the fire remains under investigation and appears to have been accidental, possibly caused by construction work. They noted that the fire had not been reported for 10 or 15 minutes after it started, which is a crucial period. They praised the library staff for organizing an evacuation of the building that got everyone out safely.

Chief Rubin reported that the nearest two fire hydrants to the fire were found to be not working, so hoses had to be connected to more distant fire hydrants. He said this did not affect the overall fire-fighting efforts at the library but expressed concern about the situation. He said the Fire Department would be working with WASA on an accelerated timetable for inspection and testing of all fire hydrants.

WASA General Manager Jerry Johnson reported that WASA would be working with the Fire Department on fire testing and inspection. Under sharp questioning from

Commissioners and community members, Mr. Johnson denied the problem was extensive and said WASA would work diligently with the Fire Department on it.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the meeting of ANC 2E held on April 3, 2007 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Birch (Solomon second) by a vote of 6-0.

Change in Upcoming Meeting Date

In order to have appropriate information from the Old Georgetown Board of the Fine Arts Commission available at the July meeting of ANC 2E, Commissioner Eason moved (Birch second) that the July meeting of the Commission be held on Tuesday, July 3 at 6:30 p.m. instead of the previously-scheduled June 26. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0.

ANC Community Grants Application Deadline Reminder

Commissioners reminded the community 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

New DMV Service Center. Commissioners noted that the Department of Motor Vehicles has opened a new service center at 95 M Street, S.W., which replaces the former service center at 301 C Street, N.W. The DMV service center in the Georgetown Park mall remains open.

FHWA Meeting on O and P Street Reconstruction. Commissioners noted that the Federal Highway Administration will be holding a community informational meeting on May 10 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at St. John's Church to discuss the status of historic-preservation review of the trolley tracks on O and P Streets, N.W. and the effects on reconstruction of those streets.

Tour Bus Policy in Georgetown. Joseph Martin from the Mayor's office reported that tour busses are not permitted on any of the numbered streets in Georgetown. He said one tour bus company is now using P Street between Wisconsin Avenue and 23rd Street. A question was raised whether a double-deck tour bus would be too tall for the neighborhood on any of the residential streets, because of overhanging tree branches.

GERMS Ambulance Service. Nathan Stinivax, director of public relations for Georgetown University's "GERMS" ambulance service, reported that the service is available to the community as a whole, with an average response time of around five minutes.

DDOT Driveway-Parking Pilot. Christopher Ziemann of the D.C. Department of Transportation reported on DDOT's decision to institute a six-month pilot program of allowing certain homeowners with driveways to park in front of their driveway, in a small section of Georgetown.

Jelleff Boys and Girls Club Status. William Gunn, president of the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington, addressed the community to defend the Club's decision to solicit bids to sell the Jelleff Boys and Girls Club property at 3265 S Street N.W. to a developer. Dennis James, president of the Jelleff Boys and Girls Club board of directors, and other community members described the current scope of the Jelleff club's programs and vigorously disputed the wisdom or need for such a sale.

NEW BUSINESS

Special Items

Marine Corps Marathon

Representatives of the Marine Corps Marathon described the route for this year's marathon on Sunday, October 28, which will affect M, 30th and K Streets in Georgetown from around 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on the day of the race, and requested the ANC's support. After discussion, Commissioner Solomon moved (Starrels second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E supports the marathon and is proud that Georgetown is part of it.

2007 Concert in the Parks Summer Series

The Citizens Association of Georgetown requested the ANC to express its support for the upcoming Concert in the Parks summer series in Rose Park and Volta Park. After discussion, Commissioner Solomon moved (Starrels second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

The Chair of ANC 2E is authorized to write to the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation expressing the ANC's support and appreciation for the 2007 Concert in the Parks summer series in Rose Park and Volta Park sponsored by the Citizens Association of Georgetown.

ABC Matters

ABC Consent Calendar

On April 24, 2007, the ANC gave notice to the community that certain establishments that are up for ABC license renewal, with a petition date of June 4, will not be reviewed at this time by the ANC unless a request to do so is received by the ANC by April 30. No such request had been received as of the time of this meeting. After discussion, Commissioner Birch moved (Starrels second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

The following establishments' ABC license renewals will not be reviewed by ANC 2E at this time:

Curry Club, 1734 Wisconsin Ave.; Café Bonaparte, 1522 Wisconsin Ave.; Don Lobo's Mexican Grill, 2811 M St.; Fino, 3011 M St.; Mendocino Grille, 2917 M St.; Miss Saigon, 3057 M St.; News Café, 3056-68 M St.; and Zed's, 1201 28th St.

Support for Funding To Update the Computer System at ABRA

Commissioners discussed the importance of an updated computer system for ABRA so that enforcement, monitoring and licensing information can be fully automated and accessible. After discussion, Commissioner Starrels moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

The Chair of ANC 2E is authorized to write to Councilmember Jim Graham and other District of Columbia officials in support of full funding at the requested level of one million dollars for updating ABRA's computer systems.

Georgetown Wine and Spirits

Commissioners and community members discussed a proposed voluntary agreement with Georgetown Wine and Spirits related to the applicant's request for extended hours of operation. Commissioner Eason clarified that the agreement provides for no single sales of malt beverages below \$4.99. A copy of the agreement is in the ANC's files. After discussion, Commissioner Eason moved (Birch second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E accepts the negotiated voluntary agreement with Georgetown Wine and Spirits; authorizes any ANC 2E Commissioner to execute the agreement on behalf of ANC 2E; and, upon execution of the agreement by all parties, withdraws its protest in this matter.

Café Milano (# 17247)

Commissioners and community members discussed a request by Café Milano to amend a voluntary agreement to permit five additional seats. After discussion, Commissioner Starrles moved (Birch second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E approves the request by Café Milano located at 3251 Prospect St. to amend their Voluntary Agreement to increase the seating by five seats on the second floor.

Leopold's Kafe (# 25268)

Commissioners and community members discussed a request by Leopold's Kafe to expand its operations to include a lounge with 75 additional seats and an entertainment endorsement to allow a cover charge. After discussion, Commissioner Starrels moved (Eason second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E **protests** the Entertainment Endorsement request for entertainment

and a cover charge and an addition of seventy-five seats for Leopold's Kafe located at 3315 Cady's Alley on the basis of an adverse affect on the peace, order and quiet of the neighborhood. We have the best intentions of working toward an amicable voluntary agreement before our next meeting.

Rugby Café (# 75703)

Commissioners and community members discussed a request by Rugby Café to extend their hours of operation. After discussion, Commissioner Starrels moved (Eason second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC2E **protests** the request for later hours both inside and outside Rugby Café at 1065 Wisconsin Avenue because of the adverse effect on the peace, order and quiet of the neighborhood. We have all intentions of being able to work toward a voluntary agreement.

Zoning and Planning

Unpermitted Work

Commissioners expressed concern that the following addresses began work without proper permits:

2609 M St (awning and sign); 1660 33rd St (sign); 1564 Wisconsin Ave. (alterations to store front, door and tile); 3307 M St (roof terrace railing); and 3009-3011 M St. (dormer window replacements).

OGB Consent Calendar: Commissioner Starrels moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

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 07-119, 3333 M St.

OGB 07-129, 3241 M St.

OGB 07-128, 3100 Dumbarton St.

OGB 07-125, 2916 N St.

OGB 07-124, 3306 O St.

OGB 07-138, 3329 Reservoir Rd.

OGB 07-148, 1665 34th St.

1645 31st Street (OGB 07-127): Revised plans were presented for the property. During discussion, concerns were again raised about design and subdivision aspects of the proposal. After discussion by the Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Eason moved (Birch second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

Resolved by ANC 2E, with regard to the application for a new house, garage alterations and site alteration at 1645 31st Street:

- ANC 2E continues to object to the massing of the proposed new house, and finds the design inconsistent with the character of the historic district.
- ANC 2E further is concerned that the absence of any subdivision plan makes it impossible to review the proposed work in context.
- Therefore, ANC 2E recommends that concept design approval be denied by the Old Georgetown Board.

Georgetown University, new Science Center (OGB 07-131): Concept design plans were presented for a new Science Center on the Georgetown University campus. After discussion by the Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Lowenstein moved (Eason second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to Georgetown University's concept design for the new Science center on campus. In particular, the ANC appreciates the University's commitment to lessening the impact of the construction on the neighboring area by limiting traffic to specific entrances of the University and its commitment to building a Leed Silver certified building. We therefore recommend that the Old Georgetown board approve the Science Center concept design.

1609 33rd Street (OGB 07-146): Plans were presented for a fence along the sidewalk in front of this property, between the sidewalk and a parking lot and storage area. After discussion by the Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Lewis moved (Birch second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E concurs that a fence is appropriate for this location. Based on the plans submitted, ANC 2E agrees with neighbors that a wooden or masonry privacy fence, preferably with an automatic gate, for this property would be a significant visual improvement over the applicant's proposed see-through metal fence. Because a see-through fence would give undue visual emphasis to a storage area and parking lot, ANC 2e urges the Old Georgetown Board to consider a well designed wooden or masonry fence instead for this location.

3310 P Street (OGB 07-211): Plans were presented for rear, window and door alterations to this property. After discussion by the Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch moved (Solomon second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the plans as presented for 3310 P Street.

3312-3316 P Street (OGB 07-133): Plans were presented for alterations at the rear of this property. After discussion by the Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0 (Commissioner Eason recused himself and did not participate in the discussion or vote):

ANC 2E has no objection to the proposed rear work for 3312-3316 P Street but we call attention to the legality of zoning for the purpose of these buildings.

At 10:34 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