



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 2nd, 2020; 6:30 p.m.
Online via Zoom

Call to Order

Commissioner Rick Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. Commissioners Kishan Putta (2E01), Joe Gibbons (2E02), Rick Murphy (2E03), Anna Landre (2E04), Lisa Palmer (2E05), Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06), Elizabeth Miller (2E07), and Matias Burdman (2E08) were present.

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the ANC's November 2nd, 2020 Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's November 2nd, 2020 meeting agenda. Commissioner Burdman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Approval of the ANC's September 29th, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Lohse moved to approve the ANC's September 29th, 2020 meeting minutes. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Administrative

Public Safety and Police Report

Commander Duncan Bedlion, the Commander of the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Approval of the ANC's FY 2020 Quarter 4 Financial Report

Chair Murphy moved to approve the ANC's FY 2020 Quarter 4 financial report. Commissioner Burdman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Approval of the ANC's FY 2021 Budget

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's FY 2021 budget. Commissioner Burdman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Approval of the ANC's Amended FY 2020 Quarter 3 Financial Report

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's amended FY 2020 Quarter 3 financial report. Commissioner Burdman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Community Comment

Update from the Mayor's Office

Anna Noakes, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), gave an update from the Mayor's Office.

Update from Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office

There was not any update regarding this matter.

Update from the Georgetown BID

Joe Sternlieb, the CEO and President of the Georgetown BID, gave an update from the organization.

Discussion Regarding the Western Area of Volta Park

Tommie Jones, the Chief of External Affairs for the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), and Diana Minshall, the Co-President of the Friends of Volta Park, engaged in a discussion with commissioners and meeting attendees regarding the western area of Volta Park.

Update from Georgetown Main Street

Rachel Shank, the Executive Director of Georgetown Main Street (GMS), gave an update from the organization.

Discussion with the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services' Office Regarding Homelessness

Monika Merk, the Encampment Coordinator for the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services' Office, engaged in a discussion with commissioners and meeting attendees regarding homelessness.

Update from Kelly Andreae, the New Executive Director of the Georgetown Ministry Center

Kelly Andreae, the new Executive Director of the Georgetown Ministry Center, introduced herself to meeting attendees and gave an update from the organization.

Update Regarding the Fall Extension of Friends of Rose Park's Farmers Market

Gail Daubert, the President of the Friends of Rose Park, gave an update regarding the fall extension of the organization's farmers market.

Update Regarding School Overcrowding Issues

Commissioner Putta gave an update regarding school overcrowding issues.

Update from DC Health Link

Commissioner Putta gave an update from DC Health Link.

New Business

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding DC's Comprehensive Plan

Commissioner Lohse moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTE: 5-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

On November 12th, 2020 and November 13th, 2020 the DC Council's Committee of the Whole will hold public hearings regarding DC Council Bill B23-0736 – the "Comprehensive Plan Amendment Act of 2020." The public hearing on the draft plan amendments was scheduled to occur earlier in 2020, however the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the timeline of several public hearings, including for the draft Comprehensive Plan amendments.

On February 14th, 2020 ANC 2E submitted a letter to the DC Office of Planning (OP) regarding ANC 2E's comments on the draft Comprehensive Plan amendments. The comments to OP focused on the following areas: Prioritization; Balancing Affordability, Preservation, and Community Input; Future Planning Analysis Areas; Alternative Modes of Transportation; and Monitoring, Evaluating and Amending the Comprehensive Plan. Several key changes to the plan were recommended including the need for targeted strategic planning around revitalizing the Georgetown commercial area.

On June 17th, 2020 ANC 2E submitted a second letter on the draft Comprehensive Plan. The letter requested that the Mayor and/or the DC Council withdraw the draft Comprehensive Plan amendments for consideration until OP was able to analyze how the COVID-19 pandemic could impact the draft Comprehensive Plan's growth estimates for population, employment, and revenue. After such analysis, OP could resubmit an updated draft Comprehensive Plan to the DC Council.

ANC 2E continues to see a strong need to communicate its earlier 2020 concerns and recommendations regarding the draft Comprehensive Plan amendments.

ANC 2E designates both Chair Rick Murphy, who represents single member district 2E03, and Commissioner Gwendolyn Lohse, who represents single member district 2E06, to represent the ANC at the DC Council's November 2020 hearings on the Comprehensive Plan and to testify during the hearings.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the moveDC 2021 Plan

Commissioner Lohse moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E applauds the District Department of Transportation's (DDOT) moveDC plan given that it is working to establish goals, policies, strategies, and metrics for DDOT to invest in transportation facilities and programs that address the future needs of Washingtonians across all eight wards.

ANC 2E also applauds DDOT's recent 2021-focused survey as it aims to seek input from residents to ensure that the long-range plan reflects the needs and priorities of a world class city like Washington, DC. The ANC has shared this survey with its constituents.

As DDOT moves ahead with the 2021 plans for moveDC, ANC 2E urges DDOT to share the detailed survey findings with ANCs and then meet with the ANCs to mutually agree upon survey areas that require additional community input. Residents and ANCs have local input that DDOT cannot gather from experts or commercial users. Areas of special consideration to Georgetown residents include, but are not limited to, use of alternative transportation vehicles in historic areas, traffic reduction via use of one-way streets, plans for package and people delivery, and increased accessibility for residents with disabilities.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Greater Transparency on DC Public Schools' Reopening Plans

The Commission tabled consideration of this matter until a future ANC meeting.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Resuming Residential Parking Enforcement

Commissioner Putta moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E requests that Mayor Bowser and the DC Council work to address the Department of Motor Vehicles' (DMV) backlog in order to resume residential parking enforcement as soon as possible, especially in the Burleith neighborhood.

ANC 2E also requests that the Georgetown Community Partnership (GCP) continues its work to find ways to encourage university and hospital staff to not park all day on residential blocks, including temporarily securing more parking spaces that can be offered at no or low cost to staff.

Old Georgetown Board

SMD 2E03 - OG 21-014 (HPA 21-028) 1515 Wisconsin Avenue, NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter due to the application being withdrawn.

SMD 2E05 - National Park Service / DC Department of Transportation (HPA TBD) Water Street Staircase between the Potomac Aqueduct and Water Street, NW at the Capital Crescent Trailhead

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

Particularly in light of ongoing public safety concerns in the area of the proposed project along Water Street NW, ANC 2E strongly supports the measures suggested in this project.

The ANC is particularly supportive of the stairs treatment as it will be a cleaner and safer environment for all who enjoy this community treasure. The ANC continues to believe that if the physical conditions of the area improve, we will see a reduction in illegal drug use and high speed racing which continue to be common issues in this area. The ANC looks forward to seeing this project come to fruition.

SMD 2E05 - OG 21-031 (HPA 21-045) 1218 31st Street, NW

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E continues to support the innovative concept design proposed for 1218 31st Street NW. The ANC hopes to move this project forward so that the Board of Zoning Adjustment may review the zoning implications and the project can begin.

SMD 2E07 - OG 21-018 (HPA 21-032) 2723 Q Street, NW

Commissioner Miller moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has no comment regarding this project but does wish to thank the homeowners for their commitment to working with their neighbors and soliciting their input and support.

SMD 2E07 - OG 21-007 (HPA 21-021) 2501 Mill Road, NW

Commissioner Miller moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E strongly supports the proposed wayfinding and historical information sign proposed by the Mount Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries. This new sign will help visitors understand the historic context of the cemetery and its importance in Georgetown and our city.

Furthermore, the ANC is thankful to the Mount Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries leadership team comprising Lisa Fager, Neville Waters, and Patrick Tisdale for their remarkable work to preserve, protect, and restore this important sanctuary in the heart of our village. Ensuring that the Mount Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries are safeguarded for generations to come will provide an important link to the roots of our community and its people and add to our quality of life.

ANC 2E looks forward to seeing the new sign installed and working with the leadership of the Mount Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries on other important and critical issues related to this site.

Adjournment

Chair Murphy adjourned the meeting at 9:47 pm.