

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

April 2, 2012

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Commissioner Lewis, Chair, with Commissioners Lewis, Starrels, Solomon, Sticka, Eason and Birch present, constituting a quorum.

**Administrative**

***Approval of April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 Agenda***

The agenda for the February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 ANC 2E public meeting was approved on a motion by Commissioner Jones (Commissioner Birch seconded) by a vote of 6-0.

***Approval of February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012 Minutes***

The minutes for the January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012 ANC 2E public meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Birch (Commissioner Solomon seconded) by a vote of 6-0.

***Financial Report***

Commissioner Solomon offered a financial report. He reported that ANC 2E's checking and savings remain secure.

***Public Safety Report***

Commissioner Solomon introduced two representatives from the Metropolitan Police Department. They reported on a recent uptick in burglaries and the manner in which many of these are crimes of opportunity enabled by unlocked doors. The officers also reported on a home invasion attempted on 29<sup>th</sup> street and an assault that took place outside Georgetown University's front gates.

***Transportation Report***

Commissioner Lewis reported that Georgetown Visitation is concerned about a pothole emerging at 35<sup>th</sup> Street and Volta.

Commissioner Solomon reported on the progress of the O & P Street rehabilitation project. Commissioner Jones reported on upcoming tree planting related to the project. After a question from the community, Commissioner Solomon reported that the end of August is being targeted for resumption of the G2 bus service.

***Department of Public Works Report***

The previously laid-off sweep inspectors have now been fully reinstated. There also is now a push to have stepped-up enforcement of the rules requiring keeping trash cans off of public space during non-pickup hours. The Department of Public Works is also now adding signage in some areas about parking enforcement.

## **Community Comment**

Commissioner Lewis announced that the Mayor will again be holding a Ward 2 budget summit on April 19<sup>th</sup> at Summer School. He'll present his FY2013 budget and respond to questions from the community.

Clara Gustafson, the President of the Georgetown University Student Association, introduced herself to the community letting them know that she was open to communication with the neighborhood.

Ruth Werner, a representative from Councilmember Jack Evans' office, reminded the community that the city's primary elections are on Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. She also encouraged the community to reach out to her with questions that they might have about the upcoming FY2013 budget.

A member of the community spoke about public space and historic preservation concerns at several commercial sites. Another representative spoke about Relay for Life, a Georgetown University fundraiser for the American Cancer Society.

## **New Business**

### **GU Campus Plan update**

Commissioner Lewis and representatives from Georgetown University, the Citizens Association of Georgetown, and the Burleith Citizens Association reported that they are jointly requesting a 60-day delay in upcoming campus plan hearing. All parties will work to explore the possibility of finding ~~some~~ common ground on the issues.

### **Request to support proposed legislation in naming the intersection of K Street and Wisconsin Avenue, NW "Sen. Charles Percy Plaza"**

A representative from the Friends of the Georgetown Waterfront Park spoke about proposed legislation to name the intersection of K Street and Wisconsin Avenue, NW "Sen. Charles Percy Plaza." Commissioner Lewis thanked the Friends of the Georgetown Waterfront Park and key individuals for their presentation and their work to ensure the construction of the Waterfront Park. Commissioner Birch asked about how to best demonstrate the name of this plaza should the proposed legislation be passed. Commissioner Lewis proposed the following resolution (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0:

Senator Charles Percy worked tirelessly and effectively for many years toward the establishment and funding of our magnificent Georgetown Waterfront Park. His efforts were central to this public endeavor, and it is fitting that public recognition be given. We are very happy to support proposed legislation that would name the space adjacent to the park at the intersection of Wisconsin Avenue and K Street, NW, the "Senator Charles Percy Plaza."

### **Funding for expanded Circulator service affecting Georgetown**

Commissioner Lewis spoke on DDOT proposals for expansion of Circulator routes affecting Georgetown and the need for funding. After discussion, Commissioner Lewis made the following motion (Commissioner Sticka seconded), which passed by a vote of a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E urges that funding be allocated to two Circulator routes that have been recommended by the District Department of Transportation: extending the current Rosslyn-Dupont Circle route eastward from Dupont Circle; and creating a new, additional Circulator route running to Georgetown via the northern part of the National Mall.

**Proposed legislation that would extend ABC hours to 3 a.m. weekdays and 4 a.m. weekdays**

Commissioner Lewis reported on pending legislation considering the expansion of late-night and certain other ABC hours.

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

ANC 2E does not have any objection to provisions extending hours during inauguration weekend. ANC 2E objects to earlier off-site sales. ANC 2E does not have an objection to the Sunday hours.

ANC 2E does not support the extended sales hour because Metro hours cease an hour before the end of the new extended hours. If this were passed, ANC 2E would also have to ask for Voluntary Agreements in order to keep the present hours intact on most license holders. Additionally, residents who live in close proximity to the license holders do not need an extra hour of noise from patrons exiting the bars and restaurants where they have been drinking for an extra hour. ANC 2E also thinks projected revenue is not worth the cost to the community.

**Rug for Rigby, April 21, 2012**

Commissioner Lewis presented on the proposed use of public space for the Run for Rigby. After discussion, Commissioner Sticka made the following motion (Commissioner Lewis seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E supports the continuation of the Run for Rigby and the route proposed for the race to be run on April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

**Zoning**

**3700 O Street, NW, ZC Application No. 07-23B, Georgetown University Training Facility, application for approval of modifications of previously approved plans**

A representative from Georgetown University spoke about the history of this project and the importance of the project's approval to the competitiveness of Georgetown University's athletic programs.

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

An athletic training facility was included in the Georgetown University campus plan approved for 2000-2010.

When such buildings come to the Zoning Commission for second-stage review, ANC 2E generally does not attempt to revisit broader issues that came up in the original campus-plan review, which in this case was over a decade ago.

In principle, we do not object to this project at this point. We do, though, have concerns.

We note the relationship between this proposed building and the current 2010-2020 campus plan review that is now taking place, in which on-campus housing is a key issue. We regret that the University has chosen to under-utilize the large space on which the athletic training facility is to be built. The single-purpose building now proposed is considerably downsized from what the University proposed in the last iteration and does not fully utilize the space. This is not because of historic preservation review; we understand that Old Georgetown Board members in recent public meetings have indicated that the proposal could better utilize the site. Much of the building is only two stories tall.

We regret that the University has not taken advantage of this space to propose a multi-use building that, for example, could house the athletic training facility on the lower floors and contain on-campus student housing on additional upper floors. That would satisfy both athletic and current housing needs far better than the plans as proposed.

## **DDOT – Public Space Committee**

### **3029 Q Street, NW, Application No. 65604**

Commissioner Lewis introduced this project and spoke about ANC 2E's rationale for past approval of this proposal on a temporary basis, involving an emergency medical condition that existed at the time but no longer exists. A representative from the property spoke about their reasoning for requesting the curb cut. After questions by the Commission, Commissioner Eason made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E objects to the grant of a curb cut on the basis that it affects the historic character of that property. ANC 2E also notes there is no critical need for the curb cut. Moreover, the property already has access to the public way through the rear.

## **ABC**

### **1206 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, License No. ABRA-01758, Best Wing Inc. operating as Blue Gin, voluntary agreement**

Three representatives from the property presented on the location of the roof top deck and the voluntary agreement that they are willing to sign. Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E supports the adoption of the amendment to the voluntary agreement.

## **Old Georgetown Board**

Commissioner Birch chaired the meeting for consideration of the following OGB-related matters.

### ***Regular Calendar***

#### **Private Projects**

##### **With regard to 3040 M Street, NW, OG 12-154 (HPA 12-254):**

A representative from Nike presented on their application for a sign scheme and alteration to their storefront on their M Street property. After questioning by Commissioners Birch, Starrels, and Sticka, Commissioner Starrels made the following resolution (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E welcomes Nike to Georgetown. ANC 2E has reservations concerning the signage of the Nike logo. We would like the Old Georgetown Board to examine if the size of the "swoosh" is appropriate and consider the lighting of the sign. We would also like the Old Georgetown Board to consider the impact this light will have on immediate neighbors. ANC 2E also has objections to the proposed blade signs. Finally, ANC 2E wants to make sure that the historic windows and façade of the building remain open to the public. ANC 2E has no objection to the revised entrance area as presented.

##### **With regard to 3299 M Street, NW, OG 12-164 (HPA 12-274):**

A representative from the property spoke about their proposal to add a sign scheme to their business. After discussion between Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E believes that size of the lettering on the sign to be appropriate. However, ANC 2E would like to see a change in the type of lighting proposed. We would prefer backlit lighting that is more appropriate for a historic street like Georgetown. ANC

2E was also given a commitment that the three currently used signs are Redfire Grill and Kabob will be removed going forward. ANC 2E would like the Old Georgetown Board to ensure that this commitment is honored.

**With regard to 3333 M Street, NW, OG 12-173 (HPA 12-284):**

A representative from the property spoke about their proposal for the addition of a pre-fabricated structure to Sweet Green. Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E appreciates this proposal and has no objection to the addition of a pre-fabricated structure.

**With regard to 3212 Grace Street, NW, OG 12-146 (HPA 12-243):**

A representative from the property spoke about their proposal for a new building and the manner in which it has changed recently. Neighbors stated that representatives from the property have not been in contact with them and that they continue to believe that this structure is too large for the location.

Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the evolution of this project but still believe there are deficiencies to be addressed. The massing of the project does not make the scale of the historical surrounding neighborhood. ANC 2E would like the property to better relate to these surroundings. We also have severe reservations about the roof deck as it will be burdensome to the surrounding neighbors due to noise. ANC 2E would also prefer a replacement of the curb cut such that Zone 2 parking can be implemented on this street, allowing for more than the 3 garage spaces proposed. We object to the currently proposed parking area because it reduces the space that could be used for purposes like trash removal, which currently is not given enough space in these plans. We would also like to see bicycle storage built in this area. Another area of concern with this project is the safety of the parking area because of the desolate nature of the locale. Lastly, we would like to see more attention to the setbacks of the building on the north and the west side.

**With regard to 2800 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, OG 12-132 (HPA 12-229):**

A representative from the property spoke about their proposal for a sign scheme for Suitsupply.

Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objections to the building itself. We do, however, object to the plaque signs. They strike us as overly repetitive. We also ask the Old Georgetown Board to consider a different lettering on signage more consistent with the surrounding area.

**With regard to 2800 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, OG 12-174 (HPA 12-285):**

A representative from the property spoke about their proposal for the addition of awnings and green ivy on clock and stair towers of the Four Seasons.

After discussion, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 4-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the interest in extending the ivy on the stair elevator towers but objects to there being any ivy whatsoever on the clock tower. We object to the placement of window boxes because they are out of character with the clean, modern façade of the Four Seasons hotel. We have no objection to the red color of awnings but do object to their placement in locations where they do not already exist.

**With regard to 2805 M Street, NW OG 12-166 (HPA 12-276):**

A representative from the property spoke about their proposal for a new storefront, rear

addition, and sign scheme for “Shop House.”

After discussion, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the bay storefront as proposed with the reservation that we recognize the interest that there might be in preserving the double bays as they exist. Furthermore, we have no objection to the proposed rear. We also do not object to the signage assuming that the size is reduced to 12 inches as promised.

**With regard to 3138 P Street, NW OG 12-180 (HPA 12-291):**

A representative from the property spoke about their two-story rear addition. A neighbor who had previously existed stated that they no longer objected to the project.

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

ANC 2E appreciates the applicant’s attention to the concerns of the neighbors and has no objections to this two-story rear addition as proposed.

**With regard to 1533 Wisconsin Avenue, NW OG 12-185 (HPA 12-296)**

A representative from the property spoke about their proposal for a rear addition. After discussion by Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E supports the design and has no objection to the proposed as presented. Neighbor concerns were about tree cover only and to the extent that trees are maintained, this is a design element we support.

**With regard to 1815 Wisconsin Avenue, NW OG 12-104 (HPA 12-179)**

A representative from the property spoke about the proposal for a roof top addition and deck for “Noodles & Company.”

After discussion by Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Eason made the following resolution (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no opposition to the revised plans as submitted.

**With regard to 1600 Wisconsin Avenue, NW OG 12-165 (HPA 12-275)**

A representative from the property spoke about the proposal for signage at “Edible Arrangements.”

After discussion by Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Lewis made the following resolution (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to a sign over the door provided that letters are not larger than 12 inches in height and provided that the logo is not displayed. ANC 2E does object to the placement of the signage at the corner of the intersection.

**At 10:27 p.m., with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Lewis moved (Commissioner Sticka 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

