

DRAFT Minutes for the Meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

January 5, 2015

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Commissioner Lewis, Chair. Commissioners Solomon, Lewis, Starrels, Jones, Birch, Roache, Clausen and Howard were present, constituting a quorum.

Due to demands of the MPD, the Public Safety Report was presented first. Commissioner Solomon welcomed the officers and Lt. Jones was introduced.

Public Safety Report

Lt. Knutsen reported that serious robberies and crime were significantly down in the past thirty days in the neighborhood, but unfortunately there had been several recent incidents of car break-ins in the past few days.

Citizens are reminded to remove items of value from view in their cars and always keep their home and auto doors locked. Anything or anyone looking suspicious should be reported to MPD immediately.

Commissioner Birch introduced the slate of ANC officers for 2015 and designation of areas of particular interest for commissioners:

Chairman-Ron Lewis
Vice-chair-Bill Starrels
Treasurer- Jeff Jones
Secretary-Kendyl Clausen

ANC 2E - 2015 Areas of Particular Interest

Commissioners Bill Starrels and Tom Birch to be Liaisons for ABC (Alcoholic Beverage Control) matters;
Commissioner Ed Solomon to be Liaison for Public Safety matters;
Commissioners Tom Birch, Jeff Jones and Kendyl Clausen to be Liaisons for Historic Preservation and Zoning matters;
Commissioners Ron Lewis and Bill Starrels to be Liaisons for Transportation matters;

Commissioner Monica Roaché to be Liaison for water, gas, electric and cable utility matters;
Commissioner Jeff Jones to be Liaison for DPW matters;
Commissioners Ed Solomon, Reed Howard, Kendyl Clausen, Jeff Jones, Ron Lewis and Bill Starrels to be Liaisons for community and university relations;
Commissioners Ron Lewis and Reed Howard to be Liaisons for Library matters;
Commissioner Bill Starrels to be the ANC2E-designated nonvoting member of the board of directors of the Georgetown Business Improvement District;
Commissioner Bill Starrels to be Liaison to the Georgetown Business Association;
Commissioners Tom Birch and Monica Roaché to be Liaisons to Tudor Place;
and
Commissioner Kendyl Clausen to be Liaison for website and communications.

Commissioner Birch proposed adopting the slate of officers and areas of interest. the motion was seconded and carried unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Commissioner Lewis introduced new Commissioners Monica Roache (SMD 07), Reed Howard (SMD 08) and Kendyl Clausen (SMD 04).

Administrative

Approval of January 5, 2015 ANC 2E Public Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the agenda of the January 5, 2015 ANC 2E public meeting. The motion was seconded and carried 8-0.

Approval of December 1, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2014 ANC 2E public meeting. The motion was seconded and carried 8-0.

Financial Report

Commissioner Jones made the following motion:

Resolved, that this Commission approves the ANC's participation in the Advisory Neighborhood Commission Security Fund and authorizes the Treasurer to pay the \$25 fee for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer are authorized to execute the requisite agreement.

The motion was seconded and carried 8-0.

Transportation Report

DDOT presentation on Key Bridge repairs and Pennsylvania Avenue bridge over Rock Creek:

The project is expected to take twenty-four months and cost \$ 20,000,000.00. Most of the work will be completed during off peak hours. Commissioner Starrels requested that officers help with pedestrian traffic. Commissioners Lewis and Starrels are also concerned about peak hours on weekends and night work. Commissioner Starrels proposed a meeting with DDOT and Jack Evan's office to discuss concerns. Commissioner Lewis inquired about light post poles and the color of the lights. A follow up report will be made by DDOT on these inquiries and whether or not some of the traffic can be redirected using parking lanes as suggested.

Department of Public Works Report

Commissioner Jones delivered the following report: The DC Snow Team is to deploy the first time this year on the morning of January 6th due to a forecast of snow. Property owners are to keep the sidewalks directly in front or on the side of their property clear of snow and ice (and free of litter and debris to and including the gutter). The temperatures are forecast to be below freezing Wednesday and Thursday, so clearing sidewalks will be more difficult then. DPW leaf and holiday tree collection crews are the backbone of the Snow Team, so these crews will return to collection duties after the streets are clear of snow. Residents should place their holiday trees and wreaths at the normal Point of Collection. DPW will collect trees through January 10 and these trees will be composted. Trees placed at the trash/recycling collections site after January 31 will be collected with the trash as space permits in the truck

The Urban Forestry Administration arborist reported that more treeboxes in Georgetown have trees in them in any recent history. However, many of the trees are younger and need great care in order for them to survive. Some pruning of larger trees are planned. There are distance guidelines in height above a sidewalk or road, and distance from a building in order to determine when to prune, but the UFA prefers as much full growth as possible. Urban trees are essential in reducing pollution and lowering direct heat from the sun. If a resident has a concern about a tree, the UFA prefers residents use the 311.DC.GOV<<http://311.DC.GOV>> website to make a service request.

Community Comment

Ruth Warner from Councilman Jack Evans' office reported that as well as Finance Chair, Jack will represent the District of Columbia on the Metro (MWATA) Board.

Candice Mosely of Georgetown University announced the Georgetown University steam whistle used to advise citizens to “shelter in place” was being tested in January and that efforts had been made to make the community aware.

Commissioner Birch introduced Justin and Samantha Schenck, new owners of the soon to be opened Avery Inn at 2616-2620 P St., NW. They answered questions from the community regarding ABC license, event space, staff parking, guest parking and code compliance.

ABC

Commissioner Jones made the following motion:

With regard to Via Umbria, 1525 Wisconsin Ave., NW (ABRA-097178)-new Class A retail license:

ANC 2E approves the Settlement Agreement.

The motion was seconded and passes unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

The discussion regarding the transfer of license to Eno Wine Bar at the Four Seasons concluded that no resolution was needed as the establishment already held the license in safekeeping and no action was taken.

Old Georgetown Board

Commissioner Birch chaired the Old Georgetown Board portion of the meeting.

Commissioner Lewis made the following motion:

Regarding the Duke Ellington School of the Arts- Revised concept submission- the glass enclosure on the portico:

During earlier presentations regarding this project, Board members urged that the glass enclosure on the portico be significantly smaller and not protrude as far from the building's eastern facade. This new rectilinear configuration is an improvement, but it is still a large protrusion that in our view detracts from the strong classical portico. We urge the board require that the glass enclosure not extend so far into the portico.

The motion was seconded and carried 8-0.

Commissioner Lewis made the following motion:

With regard to 1544 33rd Street, NW, OG 15-057 (HPA 15-085):

This ungainly proposed addition would occupy much of the open space in the current rear yard; would jeopardize a mature and widely admired dogwood tree; and would extend farther into the rear yard than not only the adjacent house to the north, but than any other house on its block. The rear yard of this property is in clear public view from the adjacent Volta Park and the addition would visually degrade the open existing view from the park. For these reasons, we urge the Board to deny approval for this project.

The motion was seconded and carried 8-0.

Commissioner Starrels made the following motion:

With regard to 1065 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 15-039 (HPA 15-057):

We have no objection to the main sign but consistent with our policy of objecting to blade signs for street level businesses on Wisconsin Avenue and M Street, we oppose the blade sign.

The motion was seconded and carried 8-0.

Commissioner Birch made the following motion:

With regard to 2707 N Street, NW, OG 15-071 (HPA 15-115):

ANC 2E has no objection to the plans for a rear addition at 2707 N Street NW.

The motion was seconded and carried 8-0.

Commissioner Birch made the following motion:

With regard to 2701 Dumbarton Street, NW, OG 15-069 (HPA 15-112):

ANC 2E has no objection to the size and mass of the addition and dormer proposed at 2701 Dumbarton Street NW nor do we object to the introduction of a contemporary design at this location. However, we urge the Board to consider the use of cladding materials to the extent that they are compatible with the modest nature of this house.

The motion was seconded and carried 8-0.

At 8:42 P.M. with no further business on the agenda, Commissioner Lewis moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and carries 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Maysak