



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Representing the communities of Burleith, Georgetown, and Hillandale

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October 1, 2020

Mr. H. Alan Brangman, Chairman, and Members of the Board
Old Georgetown Board
401 F Street NW, Suite 312
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Chairman Brangman and Members of the Board:

On September 29, 2020 ANC 2E held its regularly scheduled public meeting, which was properly noticed and attended by five commissioners, constituting a quorum. At this meeting the Commission adopted the following positions on matters scheduled for consideration by the Old Georgetown Board on October 1, 2020:

With regard to SMD 2E02 - OG 20-279 (HPA 20-510) 1556 Wisconsin Avenue, NW:

ANC 2E applauds the Georgetown Lutheran Church's Old Georgetown Board submission for maintaining the defining characteristics of historic preservation in Georgetown as part of the church's concept design. The ANC understands the church's need for proper drainage and agrees with the church's need to update the property's landscaping. The ANC is reassured that the church's concept design addresses safety concerns as community members occasionally use the church's open property for repose. The ANC believes that the concept design achieves the project's goals in an efficient and economical manner. The ANC also recognizes that the church generously uses its resources for the benefit of the community.

Therefore, ANC 2E supports the Georgetown Lutheran Church's concept design.

With regard to SMD 2E03 - OG 20-270 (HPA 20-501) 1529 Wisconsin Avenue, NW:

ANC 2E is disappointed and concerned that the applicant proceeded with replacement of all of the windows on the Wisconsin Avenue NW façade of this historic building without proceeding through Old Georgetown Board review or applying for a building permit from the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. The ANC is appreciative of the applicant's decision, taken after a stop work order was posted, to apply for Old Georgetown Board approval of the windows put in place, however the ANC requests that the members of the Old Georgetown Board and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts insist that the windows currently in place in the building be replaced with windows that fully conform to the Old Georgetown Board and the U.S.

COMMISSIONERS:

Kishan Putta, District 1 Joe Gibbons, District 2 Rick Murphy, District 3
Anna Landre, District 4 Lisa Palmer, District 5 Gwendolyn Lohse, District 6
Elizabeth Miller, District 7 Matias Burdman, District 8

Commission of Fine Arts' policy on windows. The windows should be wood, single glazed, true divided-light windows.

ANC 2E requests that the Old Georgetown Board insists on the enforcement of its policies.

With regard to SMD 2E05 - OG 20-282 (HPA 20-513) 2900-2922 M Street, NW:

ANC 2E notes that the applicant has incorporated the Old Georgetown Board's feedback into its latest submission and has scaled back their proposed project significantly. The ANC appreciates that the elements which are built looking over the historic M Street NW buildings have grown smaller and the ANC supports the more modern design of the new structure.

Generally speaking, ANC 2E does not take issue with the idea of a new building that is taller than the historic structures to the north and we look to the Old Georgetown Board's advice on the appropriateness of the overall height of the new structure.

With regard to SMD 2E05 - OG 20-278 (HPA 20-509) 3100 Dumbarton Street, NW:

ANC 2E appreciates that the applicant has spent time with neighbors to ensure that the abutting neighbors are comfortable with the plans as conceived. The ANC notes that the abutting neighbors have not shared any concern about the concept design. Furthermore, the ANC notes that the applicant and the Ryan family, one of the abutting neighbors, have already begun to discuss management of the construction process and are working towards an agreement around the actual construction process. The ANC encourages the neighbors to continue to work together on this in an attempt to mitigate any disruption in the neighborhood during the period of work.

Regarding the design, ANC 2E notes that the current owners inherited the home with the HVAC on the roof and endeavor to develop a solution for the HVAC which appropriately hides the machines. The ANC supports leaving the unit where it is proposed to be left and encourages the applicant to develop an aesthetically pleasing solution for hiding the unit to the greatest extent possible; the ANC understands that Old Georgetown Board staff have already provided some guidance regarding this topic. Finally, the ANC has no concerns around the design and, while this should not be considered determinative, it is useful to note that the Old Georgetown Board approved a similar concept for this home in 2007 in application #07-128.

With regard to SMD 2E06 - OG 20-258 (HPA 20-452) 2908 N Street, NW:

ANC 2E notes that the plans for 2908 N Street NW highlight the goal to retain the two magnolia trees at the southern edge of the property. These trees dominate the tree canopy in the interior of the block and enhance the privacy of residents on all sides of the block. With the addition of a pool in the backyard, the focus on retaining these trees is important to the neighbors.

ANC 2E would also like to note that the Foxall House at 2908 N Street NW is one of the oldest houses in Georgetown, owned by Henry Foxall, Mayor of Georgetown in 1819, and built in 1790, according to the 1944 publication, "Georgetown Houses of the Federal Period, 1780 to 1830." Other sources cite a construction date of 1820. It is an important historic structure in Georgetown. Given this it has been conveyed to the ANC that the Old Georgetown Board should

pay close consideration to the appropriateness of retaining the shutters on the front rather than removal and preserving the historic doorway entrance with its sidelights and lintel. The proposed plans would eliminate the sidelights and the lintel, creating a glass canopy and steel brackets framing the doorway entrance. Plans should include if and how the existing brick wall and iron gates at the front of the house will be impacted by the renovation. The assumption is that they will not be impacted. Maintaining these external features is essential to preserving the historic elements of the house presenting to the street.

With regard to SMD 2E07 - OG 20-276 (HPA 20-507) 1511 28th Street, NW:

ANC 2E is concerned that the applicant did not reach out to adjoining neighbors and is also concerned about the overall scope of the project. The ANC requests that the applicant provides an update regarding the project during the ANC's next meeting in November.

With regard to SMD 2E07 - OG 20-267 (HPA 20-492) 1601 30th Street, NW:

ANC 2E supports an in-kind replacement of the roof deck, as previously permitted, at 1601 30th Street NW. However the ANC does not support an expansion of this roof deck.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Richard G. Murphy, Jr." in a cursive script.

Rick Murphy
Chair, ANC 2E