



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 1st, 2021; 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), Jenny Mitchell (2E02), Rick Murphy (2E03), Lisa Palmer (2E05), Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06), and Elizabeth Miller (2E07) were present.

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the ANC's June 1st, 2021 Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's June 1st, 2021 meeting agenda. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0).

Approval of the ANC's May 3rd, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's May 3rd, 2021 meeting minutes. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0).

Administrative

Public Safety and Police Report

Lieutenant John Merzig, a representative for 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 2021 Quarter 2 Financial Report

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's FY 2021 Quarter 2 financial report. Commissioner Mitchell 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

Emmanuel Brantley, the Communications Director for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, gave an update from the Councilmember's Office.

Update from the Department of Public Works Regarding a Proposed Mural at Los Cuates at 1564 Wisconsin Avenue NW

Nancee Lyons, a Public Affairs Specialist and the MuralsDC Coordinator for the Department of Public Works (DPW), gave an update regarding a proposed mural at Los Cuates at 1564 Wisconsin Avenue NW.

Update from DC Health Link Regarding New Health Savings for Residents via the American Rescue Plan

Commissioner Putta, who also serves as a Community Outreach Specialist for DC Health Link, gave an update regarding new health savings for residents via the American Rescue Plan.

Update from Georgetown Main Street

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

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding Georgetown Main Street's FY 2022 funding request. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E supports the granting of \$73,000 to the Glover Park Main Street Clean Team program to expand street cleaning along Wisconsin Avenue from R Street to Whitehaven Parkway NW.

Presentation Regarding the Retail Proposal for 3276 M Street NW

Stephen Starr, the Owner of STARR Restaurants; Richard Stokes, an architect for STARR Restaurants; Michael Palermo, the Director of Development, Construction, and Facilities for STARR Restaurants; Kristen Morris, the Director of Retail Leasing for Jamestown; and Mark Witschorik, a Senior Vice President of Asset Management for Jamestown, gave a presentation regarding the retail proposal for 3276 M Street NW.

Update Regarding Sidewalk Repairs in Georgetown

Chair Murphy gave an update regarding sidewalk repairs in Georgetown.

Update Regarding the Reopen Washington DC Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Amendment Act of 2021

Chair Murphy gave an update regarding the Reopen Washington DC Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Amendment Act of 2021.

Update Regarding Jelleff Recreation Center Renovation Funding

Commissioner Miller gave an update regarding Jelleff Recreation Center renovation funding.

New Business

Consideration of a Resolution Requesting a Crosswalk at the Intersection of 35th Street and Prospect Street NW

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

Over the last five years, ANC 2E has received many complaints regarding pedestrian safety at the intersection of Prospect Street NW and 35th Street NW. This intersection is particularly hazardous because of a unique combination of circumstances: it is located right in a residential neighborhood in front of a dormitory with an unusually high number of pedestrians walking on these quiet residential blocks plus it serves as a cut through for drivers and commuters who often use this route to exit Georgetown via Canal Road NW in order to avoid traffic on the more typical arterials. One ANC commissioner recently referred to it as a “deadly intersection”. While that description may sound hyperbolic, it is worth noting that a constituent who lives at the intersection has witnessed, herself, five pedestrians – including students – hit by cars plus a number of near misses. Drivers frequently do not stop at this intersection and this scenario of blowing through stop signs becomes even more dangerous because drivers often fail to notice pedestrians crossing from the south side of Prospect Street NW to the north side on the east side of the intersection. Many neighbors are very in tune to this as they do not allow their children to cross at the intersection at all for fear of needing to jump out of the way of cars coming through the intersection.

As a result of these dangerous conditions, ANC 2E has worked with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) on two ways to address the concerns:

1. MPD periodically stations a patrol officer at the corner to issue tickets for running the stop sign. While this is certainly helpful when MPD is able to spare an officer to ticket people, this is surely not a sustainable solution.
2. A few years ago DDOT visited the site to investigate if a speed bump could be installed. Unfortunately, it was determined that there was infrastructure within the intersection which precluded DDOT from installing a speed bump.

ANC 2E requests that DDOT returns to the site to determine what other mechanisms could be used to make this intersection safer for pedestrians and be in line with Mayor Bowser’s Vision Zero initiative. While the ANC certainly does not have a full understanding of DDOT’s toolbox, and the ANC does request that DDOT thinks creatively about addressing this solution, some initial ideas that come to mind include a more visible ladder crosswalk at the intersection as was recently installed at the intersection of 30th Street and Q Street NW, signage reminding people to stop for pedestrians, and support for installing a stop sign camera.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Application by Potomac Wines And Spirits for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 3100 M Street NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Application by Bacchus Wine Cellar for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 1635 Wisconsin Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Application by Hop, Cask, & Barrel for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 1717 Wisconsin Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Application by Dixie Liquor for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 3429 M Street NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Public Space Committee

Public Space Application by Donahue for a Valet Staging Zone with Two Non-Meter Parking Spaces at 1338 Wisconsin Avenue NW

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

ANC 2E enthusiastically supports the application by Donahue for the use of public space for valet parking in front of and to the north of their location at 1338 Wisconsin Avenue NW.

Public Space Application by the United States-Azerbaijan Chamber of Commerce to Erect a Commemorative Bust on a Pedestal of Huseyn Javid at 1212 Potomac 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: 5-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E strives to remain consistent in its recommendations, particularly as related to art on public space within the Georgetown Historic District. With this in mind, the ANC typically recommends that applicants work with the Old Georgetown Board (OGB) in advance of the Public Space Committee to determine if the concept is in line with the standards of the Georgetown Historic District. This applicant has done so and was placed on OGB’s consent calendar on April 1, 2021. Since that time, the applicant was required to move the stand so that it does not conflict with a gas line and, as a result, is back on OGB’s calendar for review on June 3, 2021.

Since OGB has not yet provided its recommendation on the specific placement noted in the current application, ANC 2E is not in a position to take a final position on the public space application in question. However, the ANC is typically concerned about how public space applications might impact the use of public space. In this case, the ANC notes that the façade of the stand which will hold the bust is in between and in line with the window wells of the building and will not become an impediment to the use of public space. Nonetheless, the ANC also requests that the Public Space Committee carefully considers the feedback which will be provided at the June 3, 2021 OGB meeting when considering the merits of this particular public space application.

Zoning

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application for a Special Exception from the Rear Yard Requirements to Construct a Rear Stairway Addition to an Existing, Semi-Detached, Three-Story with Basement Commercial Building at 2805 M Street NW

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

ANC 2E has no comment regarding the Board of Zoning Adjustment application for 2805 M Street NW.

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application by Colonial Parking, Inc and Belle L Goldin Revocable Trust for a Special Exception from the Matter-of-Right Uses to Permit the Continued Use of an Existing Commercial Parking Lot at 3053 M Street NW

Commissioner Lohse 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 fully supports the Board of Zoning Adjustment application for 3053 M Street NW.

Old Georgetown Board

SMD 2E06 - OG 21-164 (HPA 21-303) 1305-1315 30th Street, NW

Commissioner Lohse 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 appreciates that the applicant has updated the plans since our last meeting, especially ensuring ADA accessibility to both the front and back of the building. The ANC recommends the following on the updated application:

- A reduction of the size of the balconies on the back of the building so that outside entertaining options are very limited. From just the ground floor parking lot area of The Colonial, one can see the gardens, parking spaces, and/or backside of nearly twenty different residential homes. The Colonial and these homes all share an “open

block area” between 30th Street and 29th Street NW. The addition of multiple outside balconies on the higher level Colonial, which overlooks the majority of the homes in the “open area”, will impact the quality of life and privacy of several residents. ANC 2E frequently reviews applications for balconies on single family homes and the ANC traditionally does not support such applications due to the negative impact on surrounding neighbors; this rationale for nonsupport of balconies is amplified in this case.

SMD 2E07 - OG 21-195 (HPA 21-350) 1607 28th Street, NW

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

ANC 2E is very disappointed that the architect did not engage nearby residents nor the ANC in their plans and recommends that this project be halted until there is some significant engagement with the community.

Adjournment

Chair Murphy adjourned the meeting at 8:36 pm.