

Minutes for the Meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

May 3, 2005

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM by the Chair, Commissioner Solomon, with Commissioners Eason, Moore, Starrels, Lever, and Clements present, constituting a quorum.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Minutes: The minutes of the April 5, 2005 meeting were unanimously approved as distributed by Commissioner Clements.

Change in the Bylaws: Noting the changes to the boundaries of ANC 2E, the Commission sought to change the name of ANC 2E in its bylaws. Commissioner Eason moved (Clements second) for the following which passed by a vote of 6-0:

From this point forward, Article One of the bylaws shall state that Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E be known as the Georgetown, Burleith, and Hillandale ANC.

Commissioner Skelsey arrived at this time.

COMMUNITY COMMENT

Georgetown Project Update: Len Levine informed ANC 2E that work was still on schedule. R Street had been completed. Wisconsin was nearly finished up through Reservoir. Work was still in progress in front of the former Reed Electric building. WASA was completing work on the 33rd Street water main. Pepco connections were finished on May 2nd. Final paving and brickwork will begin in June.

Police Report: Sergeant Bundy of the Metropolitan Police Department presented the police report for the month of April. A total of sixty crimes had been reported for the month. These included: zero robberies, two assaults, seven thefts from auto, forty-five thefts, and one domestic sexual assault. Most of the thefts resulted in subsequent arrests. Commissioner Skelsey asked that MPD plan for the end of the Georgetown University academic year, noting parties and noise. Sergeant Parrish asked that more neighbors attend the PPS meetings at St. Johns Church to address such problems. Attendance had been low for the past two months. Bonnie Hardy of Burleith asked that special effort be made to prevent illegal turns from Wisconsin onto Reservoir during both the morning and evening rush hours. Commissioner Starrels requested that attention be paid to the Washington Harbor, as noise generally tends to increase during the warmer months. Finally, Commissioner Moore inquired about a stolen baby carriage and graffiti on

Dumbarton. Sergeant Bundy said that the incident had not been reported and voiced the importance of reporting all crimes in the area to MPD.

Marine Corps Marathon: Brett Schmidt of the Marine Corps Marathon presented plans for the 30th Annual Marine Corps Marathon. This year's race will be held on October 30, 2005. The Georgetown community will be affected as the race course includes M, K, and 30th Streets. The Key Bridge, marking mile four of the course, will be closed at 8 AM the morning of the race and is expected to be open again by 10:00 or 10:30 AM. The website for the race is www.marinemarathon.com. Commissioner Lever moved (Solomon Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E supports and endorses the efforts of the 30th Anniversary of the Marine Corps Marathon and we are proud to be involved.

Commendation for Ken Gray: Commissioner Solomon presented a Community Commendation to Mr. Ken Gray, outgoing Executive Director of the Georgetown Business Improvement District. *Commendation Attached.*

K Street Circulator Bus: Ken Gray of the Georgetown BID informed the community that the red Circulator Bus would begin service in the beginning of July. A stop on K Street would be part of a route that includes Union Station and the Convention Center.

NEW BUSINESS

ABC Matters

1734 Wisconsin Avenue, Curry Club: Commissioner Starrels, chair of the ABC Committee, informed the ANC that Chris Chet of the Curry Club wished to extend hours and be open on Sundays. Starrels noted that the Curry Club was a great business in the community. The Citizens Association of Georgetown approved of the change. Commissioner Starrels moved (Clements Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E endorses the request of the Curry Club at 1734 Wisconsin Avenue to have Sunday hours from 5:30 to 10:00 PM.

Zoning and Planning

Georgetown University Hospital (Zoning Commission No. 05-06): Regina Knox Wood of the Georgetown University Hospital explained plans for an addition to the Bles Building for an additional CyberKnife vault. There were no changes to the plans since Ms. Wood presented the project to the ANC prior to OGB approval. Barbara Zartman, representing the Citizens Association of Georgetown stated support for the use of the addition, but voiced concerns over the process involved in approval of the Georgetown University Ten Year Plan. She stated that CAG felt the University was in violation of the enrollment cap, despite the April, 2005 BZA ruling approving the University's plan.

Commissioner Solomon moved (Clements Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0. The final resolution included an amendment by Commissioner Eason (Skelsey Second) which passed by a vote of 6-0 (Clements abstaining):

ANC 2E enthusiastically endorses the proposed addition to the Bles Building of the Georgetown University Hospital to house an additional CyberKnife to be used for radiation treatment. (AMMENDMENT) We do so with the understanding that prior to acting on the application, the Zoning Commission will conduct the second stage review of the University's compliance with the existing Campus plan as is required by the applicable regulation in Title 11, DCMR. At the same time, ANC 2E is sensitive to the need to move forward swiftly in review of this project and trusts that the second stage review can be conducted expeditiously, keeping in mind the medical needs of future patients.

3703 S Street (BZA No. 17292): No representative for the Dalzell-Payne residence appeared at the meetings. It was noted that the request for a special exception for a two story rear addition that did not meet the open court requirements. Commissioner Eason moved (Lever Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 5-0 (Skelsey abstaining, Starrels absent):

ANC 2E is disappointed that the applicant did not appear at our public meeting to present the need for a special exception at 3707 S Street. ANC 2E cannot support the application because of the lack of participation.

1812 35th Street (BZA No. 17327): The applicant and his attorney, of Peter Goldman LLC, presented plans for an addition that needed a special exception for lot coverage. The property, which burned in 2002, was already over the limit by 3% due to a trellis on the side of the home. Several neighbors were in attendance and voiced concerns to the planned addition, particularly Laurie Orvitz, the neighbor to the south. Commissioner Solomon moved (Moore Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E is opposed to a special exception to allow the property owners at 1812 35th Street NW to build an addition to the existing single-family semidetached dwelling that does not meet the lot occupancy requirements of 40%. Property owners want to increase lot occupancy to 43.4%. ANC 2E is also opposed to a special exception to the side yard requirement in the upper two floors of the house, to align with the existing side yard, from 8' to 3' (existing). It should be noted that the upper two floors have already been constructed without proper permitting.

Property owners that abut this property on the north and south are opposed to granting the special exceptions. The property wonder to the north in particular expressed concern about the adverse impact on light and air affecting her property.

1611 Wisconsin Avenue (OGB 05-156): The architects for the Commerce Bank project presented a revised design. It was noted that the new design boasted increased masonry, as requested by the ANC. The design did not, however, provide more sidewalk space at the front of the building. Commissioner Starrels stated that unsightly plywood currently covered the windows. Commissioner Lever moved (Eason Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

Although ANC 2E approves of the redesign of the bank building itself, we regret the lack of space allowed for the sidewalk in front of the building which is already heavily used by pedestrians and will be more so with the new bank. Also, we do not like the flagpole, as it is too high and too big.

1339 Wisconsin Avenue (OGB 05-154): Mary Wallace appeared to present plans for new signs on each side of the Bank of America building. The signs would be polished brass with blue and red aluminum backing. There would be no lighting. Ms. Wallace stated that the backing panel would help make the sign more visible in the sunlight. Commissioner Moore noted that the panel would be nine feet long. Commissioner Moore moved (Starrels Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the fact that the Bank of America is located in their district and understands the need to promote the bank's location; however, in keeping with the historic town of the Georgetown, ANC 2E suggest that the backer panels be deleted.

3263 M Street (OGB 05-154): Mary Wallace appeared to present plans for a sign on the new Levi Store on M Street. The sign would be red acrylic with a track light on the inside edge of the cornice. Commissioner Skelsey questioned the use of acrylic as opposed to metal. Commissioner Starrels moved (Solomon Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

Although we welcome the Levi Store to Georgetown, ANC 2E does object to the suggested material for the signage. We would prefer the use of metallic as opposed to acrylic material.

2500 Q Street (OGB 05-165): The apartment building at 2500 Q Street presented plans for an upgraded fence and new gates. It was noted that most of the changes would not be visible from the street. The gates could be a danger to pedestrian on the sidewalk if they were to swing out. Commissioner Eason moved (Clements Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 6-0 (Solomon absent):

ANC 2E has no objection to the proposed fence, but out of concerns for pedestrian safety on P Street, we suggest the gates either be set back or made to swing in.

3346 Reservoir Road (OGB 05-162): The owners for 3346 Reservoir Road appeared to present plans for a patio on the side yard. There were no objections to the plans as

presented and support was expressed by the immediate neighbors. Commissioner Lever moved (Starrels Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E supports the plans as presented.

3226 O Street (OGB 05-128): Bob Whitsil, representing Ms. Arthur, presented plans for the addition to her home. The addition would greatly increase the size of the house. Also, there is a party wall that would require changes to the east, near the courtyard. To lessen the impact, Mr. Whitsil stated that changes were being done mostly in the rear. Several neighbors expressed concerns in regards the size of the addition, particularly in concern with sunlight. The neighbor to the west was the most vocal. The Metropolitan Police Department was in attendance and noted that this neighbor had been caught trespassing and taking photographs on Ms. Arthur's roof. Several Commissioners expressed concern over the fact that the neighbors had not been involved in the planning process. Ms. Arthur stated that she was unfamiliar with the ANC process. Commissioner Skelsey moved (Starrels Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E strongly opposed the proposed plans as submitted due to the extreme size of the addition (nearly tripling the size of the existing house), a proposed roof deck and the subsequent negative impact it will have on the historic fabric of Georgetown and the adjacent neighbors' privacy and sunlight.

2624 P Street (OGB 05-159): The architect for Washington Fine Properties presented plans for changes to the front of the office. News light fixtures and windows would be installed on the front of the building. In addition, a small gold-leaf sign would appear on window. Commissioner Moore moved (Starrels Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E supports the planned alteration to 2624 P Street as presented.

3206 N Street (OGB 05-158): The architect for Neyla presented plans for a two story rear addition in the current courtyard of the restaurant. The proposed changes would not require a change to the current ABC license for the establishment. The owner had spoken of the additions at a previous ANC meeting. Commissioner Starrels moved (Lever Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E supports the proposed rear two-story addition in the courtyard.

3108 M Street (OGB 05-160): The architects for the expansion of P & C Art Gallery presented the proposed plans. To create more gallery space, the roof of the rear wing would be raised. The Commission noted that the architects were not very familiar with the area, particularly Blue Alley. Commissioner Starrels moved (Skelsey Second) for the following which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E objects to the project due to the oversize and massing; it's visibility from the street; its disregards to the historic fabric, especially as it relates to Blue's Alley and the potential loss of views from the 31st Street side.

Consent Calendar for the Old Georgetown Board: Commissioner Clements moved (Eason Second) to accept the consent calendar which passed by a vote of 7-0. The consent calendar contained the following projects:

1320 30th Street, Hecllo residence (OGB 05-143)
2900 M Street, Ann Hand (OGB 05-144)
1336 28th Street, Vakis Residenc (OGB 05-153)

2903 P Street (OGB 05-161): The owners and the architect of the property presented plans for a garage with a lift system for two cars. The lift would be hydraulic and several similar units are in use in the Georgetown area. No new curb cut would be needed. Many neighbors appeared in opposition to the project. Concerns were raised regarding the size and location of the garage, and possible noise created by the lift. It was decided that the owners and the neighbors would continue discussions and return to the ANC at a later date.

At 9:24 PM, with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Starrels moved (Clements Second) to adjourn this public session of ANC 2E. The motion passed with a 7-0 vote.

Submitted for the Approval of ANC 2E,

Brett F. Clements
Secretary, ANC 2E