

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

April 28, 2014

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. by Commissioner Lewis, Chair. Commissioners Solomon, Lewis, Jones, Starrels, Birch, and Steury were present, constituting a quorum.

Administrative

Approval of April 28, 2014, ANC 2E Public Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the agenda of the March 31, 2014 ANC 2E public meeting. Commissioner Starrels seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Approval of March 31, 2014, Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2014 ANC 2E public meeting. Commissioner Birch seconded the motion. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

Public Safety Report

Lt. Hedgecock reported the good news that the street robberies from last month have stopped. More MPD bike, foot, and vehicle patrol and the MPD is seeing good results from this deployment. There has been an increase of thefts in hotels and restaurants of bags on the floor or hanging on chairbacks. Officers Adkins and Archada have put together a program, which helps keep local merchants in communication with the MPD in addition to 911. He advised that the public be mindful of open windows, doors, and garages as the weather warms up. There is usually an increase in burglaries during warm weather.

Financial Report

Commissioner Jones reported ANC finances are secure.

Transportation Report

Commissioner Lewis urged that citizens call 311 or report potholes online for repair and reported that DDOT was responsive.

Department of Public Works Report

Commissioner Jones deferred to DPW Director William Howland.

Community Comment

DPW Director William Howland reported on the main areas of responsibilities for the DPW including solid waste management, parking enforcement, and District vehicles. Among other topics, he discussed the Fort Totten recycling center, the new trash and recycling containers, household hazardous waste, sanitation violations, leaf collections and snow events, abandoned vehicle removal, and the use of alternative fuels in the District fleet.

Commissioner Jones then asked Director Howland to discuss the swapping out of new recycling and trash containers with the old ones. Director Howland said that DPW did not anticipate the number of cans, which would need to be removed and that DPW was behind schedule because of snow events. He also stated that DPW would be picking up the discarded cans as a priority.

Continuation of the Transportation Report

Commissioner Starrels reported that the DMV will reopen in Georgetown and it is a beautiful facility.

Commendation for Peter Prindiville

ANC 2E voted unanimously to commend Peter Prindiville, former Commissioner for ANC 2E08, for his service to ANC 2E. He has served with extraordinary distinction and is about to graduate from Georgetown University.

Peter is going on to the next stage and is moving from DC and in doing so cannot finish the end of his term. The commendation is as follows:

In recognition of his dedicated and effective service to the community, ANC 2E commends Peter Prindiville. As an ANC 2E Commissioner, Peter has provided strong and insightful leadership within the community. Peter has represented both his district's constituents and the entire community ably and collegially with thoughtful contributions and diligent, sustained work on the full range of issues coming

before the ANC. His concern for the community and his active leadership are exemplary. We hereby acknowledge and express our appreciation and gratitude to our good friend and colleague Peter Prindiville for his outstanding service and positive impact on our community.

Continuation of Community Comment

Commissioner Lewis made note in sad recognition of the passing of Charlie Eason, former Commissioner for ANC 2E07.

Commissioner Lewis announced that Peter Prindiville had submitted his resignation to Mayor Gray who will announce vacancy. Anyone who would like to run for Commissioner for SMD 08 should pick up nominating petitions for signatures.

Commissioner Jones and Ruth Werner of Councilmember Jack Evans' staff discussed funding for a proposed addition to Hyde-Addison School.

New Business

Commissioner Lewis made the following motion regarding the Georgetown Presbyterian Church Picnic in Volta Park, September 28, 2014, which was seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0

ANC 2E is happy to support the application of the Georgetown Presbyterian Church for a picnic in Volta Park on Sunday, September 28, 2014.

Commissioner Jones made the following motion regarding the WMATA proposal to remove the northbound bus stop for 30's buses at Wisconsin Avenue and Dumbarton Street, NW, which was seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The motion carried with a vote of 4-2 (Commissioners Birch and Steury dissenting)

ANC 2E requests further information on the reasons for removing the bus stop and opposes the removal of this bus stop until such time as persuasive material can be provided.

Commissioner Solomon made the following motion regarding the DDOT proposal to add 40 feet of No Parking School Days on the east side of 35th Street, NW, next to Hardy School, which was seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0

ANC 2E supports Hardy Middle School's request to extend 40 feet of "no parking" on the east side of 35th Street, NW. The change became necessary for the safety of students and the community. ANC 2E sees this as a temporary solution until other arrangements can be made for bus parking. This change should only be enforced from 9 to 4:30 school days only.

Commissioner Birch made the following motion regarding the application to remove a gingko tree at 1312 27th Street, NW, which was seconded by Commissioner Steury. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0

ANC 2E values the trees in our community, especially those along the streets in the neighborhood. While we prefer preservation over removal of trees, we have no objection to the application made to DDOT, accompanied by a petition signed by the requisite number of nearby homeowners, requesting the removal of a damaged gingko tree at 1312 27th Street, NW.

Commissioner Birch made the following motion regarding the Farmers Market in Rose Park, which was seconded by Commissioner Steury. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0

ANC 2E enthusiastically supports the annual Farmers Market in Rose Park. We applaud the efforts and hard work of those responsible for bringing us the market, and we look forward to opening day on May 7.

DDOT Public Space

Commissioner Starrels made the following motion regarding the application for a valet staging zone by Fiola

Mare, 3050 K Street, NW, DDOT Tracking No. 10128676, which was seconded by Commissioner Jones. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

ANC 2E supports the valet parking staging area for Fiola Mare with the following constraints:

1. Signage will be placed across from the loading dock garage where current "loading zone" signage is posted. We want the valet signage to read "Saturday – Sunday 11 AM – Midnight Monday – Friday 5 PM – Midnight."
2. No other spaces should be devoted to the staging area
3. The "circle" at the south end is NOT to be used for staging
4. An additional "no parking" sign is to be placed to the immediate south part of the building next to the loading dock garage door
5. ANC 2E has no objection to the Washington Harbour garage being used
6. No parking or staging of cars no matter their prestige or value is to be allowed

Old Georgetown Board

Commissioner Birch chaired the meeting for the discussion of Old Georgetown Board items.

**With regard to the National Park Service / DDOT / Cultural Tourism DC
Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail**

Commissioner Birch made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Steury. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

With regard to the proposed signage at Tudor Place and Dumbarton Oaks:

ANC 2E has no objection to the proposed signage at Tudor Place and Dumbarton Oaks.

**With respect to proposed signage for the Star Spangled Banner proposed trail through
Georgetown:**

ANC 2E traditionally does not favor additional signs on the already heavily signed streetlight posts and other streetscape infrastructure in Georgetown. The proposed signs have low-priority need at best and would be fairly numerous as envisioned. If the Board approves some form of this signage, we urge that the size be no larger than the current small graphic signs for parking in Georgetown and that for each new sign put up an equivalent or larger existing sign in the vicinity be removed.

Further, ANC 2E will send letter to NPS and Cultural DC suggesting the appropriateness of similar sign at Francis Scott Key Park.

With regard to 3601-3607 M Street, NW, OG 14-113 (HPA 14-220)

Commissioner Starrels made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Birch. The motion carried with a vote of 4-0, Commissioner Steury abstained.

ANC 2E confirms its previous recommendations and continues to oppose the 14 foot penthouse cooling tower with strong opposition from ANC 2E, the Citizens Association of Georgetown, and the surrounding neighbors. As reiterated by Chairman Cox and others, in the matter of right, 50 feet is acceptable, not 50 plus 14 feet. ANC 2E is pleased to see the design moving in the direction which backs away from the monolithic monumentality seen earlier. The verticality of the design is more in keeping with the current streetscape. ANC 2E would favor materials seen on other structures on M Street, NW, such as limestone, grey stone and brick.

ANC 2E commissioner Ron Lewis did not participate at the ANC 2E meeting in the discussion or vote on this project.

With regard to 2709-2715 N Street NW, OG 14-143 (HPA 14-283), Alexander Memorial Baptist Church

Commissioner Birch made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Lewis. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

ANC 2E objects to the proposal to develop the property at 2709-2715 N Street, NW. The Hall House, dating to 1810-1813, designed as a free-standing residence in the middle of the lots represented here is a historic and significant feature of this block and the Georgetown community. The yard to the west has never been built upon. We urge the OGB to preserve this open yard. The proposed addition to the west of the Hall House would diminish the appearance of the historic house and change its character. We note that the Foundation for the Preservation of Historic Georgetown in a letter dated April 16, 2014 shares our position on this matter. Letters from the Friends of Rose Park and the Citizens Association of Georgetown expressed similar opposition.

Second, we oppose the construction as proposed for a new house abutting the west side of the Hall House with the considerable loss of historic fabric that entails, including the demolition of a bay window and the existing windows on the west façade.

Third, the proposed new construction and paving of green space runs counter to the policy of the District of Columbia, supported by ANC 2E, to preserve and expand the green infrastructure in Georgetown as a component of the existing storm sewer system.

On the church façade to the east of the property, we oppose the proposed window plan and balconies which compromise the zone of privacy enjoyed by the neighbors in close proximity to the east. In addition, we wish to underscore the fragile nature of the eastern edge of the church property, including matters of drainage and stability of the existing brick walls to the east and north. The proposed plans fail to address these interests.

ANC 2E urges the Board to recognize the impact, both structural and aesthetic, on adjoining properties, given the excavations and structural risks inherent in the project's design.

With regard to 3336 Dent Place, NW, OG 14-175 (HPA 14-346)

Commissioner Lewis made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Starrels. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

ANC 2E does not object to the footprint of the proposed addition as it relates to the west side of the property, since it does not go beyond the rear facade of the neighboring house to the west. On the east side, however, we suggest the Board consider a somewhat shorter addition. We also question whether a 3rd story is appropriate, or at least whether the top story should be stepped back. And we do not support any deck at the 2nd or 3rd story, as rooftop decks are both inconsistent with the general historic appearance of houses in the vicinity and very intrusive of the privacy of neighboring properties. We also urge the Board to consider carefully the proposed fenestration at the rear façade.

With regard to 1357 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 14-084 (HPA 14-158)

Commissioner Jones made the following motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Birch. The motion carried with a vote of 6-0.

ANC 2E does not object to the proposal as presented. We believe the footprint of the proposed second and third floor additions on the east side of the property is acceptable, since it does not go beyond the facade of a neighboring house to the north. On the west side/street view, we suggest the Board consider the façade is stepped back sufficiently to preserve this historic streetscape view. The current distance of 6 feet seems to accomplish this. We do not support any rooftop deck on the rear/east side and find the fence, green roof and other attributes to sufficiently protect this from being used as a deck. Finally, we ask the board consider the appropriate amount of and type of windows and other exterior materials to be consistent with historic standards for this highly traveled area of Georgetown.

At 9:57 p.m., with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Lewis moved to adjourn the public meeting session of ANC 2E. Commissioner Solomon seconded the motion. With a vote of 6-0, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Melanie Gisler
Executive Director
for
Ron Lewis, SMD 02
Chairman, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

