



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Regular Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 28th, 2021; 6:30 p.m.
Online via Zoom

Call to Order

Commissioner Rick Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. Commissioners Kishan Putta (2E01), Jenny Mitchell (2E02), Rick Murphy (2E03), Lisa Palmer (2E05), and Elizabeth Miller (2E07) were present.

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the ANC's June 28th, 2021 Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's June 28th, 2021 meeting agenda. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0).

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

Commissioner Mitchell moved to approve the ANC's June 1st, 2021 meeting minutes. Commissioner Palmer 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.

Community Comment

Presentation from Delano Hunter, Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, Regarding the Mayor's Proposed FY 2022 Budget

Delano Hunter, the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (DCPR), gave a presentation regarding the Mayor's proposed FY 2022 budget.

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.

Presentation from Gabriel Robinson, Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles

Gabriel Robinson, the Director of the Department of Motor Vehicles, gave a presentation regarding the work of the agency.

New Business

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding a Park Permit Application for the Friends of Volta Park to Have a Band Play During the Volta Park Fall Festival on Saturday, October 2nd, 2021

Commissioner Mitchell 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 supports the park permit application for the Friends of Volta Park to have a band play during the Volta Park Fall Festival on Saturday, October 2nd, 2021.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding a Park Permit Application for the 2021 Volta Park Market

Commissioner Mitchell 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 supports the park permit application for the 2021 Volta Park Market.

Special Event Application for the DC Bike Ride on Saturday, September 25th, 2021

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E remains very pleased that only the Whitehurst Freeway will be closed for the 2021 DC Bike Ride within the ANC and appreciates that no amplified music will be played as part of the event. The ANC supports the special event application provided that the event organizers continue to develop solutions that maximize traffic flow, minimize traffic disruptions on neighborhood streets, and protect public safety.

ANC 2E understands and appreciates that the DC Bike Ride has verbally committed to, at minimum, the mitigation strategies noted below. Furthermore, the ANC appreciates that these strategies will be paid for by the event organizers and not by the DC Government. The strategies to be implemented include, but are not limited to:

- Dedicating a to-be-determined, but more than one, number of District Department of Transportation (DDOT) traffic control officers (TCOs) to the Georgetown area for the duration of the road closures,

- Securing commitments that any roadway construction work on the Key Bridge or on Canal Road NW would either be suspended or avoid requiring any closures for the duration of the road closures for this event,
- Working with DDOT's team to determine if signal tech engineers should and will actively monitor the area and modify signal timing as necessary,
- Engaging the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) to notify Waze and Google Maps about the DC Bike Ride's resulting road closures and traffic issues, and
- Creating “day of” points of contact for direct communication between DDOT, MPD, and ANC 2E.

Moving forward, ANC 2E recognizes that the DC Bike Ride is typically scheduled during Georgetown University’s graduation weekend. The ANC once again strongly requests that the event organizers coordinate the event schedule with Georgetown University and not hold the event on the same weekend as Georgetown University's 2022 graduation.

Special Event Application for the BellRinger Bike Ride on Saturday, October 23rd, 2021

Chair Murphy 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 supports the approval of the special event application for the BellRinger Bike Ride on Saturday, October 23rd, 2021, noting that the event supports a wonderful cause, the Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Application by Georgetown Wine and Spirits for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 1500 27th Street NW

Commissioner Miller moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E supports Georgetown Wine and Spirits’ application for renewal of the establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store license at 1500 27th Street NW.

Zoning

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application for a Special Exception from the Lot Occupancy Requirements and Area Variances from the Minimum Lot Width and Minimum Lot Area Requirements to Construct a Two-Story with Basement, Rear Addition to an Existing Two-Story with Basement Principal Dwelling Unit at 1404 27th Street NW

Chair Murphy 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 does not believe that the proposed first floor addition would negatively impact the availability of light, air, and privacy to the neighboring properties and does not therefore object to that element of this application. The ANC is, however, concerned that the second and third floors of the proposed addition, which increases the lot occupancy, might tend to adversely affect the use of neighboring properties and therefore recommends that the application not be approved until and unless a shadow study is performed and made available to all interested parties.

Old Georgetown Board

SMD 2E03 - OG 21-224 (HPA 21-403) 3406 N Street, NW

Chair Murphy 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 has reviewed but has no comments regarding the application for 3406 N Street NW.

SMD 2E05 - OG 21-211 (HPA 21-390) 3000 M Street, NW

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has long wished to see the property at 3000 M Street NW redeveloped. It is an important piece of property in our community, yet it has become a blight on the neighborhood since the original hotel was removed many years ago. The ANC has feedback on the use of the space that will be shared as part of a separate settlement agreement and other discussions. Noting that this resolution is specific to the Old Georgetown Board-related considerations, the ANC shares the following feedback regarding a temporary proposed use for 3000 M Street NW:

- Particularly considering that the amount of time that this temporary use will remain in place is unclear, ANC 2E wishes to see an elevated aesthetic employed at this space. The ANC believes that the current proposed designs are in line with our vision for design in this area of our neighborhood but note that the ANC supports this design and style of furniture, in particular, and would not support a more dialed back aesthetic.
- Because this is an open-air concept, ANC 2E expresses concern about noise traveling into the residential neighborhood. With this in mind, the ANC strongly requests that any and all designs incorporate noise remediation elements – this could include landscaping, trellises, etc. Also related to noise, the ANC requests that any and all speakers be directed towards the property and not facing upwards or outwards from the property. The ANC asks for the consideration of this feedback as plans are developed for speaker installations.
- ANC 2E notes its concerns about trash management in light of the rat-related issues in the neighborhood. As such, the ANC requests that all trash storage is secure and rat proof. The ANC strongly urges the Old Georgetown Board to ensure that trash storage is appropriate for this type of setting and that it be vermin-proof.

- ANC 2E expects that when the business closes in the evening, the site will be fully secured. This means, among other things, that the bathroom facilities will be securely locked, furniture will be stowed away, and the site will be otherwise unavailable for use. The applicant has shared with the ANC their intention of storing furniture securely and locking the furniture away under the platform or on the first floor of the hotel building. The ANC appreciates the attention to this detail. As part of the Old Georgetown Board's review, the ANC requests that the Board reviews and supports as appropriate any necessary storage facilities on the site that are viewable in public space.
- Finally, ANC 2E reiterates its support for using M Street NW as the main entrance and exit for this space and wishes to reiterate our interest in keeping loading and unloading, for both customers and supplies, off of 30th Street NW, which is often backed up with traffic and is a mixed-use block with residents only a few doors to the south.

ANC 2E looks forward to the sensitive revitalization of this corner of our neighborhood.

SMD 2E03 - OG 21-214 (HPA 21-393) 1517 Wisconsin Avenue, NW

Chair Murphy 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 applauds the willingness of the applicant to engage with the members of our community with respect to the impact of the proposed project at 1517 Wisconsin Avenue NW. Having said that, the ANC shares the concerns expressed by nearby residents. The cumulative effect of the increasing mass of the line of buildings on the east side of Wisconsin Avenue NW backing up to the residences fronting on 32nd Street NW is likely to severely degrade the look and feel of the historic neighborhood to the east. The ANC urges the Old Georgetown Board to encourage the applicant to reduce the height and mass of the proposed addition and to continue to engage with the nearby neighbors on the issues that affect them negatively.

SMD 2E06 - OG 21-200 (HPA 21-355) 3015 Orchard Lane, NW

Chair Murphy 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 is concerned that the second story of the proposed addition may negatively affect both the light and air of the immediate neighbors and, more importantly, the historic geometry and character of the block. The ANC asks the Old Georgetown Board to pay close attention to these issues when considering this application.

Adjournment

Chair Murphy adjourned the meeting at 9:19 pm.