

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

September 29, 2014

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Commissioner Lewis, Chair. Commissioners Solomon, Lewis, Starrels, Jones, Birch, and Quinn were present, constituting a quorum.

### **Administrative**

#### ***Approval of September 29, 2014, ANC 2E Public Meeting Agenda***

Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the agenda of the September 29, 2014 ANC 2E public meeting. The motion was seconded and carried with a vote of 6-0.

#### ***Approval of September 2, 2014, Meeting Minutes***

Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2014 ANC 2E public meeting. The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

### ***Public Safety Report***

Officer Cartek discussed the break-ins around Rose park and mentioned that the park police have stepped up patrols in that area. If the lights are out he recommends calling 311.

Commissioner Birch commented that we received a very good response from MPD which supplied a lighting truck to illuminate the park at night while the lights are being repaired. The request was responded to the same day.

Commissioner Solomon stated that he had requested help with student parking and traffic issues on 37th St. by the university and also the stop sign violations on O St. near Hyde school.

Officer Cartek said he would send an email to officers to curtail violation activities and officers are already issuing citations near the university on 34th, 35th and 35th streets.

Commissioner Starrels mentioned the bus parking problem on K St. and stated that buses parking in valet parking designated areas was unacceptable. Officer Cartek said they would get it figured out.

### ***Financial Report***

Commissioner Jones moved that ANC 2E approves the Fiscal Year 2015 budget. The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

### ***Transportation Report***

Commissioner Lewis urged the public to continue to call 311 to report potholes and streetlights that are out.

## ***Department of Public Works Report***

Commissioner Jones reported that in addition to DPW enforcing parking regulations in construction staging areas, DDOT can also help with unauthorized vehicles parking in the construction designated areas in our neighborhood.

Commissioner Lewis moved up the Alley Naming item from the New Business agenda for reasons of time constraint. Raya Kenney presented the history of the alley behind 3213-3227 Volta Place and proposed it be named Cashell Alley after the original landowner. Kim Williams from the DC Historic Preservation Office presented a letter of support for the naming and noted that the District is in favor of naming historic alleys whenever possible. Christopher Matthews of CAG presented a letter of support. Commissioner Lewis made the following resolution:

**ANC 2E supports the proposal by residents abutting the public alley at 3213-3217 Volta Place NW to name the alley “Cashell Alley” after Hazel B. Cashell, who owned the land and whose family developed the houses there around the 1860’s.**

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

## ***Introduction of First-time Candidates for ANC 2E***

Eleanor (Ellie) Budic and Dr. Monica Roache gave brief introductions of themselves and their views to the community. Both candidates are seeking the ANC 2E-07 position. The student commissioner positions will be filled by write in due to the difficulty getting requisite signatures in advance of the election.

## **Community Comment**

With regard to Trammel Crow's proposed purchase of the Exxon Station on Wisconsin Avenue Commissioner Lewis advised that citizens that have comments or concerns contact Trammel Crow, located at 1055 Thomas Jefferson St. NW, directly per Councilman Jack Evans.

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Ruth Warner from Councilman Jack Evans' office announced that for the November 4th election, voters from Precinct 6 will be voting at the Georgetown Library due to the temporary closure of Duke Ellington School. Also the Circulator will be holding an Open House on October 20, 6:00-8:00 PM at Pinstripes on Wisconsin Avenue.

Monica Carpio, candidate for Congress, introduced herself to the community and presented her platform.

Candice Mosely of Georgetown University announced the Georgetown Community Fair and Tailgate on October 4 from 10:00-12:00 for the Georgetown University vs. Harvard University football game.

Susan Rutledge, representing homeowners behind the 1400-1500 blocks of Wisconsin announced that the group has filed a formal protest against the pizza place and Yummi Crawfish with assistance of Commissioner Jones. Continuing the process in favor of balanced development of the area. Ms. Rutledge thanked the ANC and CAG for their support. Commissioner Jones thanked the group for working with all the interested parties and expressed the hope that a solution would be found to satisfy all involved.

Laura Bolling expressed the homeowners' desire for a strategic vision for economic growth and development.

Commissioner Birch commented that it is important to recognize that there are a myriad of agencies and organizations involved in these decisions and that ANC has no authority, but has influence and cannot control the whole picture. Commissioner Solomon commented that the interactions between business owners and residents has been a collegial and positive experience and has been effective in getting things done. Commissioner Starrels added that he has seen the relationship between businesses and the community improved over time and that the ANC works well with ABC and are well known for that relationship.

## **New Business**

Commissioner Lewis made the following motion:

**ANC 2E supports the application of the Friends of Volta park to hold Volta Park day in the park on October 5, 2014. This annual event is enjoyed very much by the community.**

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

Commissioner Starrels made the following motion:

**With regard to Pennsylvania Avenue Bridge:**

**To mitigate traffic disruption to, from and through Georgetown during construction work on the Pennsylvania Avenue NW bridge over Rock Creek, ANC 2E recommends:**

- 1. Traffic flow should be maintained over the bridge on two lanes during construction. Closing the bridge entirely would be likely to cause total gridlock in Georgetown and beyond and is not acceptable.**
- 2. Because of the volume of expected traffic, we recommend that the two open lanes of the bridge be made one-way eastbound, rather than trying to maintain one lane of traffic over the bridge in each direction. We do not believe one lane for eastbound traffic would be sufficient, and that it would instead drive traffic onto the residential streets and back up traffic throughout Georgetown. The additional traffic burden on M Street NW should be analyzed, including whether the bicycle lane can be appropriately maintained during bridge construction.**

3. Traffic on 26th Street NW should be maintained in two directions. If 26th Street NW were changed to one-way northbound, additional traffic from M Street NW would increase Georgetown's congestion, especially because all traffic from the 2600 block of M Street NW would be forced to go into Georgetown and attempt to work its way back around to Pennsylvania Avenue NW. This would be inefficient, disruptive and unnecessary.

4. To shorten construction time, work on the bridge should take place over extended hours. We recommend approving work on the bridge until 9:00 p.m., with an effort made to keep the noisiest work to the period before 7:00 p.m. A similar system was in place and significantly cut down the duration of the construction project when the bridge on Wisconsin Avenue NW over the C&O Canal was reconstructed.

5. Consideration should be made during the duration of the construction and lane closure to take a look at the lane configuration of M Street west bound from approximately 24th Street west to 28th Street, NW. We ask that all possible configurations be considered.

Commissioner Starrels made the following motion:

**ANC 2E does not object to the one-time proposal by the Georgetown BID to temporarily remove parking on the 3200 block of M Street, NW and use the parking lane for pedestrians on October 17-19, 2014. Important to our recommendation is the BID's commitment to arrange for low-cost parking in nearby parking garages and to provide free Circulator traffic on that day, so that cars displaced by the removal of on-street parking will not simply park on the residential streets. We appreciate also that the BID has agreed to discuss any similar future proposal with ANC 2E before applying for a permit to displace parking on the commercial streets in the future.**

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

Commissioner Birch made the following motion:

**ANC 2E seeks to ban or severely restrict the use of construction debris receptacles (dumpsters) on the residential streets in our community. To that end, we will engage in discussions with the DC Department of Transportation and other appropriate city agencies and elected officials, exploring a variety of policy options to develop the necessary regulatory changes.**

## FEES

DC permits are cheap, available for long periods of time, and easily renewable. Consider increasing the dumpster permit fees to make it uneconomical or inconvenient for a contractor to use a dumpster rather than hire a construction debris hauling service truck. DC's current graduated fee structure attempts to address the problem of extended placement of dumpsters in public space, but the fees are so low as to fail the objective. A sharply increasing fee should serve to shorten the time a dumpster stays in public space.

Current DC fee structure: In public space in areas zoned R-1 through R-5, the per month permit fee runs \$75 each of months 1, 2, and 3; \$125 for each month 4 and 5; \$200 for month 6 and each after that. The permit allots three parking spaces of 22 feet each, for a total of 66 feet of curb space.

Current Alexandria VA fee structure: Dumpster is allotted two parking spaces at \$30 per space per day for non-meter spaces and \$40 per space per day for metered spaces; in addition to the parking fee the applicant is charged a \$100 fee for a Right of Way Permit, good for 30 days and can be renewed at 30 day intervals. Each time the space permit is renewed the \$100 Right of Way Permit fee is charged in addition to the fee for the required parking spaces.

**Comparison of fees: One month in DC -- \$75  
One month in Alexandria -- \$1,900**

## **SIZE**

We need to regulate the size of the dumpsters. They should not be bigger than the parking spaces. In addition, the space allotted should be limited to the size of the dumpster, with no additional parking spaces provided.

These are huge receptacles that are wider than a parked automobile and take up precious space just in terms of available driving space on the street, and they also take up precious parking spaces. The size of receptacles, if permitted in public space on the street, should be no wider than a parked vehicle.

Consider a minimum width of streets on which dumpsters are permitted. Not all residential streets in our community can safely accommodate a dumpster in the parking. Current practice hampers the passage of deliveries to residences and both fire and ambulance emergency vehicles.

## **DURATION AND CONCENTRATION**

Place stricter limits on how long dumpsters can remain in front of a home to ensure that these large dumpsters do not sit in public space for months on end. Current fees pose little incentive for contractors to minimize how long a dumpster stays in place. Consider limiting the number of dumpsters per block or within two blocks at any time.

(Comment from a Georgetown resident: “In the past five years or so, there have been dumpsters on the curbs in our neighborhood at 33rd and P almost continuously (there is one now on P St., just west of 33rd that has been there for several months). For a while we had multiple dumpsters, one of which was on 33rd Street directly across from our house for almost a year! The contractor who was renovating the house there regularly brought trash from other construction sites to the dumpster in broad daylight. 33rd St. was like a mini-landfill!”)

## SAFETY

The size of dumpsters extending into the traffic lanes presents hazardous driving conditions, creating difficult situations on already narrow residential streets. For pedestrians attempting to cross the street safely, dumpsters block the view of drivers and endanger those on foot.

## PROHIBITION AND ALTERNATIVES

Ban dumpsters altogether.

We have a recurring problem with the overuse, prolonged use, unnecessary use of dumpsters related to home renovations in the neighborhood. Some of the best contractors never use them; others take advantage of the opportunity and inconvenience the neighborhood for long periods of time taking up precious parking.

In comments received from the ANC's last discussion of this topic, several Georgetowners have noted that some contractors avoid dumpsters altogether, instead using trucks to haul away debris and make nighttime parking available for the community.

Changes to dumpster policies could require both regulatory changes within the D.C. Department of Transportation and an act of the council.

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

Commissioner Birch made the following motion:

### 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF HOME RULE FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Whereas, this year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the passage of the District of Columbia Home Rule Act giving residents of the District of Columbia the ability previously denied them by the United States Constitution to govern their local affairs, and

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Whereas, the District of Columbia Home Rule Act provides for an elected mayor and the 13-member City Council, and

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Whereas, home rule has made possible the legislative creation of the 37 Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) whose decisions are given great weight in advising the government of the District of Columbia, and

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Whereas, Congress continues to hold the power to overturn local laws and exercises greater oversight of the city of Washington than exists for any state in the Union, now

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Therefore, ANC 2E proudly joins with other government leaders and community organizations in the District of Columbia to recognize the anniversary of this important occasion and confirm our commitment to ensuring the full measure of self-government for the District of Columbia.

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

### ABC

Commissioner Starrels made the following motion regarding Gypsy Sally's ABRA # 090582:

**ANC 2E hereby lifts the protest with the acceptance of the settlement agreement.**

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

Commissioner Birch made the following motion regarding After Peacock Room ABRA #:

**With regard to After Peacock 2622 P St., NW, ANC 2E hereby agrees to approve the settlement agreement and with the acceptance of the settlement agreement to lift our protest on this license.**

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

Commissioner Lewis made the following motion regarding Bon Appetit:

**ANC 2E supports the license application in ABRA # 096001 and urges the Board to grant a stipulated license. This license is in furtherance of the principles and policies of the agreed-upon 2010-2017 Georgetown University Campus Plan and has our full support.**

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

### Zoning.

Commissioner Lewis made the following motion regarding 3000 M St., NW, BZA Application # 88145

**ANC 2E welcomes and supports the agreed upon conditions, requirements and restrictions arrived at by the applicant and the Citizens Association of Georgetown in conversation with neighbors and other concerned persons in the community. We are particularly supportive of the parking agreement and the intention to adopt the loading spaces inside the building rather than on the street. We appreciate the productive and collegial approach that led to this agreement and urge the board to adopt the conditions, requirements and restrictions agreed to by the parties.**

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

## Old Georgetown Board

Commissioner Jones made the following motion:

With regard to 3137 O Street, NW, OG 14-287 (HPA 14-564):

**ANC 2E prefers Option 1, which would reduce the rear extension of the addition beyond the adjacent property to the east from the previous submission. Furthermore, Option 1 would increase the amount of landscaping available. However, ANC 2E asks the OGB to refer to its policy that “New rear additions should not project substantially beyond the extent of adjacent buildings of similar type and to establish a more sustainable landscape by reducing the amount of impervious materials”**

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

Commissioner Jones made the following motion:

With regard to OG 14-345 (HPA 14-678) 3127 Dumbarton Street, NW:

**ANC 2E strongly opposes the roof deck which was built without permit, in that it is not in keeping with the OGB policy that “Additions to roofs that are visible from a street or substantially alter the historic character of the building are discouraged.” It should be noted that ANC 2E has a long standing history of objecting to roof decks on residential streets, and that no other property on this street has a roof deck. Furthermore, there is no evidence which can be found, that a permit for any roof deck was ever obtained for this property. ANC 2E requests the current stairs and roof deck be removed immediately.**

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

Commissioner Birch made the following motion:

With regard to 3220 Prospect Street, NW OG 14-353 (HPA 14-686):

**ANC 2E appreciates the low scale of the design proposed for 3220 Prospect Street. We look to the development of a design which comfortably makes the transition from the commercial scale of Wisconsin Avenue to the residential nature of the existing buildings to the west. We draw attention to concerns about loading and trash handling in the approach to the design to alleviate street congestion.**

The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

At 9:45 PM, with no further items on the agenda Commissioner Lewis moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Maysak  
Executive Director, ANC 2E