



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 31st, 2022; 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 January 31st, 2022 Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Lohse moved to approve the ANC's January 31st, 2022 meeting agenda. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0).

Approval of the ANC's January 6th, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's January 6th, 2022 meeting minutes. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-0-0).

Administrative

Public Safety and Police Report

No one was present regarding this matter.

Changing the Date of the ANC's November 28th, 2022 Meeting

Commissioner Palmer moved to change the date of the ANC's November 28th, 2022 meeting to November 29th, 2022. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Community Comment

Update from the Mayor's Office

No one was present regarding this matter.

Update from Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office

Brian Romanowski, the Constituent Services Director for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, gave an update from the Councilmember's Office.

Update from the Department of Parks and Recreation Regarding Projects in the Neighborhood

Tommie Jones, the Chief of External Affairs and Director of Strategic Partnerships and Development for the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), gave an update regarding the agency's projects in the neighborhood.

Update from Jessica and Ezra Glass of Thyme Holdings Regarding Their Georgetown Properties and Vision for Georgetown

Jessica and Ezra Glass, representatives for Thyme Holdings, gave an update regarding their Georgetown properties and vision for Georgetown.

Update from DC Water Regarding the CSO 025/026 Sewer Separation Project

Amanda Zander, a Public Outreach Coordinator and Private Space Implementation Manager for DC Water, gave a presentation regarding the CSO 025/026 Sewer Separation Project.

Announcement Regarding TakeOutTuesday

Commissioner Miller gave an announcement regarding TakeOutTuesday.

Announcement Regarding the Citizens Association of Georgetown's *Black Georgetown Remembered* Program on Wednesday, February 9th, 2022

Tara Sakraida Parker, the President of the Citizens Association of Georgetown (CAG), gave an announcement regarding the organization's *Black Georgetown Remembered* program on Wednesday, February 9th, 2022.

Announcement Regarding the *Quilts4DC* Display at Dumbarton United Methodist Church on Sunday, March 13th, 2022

Commissioner Lohse gave an announcement regarding the *Quilts4DC* display at Dumbarton United Methodist Church on Sunday, March 13th, 2022.

New Business

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Actions Being Taken by Congresswoman Norton to Address Challenges with DC's U.S. Postal Service Delivery

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:

Over the past two years and into 2022, many residents of ANC 2E have expressed concerns to their ANC representatives about the United States Postal Service's (USPS) First Class delivery service. The key concerns and complaints have been around:

- Receiving First Class mail at their home that is very clearly marked for a different address (checks, tax information, bills, medical reports, personal correspondence, etc.).
- Sending and receiving First Class mail via USPS that arrives or is delivered
- significantly later than the newly published USPS First Class delivery standards, or sometimes is not delivered at all.

At ANC 2E's November 1, 2021 public meeting, the ANC shared these concerns with you and your staff given that you are our federal representative and that USPS is an establishment of the executive branch of the federal government. Since that time, the concerns continue, including some residents in ANC 2E not receiving any mail for up to six days. ANC 2E commissioners have continued to encourage residents to contact your office about their experiences with USPS.

ANC 2E asks that your office updates the ANC in the coming months on the actions you are taking to communicate the challenges our residents are experiencing with USPS delivery. ANC 2E also asks that you inform us if we or our constituents can assist you in encouraging the need for improvements to USPS.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Maintenance of Brick Sidewalks in Georgetown

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:

On July 22, 2021, having noted that patches made of porous flexible pavement (PFP) had been illegally used by the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to repair brick sidewalks in four locations in the Georgetown Historic District, ANC 2E asked DDOT Acting Director Everett Lott to direct DDOT to remove the illegal PFP patches (a copy of ANC 2E's July 22, 2021 message to Acting Director Lott is attached to this resolution as Exhibit A). When Acting Director Lott chose not to respond to ANC 2E's request, ANC 2E respectfully urged Mayor Muriel Bowser and Deputy Mayor for Operations and Infrastructure Lucinda Babers to direct DDOT to remove the illegally installed patches (a copy of ANC 2E's August 30, 2021 resolution is attached as Exhibit B).

In the five months that have passed since ANC 2E addressed its resolution to Mayor Bowser and Deputy Mayor Babers nothing has happened. Mayor Bowser, Deputy Mayor Babers, and Director Lott have all ignored ANC 2E's requests, and the illegal PFP patches have not been removed. More importantly, however, damaged sections of brick sidewalk in Georgetown, including at numerous locations identified by DDOT as needing repair almost a year ago, have not been repaired with brick as DDOT's regulations require. The predictable, but distressing, result is that the brick sidewalks in Georgetown are becoming increasingly unsafe and unsightly.

ANC 2E once again respectfully urges Mayor Muriel Bowser and Deputy Mayor Lucinda Babers to direct DDOT to commence repairing and maintaining the brick sidewalks in the Georgetown Historic District using brick and to immediately remove the four PFP patches that were illegally installed at the following locations:

1. 2710 P Street NW,

2. At the western end of the north side of the 2900 block of P Street NW,
3. 3301 Dent Place NW, and
4. 1640 33rd Street NW.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Lack of Enforcement of Signage Regulations in Georgetown

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

At its regularly scheduled public meeting held on October 4, 2021, the members of ANC 2E expressed their frustration with the proliferation of illegal neon signs in storefronts and windows within the Georgetown Historic District and called upon the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) and the Historic Preservation Office (HPO) to vigorously enforce the regulations and guidelines that govern signage in Georgetown (Exhibit A). In the four months that have passed since that resolution was adopted no discernible enforcement activity has been undertaken by the responsible agencies. During the same period:

1. the number of illegal freestanding “A-frame” signs cluttering the sidewalks and adjacent public space in Georgetown has increased, and
2. numerous signs attached to street poles in violation of DC regulations have remained in place. Neither neon signs nor signs on street poles that do not comply with long established rules are legal or appropriate in our community, and the free-standing signs on Georgetown’s historic sidewalks and adjacent public space are particularly hazardous for pedestrians in general and individuals with mobility challenges in particular.

ANC 2E hereby reaffirms, as forcefully as possible, its request that the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, the Public Space Regulation Division of the District Department of Transportation, and the Historic Preservation Office commence vigorous enforcement of all of the regulations and guidelines that apply to signs in the Georgetown Historic District.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Hardy Middle School’s Request for Needed Repairs and Renovations

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

Hardy Middle School was built in 1929 at 1819 35th Street NW and is almost 100 years old. It was last renovated fourteen years ago in 2008. Four years ago, the Deputy Mayor for Education projected that, during the 2022-2023 school year, Hardy would enroll 471 students, and, during the 2027-2028 school year, it would enroll 566 students. Yet, already in this year, the 2021-2022 school year, Hardy is up to 541 students, almost at the 2027-2028 projected enrollment. Hardy is growing fast – over 60% in the last five years – and if that keeps up, it will approach 1,000 students over the next five years.

Hardy's cafeteria is already too small according to the Hardy Middle School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), and it needs to be expanded as soon as possible. In addition, the PTO reports that the small, old, non-regulation turf field at Hardy is outdated and in terrible shape; it is very hard and has poor traction. The PTO has reported several injuries due to the poor field condition. ANC 2E notes that the decision of how to use the newly acquired school facility on MacArthur Boulevard NW has still not been made, more than six months after extensive community meetings were held and formal recommendations were made. However, regardless of that decision, the Hardy school building will nevertheless require renovations that will involve a long multi-year process of funding, planning, and renovation.

Therefore, ANC 2E supports the Hardy PTO's request for capital budget funds to renovate the Hardy building and asks Mayor Bowser and Councilmember Pinto to push for such funding in the coming budget process and not merely a feasibility study. The ANC also urges DC Public Schools to issue a decision on the MacArthur Boulevard NW site without delay.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Application by Mason's Famous Lobster Rolls for a New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 1078 Wisconsin Avenue 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:

ANC 2E protests Mason's Famous Lobster Rolls' application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license at 1078 Wisconsin Avenue NW based on the adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. The ANC agrees to drop the protest if and when an acceptable settlement agreement is signed by the applicant and ANC 2E.

New Business (Continued)

Special Event Application for the Lawyers Have Heart 10K & 5K on Saturday, June 11th, 2022

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

Lawyers Have Heart have agreed to implement the following practices for the 2022 race:

1. Move pre-race check-in off of Water Street NW and onto Washington Harbour property. The ANC expects that this change will not lead to any discernible increase in noise for residents living in or around this property.
2. Increase the number and adjust the height of the speakers in order to lower the sound from each individual speaker and decrease audio vibrations off of the Whitehurst Freeway.
3. All audio speakers will face south towards the Potomac River.
4. Music on race morning will be turned off should complaints be called in to the onsite Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) officer.
5. No audio of any kind will take place before 7:00 am, including sound checks.

6. Offer free registrations to the first 100 Georgetown residents who would like to participate.
7. Provide written details of road closures and access points to ANC 2E to disseminate to local residents in advance of the race.
8. Install seven blocks of water barricade lanes to provide access to and from parking garages and residences on the north curb lane of K Street and Water Street from 29th Street to Potomac Street NW.
9. MPD will manage the intersections going south from M Street to K Street and Water Street NW in order to ensure that residents and businesses have access to their locations via the north curb lane.
10. Traffic control officers will be located at five intersections on M Street NW to include:
 - 29th Street and M Street NW
 - 33rd Street and M Street NW
 - 34th Street and M Street NW
 - Wisconsin Avenue and M Street NW
 - Key Bridge and M Street NW
11. The American Heart Association (AHA) is following the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and appropriate state and local health departments regarding closures and procedures for large gatherings related to the coronavirus. Communications will be sent regularly updating participants and ANC 2E with updated and precautionary measures with regards to COVID-19.

With these alterations to the race in mind and agreed to, ANC 2E agrees to support the granting of permits for 2022. However, should these modifications either not be implemented or should the race continue to be disruptive to ANC 2E05, the ANC will not support the race in 2023.

Public Space Committee

Public Space Applications by the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project for the Installation of Bronze Free-Standing Plaques with Posts at Various Locations in Georgetown

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

ANC 2E supports the Georgetown African American Historic Landmark Project's public space applications for the installation of bronze free-standing plaques with posts at various locations in Georgetown.

Old Georgetown Board

SMD 2E03 - OG 22-076 (HPA 22-129) 3401 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 is concerned about the proposal to add two porches on the north side of the building, which could be used by individuals going outside of the building and gathering. The ANC does not believe that porches such as this were historically included in buildings built in this part of the Georgetown Historic District and asks the Old Georgetown Board to carefully consider whether a porch should be approved at this location.

SMD 2E05 - OG 21-270 (HPA 21-474) 3000 M 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:

ANC 2E is interested to see that the applicant continues to spend time on a concept proposal for the property even considering its stated interest in selling the property, as stated in its blighted property classification appeal, which will be reviewed as part of a Real Property Tax Appeals Commission hearing on February 2, 2022. Nonetheless, the ANC remains hopeful that the site will be redeveloped in short order, as it has sat vacant since water caused extensive damage to the building in 2013, almost nine years ago. Regarding the specific proposal in front of the ANC today,

- ANC 2E continues to quite like many of the elements of the plan, particularly the notion of episodic design on the M Street NW façade. The ANC appreciates the comments that the Old Georgetown Board (OGB) has shared thus far and continues to ask OGB to ensure that any new building respects the scale and the design of the buildings on M Street NW and is, likewise, appropriate from the south.
- From a use perspective, ANC 2E continues to note its concern related to use. The ANC looks forward to better understanding the built environment for picking up and dropping off guests, noting that the block will likely become more congested as 30th Street NW is also slated as the location for a new visitor center, which would also require a school bus loading zone in a similar location.
- As the ANC has noted in previous resolutions, the ANC hopes that these comments will assist the applicant as it moves its plans forward. The ANC's neighborhood is eager to see a permanent solution for this important space, which has been a desolate and unused construction site for too many years already.

SMD 2E06 - OG 22-054 (HPA 22-107) 2811 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:

The proposed construction in this application was completed by the applicant in December of 2021. No effort was made by the applicant to apply to the Old Georgetown Board (OGB) or to the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), thus the work was done illegally and was reported as such in December. Earlier today, DCRA did finally place a corrective order on the property.

ANC 2E does not support this application and urges OGB to review it carefully, including the materials. The front windows, which matched windows on the sides, were torn out and

replaced with French doors that have snap-in plastic dividers. The ANC hopes to see a new application that appropriately adheres to historic Georgetown standards and city construction permit processes. A full replacement of what existed should be the next step forward.

ANC 2E further notes that the applicant(s) and their agent(s) were informed of the ANC meeting but did not attend.

SMD 2E06 - OG 22-047 (HPA 22-100) 2819 N 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 concerns submitted to the Old Georgetown Board (OGB) by the immediate neighbors regarding this application.

The proposed addition, including new windows that overlook the neighbor's lawn and house, will negatively affect both the light and privacy of one of the immediate neighbors. Additionally, concerns regarding shared walls, foundations, and the large size of the garage door need to be carefully considered. The ANC asks OGB to work with this applicant to reduce the size of the addition, fully remove any privacy issues, and address issues with the garage door.

SMD 2E06 - OG 22-083 (HPA 22-136) 3024 Q Street, NW

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

Neighbor notification is a well-established part of the Georgetown renovation process. ANC 2E is disappointed that the applicant, or their architect, for this project did not share the proposed plans with the immediate neighbors until three days ago, when pressed to do so by the ANC commissioner. The neighbors did communicate that they have not yet had a chance to review the proposed plans that were given to them three days ago. Given the close proximity of the proposed closed porch, and its potential impact on natural light flow, especially to neighbors on the west side of the applicant, the ANC does not support this application at this time. The ANC looks forward to reviewing the application after proper neighbor notification occurs. As expressed with other projects, the ANC is also concerned about newly constructed porches.

ANC 2E further notes that the applicant(s) and their agent(s) were informed of the ANC meeting but did not attend.

SMD 2E07 - OG 22-074 (HPA 22-127) 3100 R Street, NW

Commissioner Miller 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 no comment regarding this project.

Adjournment

Chair Murphy adjourned the meeting at 9:50 pm.