

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

January 30, 2011
Georgetown Visitation School, 35th and Volta Place, Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Commissioner Lewis, Chair, with Commissioners Lewis, Starrels, Solomon, Jones, Sticka, Eason and Birch present, constituting a quorum.

Administrative

Approval of January 30th, 2012 Agenda

The agenda for the January 30th, 2012 ANC 2E public meeting was approved on a motion by Commissioner Lewis (Commissioner Sticka seconded) by a vote of 7-0.

Approval of January 3rd, 2012 Minutes

The minutes for the January 3rd, 2012 ANC 2E public meeting were approved on a motion by Commissioner Lewis (Commissioner Eason seconded) by a vote of 7-0.

Financial Report

Commissioner Solomon offered a financial report on the first quarterly report and the security of ANC 2E's bank accounts.

Commissioner Solomon made a motion to approve the first quarter financial report (Commissioner Sticka seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0.

Public Safety Report

Commissioner Solomon introduced an officer from the Metropolitan Police Department. The officer gave a public safety report and spoke about recent crimes in ANC 2E. The representative said that MPD has been receiving calls from the community about suspicious activity. She encouraged the community to continue making such calls, to hide their belongings, and to lock their doors. Community members made comments about several trouble traffic areas and the fact that some MPD cars have been parking on the basketball court of Rose Park.

Transportation Report

Commissioner Lewis reminded the community that they should report any potholes that they observe to the city.

Commissioners Jones and Solomon reported on the O & P Street rehabilitation project. Commissioner Jones reported that complaints were down, that trees were being replaced, and that the work by Washington Gas had ended. Commissioner Solomon reported that blocks around commercial areas are being phased in to the project to ensure that the businesses can remain open throughout the work.

Public Works Report

Commissioner Jones reported that the Department of Public Works spends almost as much on litter cleanup alone as the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs' entire budget and noted that reducing litter could save our city a significant amount of money. Commissioner Jones encouraged the community to attempt to litter less and recycle more. Finally Commissioner Jones reported that sweep inspections in Georgetown and Burleith are declining but still occurring regularly.

Community Comment

Commissioner Lewis thanked both the DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services Chief Kenneth Ellerbe and the DC Department of Regulatory and Consumer Affairs Director Nicholas Majett for attending the ANC 2E meeting. Commissioner Lewis then introduced Chief Ellerbe who addressed the community on issues related to public safety. Chief Ellerbe spoke about the large number of calls that DC FEMS responds to on a yearly basis. Chief Ellerbe also yielded a portion of his time to DC FEMS' Medical Director David Miramontes, a member of Chief Ellerbe's team working to make DC FEMS one of the most modern emergency service agencies in the world.

Commissioner Starrels asked about how DC FEMS can hire more local residents into the department. Chief Ellerbe responded that the agency's number one responsibility was fiscal responsibility. In response to a question by Commissioner Solomon, Chief Ellerbe said that DC FEMS has one of the best-trained staffs in the country. Commissioner Birch also asked about the temporary relocation of the Georgetown Fire Station when construction occurs on its current site. Chief Ellerbe said that no site had yet been identified.

After Chief Ellerbe spoke, Commissioner Lewis introduced DCRA Director Majett. Director Majett introduced DCRA and its responsibilities to the community. Director Majett discussed the various regulations that DCRA has a hand in enforcing throughout the District. Director Majett also addressed the recent collapse of a building at 1424 Wisconsin Avenue. Director Majett then introduced Gil Davidson, the duty officer who responded for DCRA to the collapse at 1424 Wisconsin Avenue. Mr. Davidson explained the caution that went into placarding 1422 Wisconsin Avenue and 1426 Wisconsin Avenue until a structural engineer can assess the property. Mr. Davidson clarified that those working on the property had a permit for the work and that the cause of the collapse has not yet been determined. Commissioners questioned Director Majett on the process of withholding permits from individuals that are known to improperly use those permits and potential conflicts of interest that could arise from property holders hiring their own structural engineers for assessments. Commissioner Starrels pointed out to the Director that several years prior, the same owner was cited by a previous Director of DCRA for "Demolition by Neglect" concerning another nearby Georgetown historic property. Commissioners asked Director Majett to consider

requiring an independent structural engineer chosen by DCRA to become involved in securing the site and recommending safe reconstruction measures.

Later, a representative from Pepco spoke about the recent power outages that the community has been experiencing. The representative spoke about an outage that occurred the night before and outages that have occurred in Burleith. The feeder for Burleith is one targeted in Pepco's five-year enhancement and renewal plan because of the frequency of outages stemming from the feeder. This process includes vegetation management, feeder improvement overhead and underground, distribution automation, and the installation of DC's smart grid. A second Pepco representative reported on specific issues related to Hillandale and Burleith. By June 2012, Hillandale's load will be moved to a different feeder. The result of this will be a lower load on Burleith's feeder. Pepco expects that all of Georgetown, Burleith and Hillandale will have upgraded electrical infrastructure within the next several years and that this will reduce outages significantly.

Ruth Werner from Councilmember Jack Evans' office made herself available for questions. A representative from the Executive Office of the Mayor announced the One City Summit to the community.

New Business

GU Campus Plan update

Commissioner Lewis informed the community that ANC 2E had made its final campus plan filing. Commissioner Lewis also announced that the Zoning Commission's public discussion of this case will be held on February 9th. Finally, Commissioner Lewis said that the community does not see the University's recently instituted Rocky's Report on safety and community disruptions to be an accurate portrayal of those issues in the community.

After this discussion, Commissioner Lewis made the following motion (Commissioner Starrels seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-1 (Commissioner Sticka opposed):

ANC 2E approves and ratifies the Proposed Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law submitted by ANC 2E, together with community organizations, on January 13, 2012 with respect to the Georgetown University 2010-2020 Campus Plan in proceedings before the D.C. Zoning Commission, Z.C. Case No. 10-32, and confirms that this material reflect the position of ANC 2E. ANC 2E authorizes ANC 2E Chair Lewis, or in his absence ANC 2E Vice Chair Starrels or Vice Chair Solomon, to file on behalf of ANC 2E, directly or through counsel, such other materials in those proceedings or in connection with any appeal thereof, either as a separate ANC 2E filing or together with one or more other parties, as he or they believe to be warranted in light of the record in the proceedings and the ANC 2E position.

Washington DC Triathlon

Commissioner Lewis introduced a representative from the Washington DC Triathlon, who presented on their proposed race for June 17th, 2012. The representative said that the race will use only the Whitehurst Freeway and do so on a Sunday. After discussion, Commissioner

Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Lewis seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the presentation by the Washington DC Triathlon and endorses the race as presented.

New rules for food-vending trucks

A representative from the DC Restaurant Association spoke about issues that they have identified with proposed vending regulations on food trucks. The representative was particularly concerned about how public space might be used in Georgetown as a result of these regulations. DCRA Director Majett responded by clarifying that the vending trucks must park in legal parking locations.

After discussion, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Jones seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E recommends that pending regulations with regards to the food carts be amended to prohibit food trucks from parking in residential parking spaces within ANC 2E.

Zoning

1623 28th Street, NW, BZA Application No. 18315

Commissioner Lewis reported on the past uses of the Evermay property and its recent change in owner. Following Commissioner Lewis' remarks a representative from the property spoke about the applicant's proposal. According to the representative Evermay will not be used as an event space but as a private residence and the home of a 501(c)3 organization. This organization is very interested in music and the arts. The representative spoke about the proposed uses for the site and discussed the use of the site's 109 parking spaces during public events. She also pointed out that a majority of the Evermay scholars do not live in Washington DC.

Commissioner Eason then discussed his comfort with the conditions being proposed along with the project and the 7-year length of the special exception. A neighbor also spoke on their general satisfaction with the application. Commissioner Birch mentioned that he would favor a 5-year length for the special exception instead of a 7-year length. Following this discussion, Commissioner Eason made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the application of Evermay Georgetown, LCC on behalf of the S&R Foundation for a special exception to operate a non-profit at the property known as Evermay Georgetown subject to the conditions which we have been provided with, as amended to provide for an initial exception period of 5-years, and with the understanding that the property will not be used as a rental for any purpose.

Old Georgetown Board

Commissioner Birch chaired the meeting for consideration of the following OGB-related matters.

Regular Calendar

Private Projects

With regard to 2910 M Street, NW, OG 12-099 (HPA 12-174):

A representative from the property spoke about their proposal to add a new awning and sign to their property. After discussion between Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded), which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E recommends that the Old Georgetown Board in evaluating the awning and signage at 2910 M Street, NW apply the standards that are required for awnings and signage in the historic district.

With regard to 3205 Prospect Street, NW, OG 12-092 (HPA 12-152):

A representative from the property spoke about their proposal for an internally-illuminated sign for Georgetown Falafel and Koshary. Commissioner Starrels asked if there would be neon present at this property. The representative said that there would not be. Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded), which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the sign but has concern over the fact that it is internally illuminated. ANC 2E would appreciate it if the Old Georgetown Board could confirm that the lighting meets their standards and the standards of Georgetown.

With regard to 1042 Wisconsin Avenue, NW OG 12-091 (HPA 12-151):

A representative from the property responded to Commissioner Starrels' queries regarding when neon signs were requested. After discussion by Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Jones seconded), which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E strongly objects to the color lighting that does not conform to the historic standards of Georgetown. ANC 2E notes that this lighting appeared nearly two months before any permit was requested.

With regard to 1210 28th Street, NW OG 12-103 (HPA 12-178):

A representative from the property spoke about their proposed 3-story addition.

After discussion by Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the plans as proposed.

With regard to 3010 Dumbarton Street, NW OG 12-063 (HPA 12-108):

A representative from the property spoke about their proposed replacement windows, alteration, gas light fixtures, and addition of rooftop HVAC. After discussion by Commissioners, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the plans as proposed.

With regard to 1525 Wisconsin Avenue, NW OG 12- (HPA 12-)

A representative from the property spoke about their proposal for alterations to the rear. A representative from the Citizens Association of Georgetown spoke about a number of objections that they have to the construction work that has been done on this property. The owner of the property responded to these statements.

After discussion by Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Jones made the following motion for the Old Georgetown Board (Commissioner Starrels seconded), which passed by a vote of 5-0:

In view of the historic preservation concerns and aesthetic interests (particularly the visual impact on the residents at 32nd Street) and the impact of the property on neighboring properties, ANC 2E urges the Old Georgetown Board to require that the originally approved plan be the plans that govern the construction at 1525 Wisconsin Avenue.

With regard to 3210 R Street, NW, OG 12-097 (HPA 12-172)

A representative from the property spoke about the proposed rear porch, alterations, replacement windows, solar panels and HVAC additions to the roof. Commissioner Birch raised questions about potential privacy impacts on neighbors. The representative responded that vegetation and grading at the location would minimize these impacts.

After discussion by Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Eason made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the project as proposed provided that the applicant actively seeks the consent of the immediately adjacent neighbors.

With regard to 1815 Wisconsin Avenue, NW OG 12-104 (HPA 12-179):

A representative from the property spoke about the proposed addition of a rooftop deck and their proposed sign scheme for a restaurant proposed for the property.

After discussion by Commissioners and the representative, Commissioner Eason made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E opposes the application for signage, awnings and roof deck because the signage is too large, the awnings include more than just the restaurant name, and the

roof deck because it may be a nuisance to the neighborhood and inconsistent with the neighborhood.

At 10:27 p.m., with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Lewis moved (Commissioner Starrels seconded) to adjourn this public session of ANC 2E. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted for the approval of ANC 2E,

Jake Sticka
Secretary, ANC 2E