

**Minutes for the Public Session of  
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E**

January 4, 2005

Georgetown Visitation School, 35<sup>th</sup> and Volta Place, Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by ranking member, Commissioner Starrels, with Commissioners Solomon, Lever, Clements, Moore, and Eason present, constituting a quorum.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**

**Introduction:** Commissioner Starrels, as ranking member of ANC 2E (SMD 05), introduces commissioners who took the oath of office on January 2, 2005.

ANC 2E01 Ed Solomon  
ANC 2E02 John Lever  
ANC 2E03 Bill Skelsey (NOT PRESENT)  
ANC 2E04 Brett Clements  
ANC 2E06 Pam Moore  
ANC 2E07 Charles Eason

**Election of Officers:** Commissioner Starrels introduces offices as required in the bylaws of ANC 2E.

Commissioner Starrels nominates Commissioner Solomon for Chair (Lever Second)  
Commissioner Solomon nominates Commissioner Starrels for Vice-Chair (Eason Second)  
Commissioner Eason nominates Commissioner Clements for Secretary (Lever Second)  
Commissioner Starrels nominates Commissioner Lever for Treasurer (Moore Second)

Slate of nominees accepted by a 6-0 vote.

**Minutes:** The minutes of the October 26, 2004 meeting were approved as distributed by former Commissioner Glick.

**COMMUNITY COMMENT**

As Lt. Felicia Lucas of MPD had not yet arrived, ANC 2E proceeded to next order of business.

**Georgetown Project Update:** Former Commissioner Len Levine informed ANC 2E that work resumed on Sunday after the Holiday moratorium and the project was still expected to be completed on time.

**Announcement of ALL meeting at Georgetown University:** Commissioner Clements informed ANC 2E and those present that the Alliance for Local Living, a workgroup of residents, University administrators, students, and others would hold its monthly meeting in the Gervase Conference Room on the Georgetown University Campus on Tuesday, January 18 at 6:30 PM. Anyone is welcome.

**DCRA Update on Group House Inspections:** Commissioner Starrels reported on the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting with DCRA. Items discussed were strategies at gaining entry to group homes by DCRA, initiatives by Georgetown University to encourage students to have homes inspected, and legislative possibilities through the District of Columbia City Council.

**Introduction of John Deatrick, DDOT, Chief Engineer:** Commissioner Solomon introduced Deatrick. Deatrick updated the progress of the Georgetown Project, specifically the Wisconsin bridge and even the possibility of changes/removal of the Whitehurst Freeway. Deatrick also introduced Ramona Burns (Ward 2 Coordinator) and Steve Asher (Traffic Services). A question was raised from the audience about the 33<sup>rd</sup> Street Footbridge. Deatrick informed ANC 2E and attendees that the contract was out and awaiting a bid.

**Introduction of Neighborhood Services Coordinator (New Item of Business):** Carlson Klaphor, the new Neighborhood Services Coordinator for Ward 2, was introduced and offered his services on behalf of the office of Mayor Anthony Williams.

**The Devastation Caused by the Tsunami in Sri Lanka:** Ajith Wellage, a sixteen year employee of the Georgetown Boeymonger, spoke of the large Sri Lankan community in the District and the effects of the tsunami on family and friends. A box for donations to a Sri Lankan relief organization is located in Boeymonger to help with the massive task of rebuilding the country. At the suggestion of Commissioner Solomon, additional information will be posted on the website of ANC 2E.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***Special Items***

**Presentation of New Multi-Bay Meters:** Karyn LeBlanc from DDOT (formerly of the Georgetown Project) introduced drawing and specifications for the new Multi-Bay meters to be located on M Street between 28<sup>th</sup> and Key Bridge. She was joined by Larry Brown (Director of the Meter Program) and Mark Derek (the Contractor) Work will begin on January 10 and should be completed by the end of January, depending on the weather. The new meters will service up to ten parking spaces, but will not require a motorist to walk more than one hundred feet to the nearest meter. The new meters will also accept credit cards. The Schlumberger model being installed is currently in use in Boston, Houston, New York City, and Portland.

**Police Report:** Lt. Lucas of MPD arrived and gave the December police report. Overall crime was up 30%. Robberies decreased for the month, which is uncommon during the holiday season. Unfortunately, the number of burglaries, automotive burglaries, and thefts all increased. Lt. Lucas responded to questions about the damage to cars on the 3400 block of O Street, stating that the investigation was not closed, but “on hold.” Lt. Lucas was also informed by a member of the community that homeless people had been breaking into cars at 33<sup>rd</sup> and K Streets and sleeping in them.

**Designating Len Levine to be Georgetown Project Liaison:** Former Commissioner Levine was thanked by Commissioner Starrels for his years of service and particularly his most recent work with the Georgetown Project. Commissioner Starrels moved (Solomon second) for the following which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E hereby appoints former Commissioner Len Levine to continue to serve as Chairman of the Community Relations Team (CRT) for the year 2005 and to the completion of the Georgetown Project.

**Change in Parking Signage:** Commissioner Solomon moved (Starrels second) for the following which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E requests a change in RPP Zone 2 parking signage from 4PM - 8:30PM to 7AM – 8:30PM in the 1600 block of 37<sup>th</sup> Street and on the south side of R Street in the 3600 block.

### ***ABC Matters***

**Au Pied Bistro:** Commissioner Starrels introduced the Voluntary Agreement acceptable to both the attorney for Au Pied Bistro and the ABC Committee Chair of ANC 2E (Starrels). Commissioner Starrels moved (Lever second) for the following which passed by a vote of 4-0 (with Clements abstaining and Moore absent):

ANC 2E lifts its protest of ABC renewal for Au Pied Bistro and enters into the proposed voluntary agreement.

**Georgetown Bar and Billiards:** The owner of Georgetown Bar and Billiards requested the following changes to its current ABC license: change from “DR” to “CR” license (from beer and wine to beer, wine, and spirits), extend hours to open at noon instead of 6:00 PM, remove two billiards tables with seating. The owner of the property and his attorney from the Andrew Kline Law Firm were present. The owner stated he wanted to cater to an older crowd in line with Café Milano new door. Concerns raised included the short supply of parking in the area. Commissioner Starrels moved (Eason second) for the following which passed by a vote of 4-1 (Lever voting no and Clements abstaining):

ANC 2E will protest the request for the changes proposed by the Georgetown Bar and Billiards located at 3251 Prospect Street because of concerns of peace, order, and quiet as expressed by some in the Georgetown community. We have every

hope of entering into a voluntary agreement with the applicant to address these concerns in the weeks ahead.

### ***Zoning and Planning***

**3401 Dent Place:** Commissioner Lever requested, with no opposition from either the Commission or residents, to move the project to the consent calendar. He noted that the alterations were mostly to windows and doors, which are usually forwarded to the Old Georgetown Board for their consideration. Additional changes included a new door at the rear and a roof lantern. OGB 05-049

**3032 N Street:** Commissioner Moore informed the Commission and residents that the request for a roof deck on the D'Orta residence had been withdrawn for consideration by request of the owner.

**1531 31<sup>st</sup> Street:** It was brought to the attention of ANC 2E that illegal work had occurred at 1531 31<sup>st</sup> Street. The single family home was being remodeled as a four condominium. Additionally, work was being done to install a roof deck on the residence and the historic turret was being demolished. Work continued after an initial Stop Work Order was issued. One neighbor noted that the owner of the home had been developing in the Georgetown area for several years and knew both the proper manner in which to obtain approval and necessary permits. Commissioner Moore moved (Starrels second) for the following:

ANC2E request the Historic Preservation Office to take immediate action to be sure that both the roof and roof turret are restored to their original condition at 1531 31<sup>st</sup> Street allowing only a flat roof hatch.

After further discussion, Commissioner Eason moved (Moore second) for the following amendment to the resolution which passed 6-0.

If it is within the authority of the Historic Preservation Office then the maximum penalties should be imposed for the flagrant disregard of the city regulations by the owner.

The resolution, in its entirety, then passed by a vote of 6-0.

**3313 O Street:** Mr. Greg Connors, accompanied by his architect and contractor, presented plans to ANC 2E to build an addition to the existing structure in the space currently containing a side garden. The addition would extend to the exterior wall of the neighboring house. Twelve households in the area wrote letters to ANC 2E opposing the project. Many neighbors were in attendance to voice their opinion on the matter. Complaints included the loss of light by the neighbor (shadow study was done by architect and presented at meeting), potential harm to property values on the block, loss of view from the street of the double porch, and the historically unique character of the block which includes an extraordinarily large number of houses with alley space in

between them. Support was given by a few neighbors who felt the project was better than the original proposal of a third story addition and one who informed ANC 2E that Mr. Connors had a very good reputation for restoring historic homes and his house in South Hampton was on the cover of a book about historic New England Homes. More opponents than supporters were present at the meeting. Commissioner Lever moved (Starrels second) for the following which passed by a vote of 4-2 (Clements and Eason opposing):

ANC2E does not support the plans as presented for a three story addition on the east side façade of 3313 O Street due to the impact of the adjacent neighbor's light, loss of an important garden along O Street and the objections of numerous neighbors. ANC 2E encourages the owner to seek a compromise solution that addresses these important concerns.

**1409 35<sup>th</sup> Street:** Architect Douglas Rixey presented plans for additions and changes to the rear of the residence to add space to the living room. The issue was raised in the meeting that the owner operated a rental apartment out of the residence without a Basic Business License, as required by District of Columbia law. Commissioner Lever moved (Moore second) for the following:

ANC 2E has no objection to the project as presented for 1409 35<sup>th</sup> Street.

After further discussion, Commissioner Eason moved (Starrels second) for the following amendment to the resolution which passed 6-0.

However, it is widely known that an illegal rental unit exists at the rear of this property. ANC 2E will notify DCRA that this address is operating without a Basic Business License and ask that DCRA attempt to obtain entrance for a safety inspection for the protection of both the occupants and neighbors.

The resolution, in its entirety, then passed by a vote of 6-0.

**2821 Q Street:** Architect Douglas Rixey presented plans for changes at the rear of the residence. The abutting neighbors were present and noted that they had only received the plans the day of the meeting. The owner apologized and maintained that the error was not purposeful. Commissioner Eason moved (Moore second) for the following which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E does not oppose the appearance of the applicant before the Old Georgetown Board with the understanding that the abutting neighbor, who is desirous of reviewing the project prior to permit approval by the Old Georgetown Board will have the opportunity to do so. Unfortunately, the neighbor was given short notice of the proposed addition.

**1042 Wisconsin Avenue:** No one representing the business, Prince Café, attended the meeting to present the request for a sidewalk café. Commissioner Starrels noted that the

front of the establishment also contained unapproved neon lights. Neighbors stated that trash was an issue at the restaurant, which augmented a rat problem. Commissioner Starrels went on record to note that the proper District of Columbia agencies would be informed of the neighbors' concerns. Commissioner Starrels moved (Clements second) for the following which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E does not support the sidewalk café for 1042 Wisconsin Avenue, as the applicant did not appear at our public meeting. At the meeting it came to our attention that the alley dumpsters associated with this establishment are a health hazard and will be reported to the proper authorities.

**3336-3340 M Street:** The owner of Gore Dean and her daughter presented plans for the new awnings and lettering of Gore Dean at their new location on M Street. The awnings would be on both levels and made of canvas. The lettering would not be illuminated or exceed twelve inches in size. Commissioner Starrels moved (Lever second) for the following which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E supports the window and door awnings with lettering as presented for 3336-3340 M Street.

**3146 M Street:** Plans were presented for changes to the Polo storefront, with the addition of light fixtures, planters, and new signage. Ralph Lauren's personal love of flowers was noted, as was a prior ANC recommendation for additional flowers to beautify the retail district. Commissioner Moore expressed concerns for nighttime vandalism to the planters. Commissioner Moore moved (Clements second) for the following which failed to pass by a vote of 2-4 (Clements and Moore supporting):

ANC 2E supports the alterations to the lighting and signage for 1247 Wisconsin Avenue, recommend they rethink the planters due to a possibility of vandalism.

Commissioner Lever moved (Solomon second) for the following which passed by a vote of 4-1 (with Clements opposing and Moore abstaining):

ANC 2E supports the proposed alterations to the storefront, including the planter, light fixtures, and signage for 1247 Wisconsin Avenue.

**2820 N Street:** Plans were presented for a new garden wall at rear and the replacement of the front stoop and handrail. No opposition was voiced within the meeting. Commissioner Moore moved (Eason second) for the following which passed 6-0:

ANC 2E supports the changes as proposed to 2820 N Street.

***At 9:44 PM, with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Clements moved (Lever second) to adjourn this public session of ANC 2E. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote.***

Submitted for the Approval of ANC 2E,

Brett F. Clements  
Secretary, ANC 2E