



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 1st, 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), Anna Landre (2E04), Lisa Palmer (2E05), Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06), Elizabeth Miller (2E07), and Matias Burdman (2E08) were present.

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of the ANC's March 1st, 2021 Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's March 1st, 2021 meeting agenda. Commissioner Burdman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

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

Commissioner Palmer moved to approve the ANC's February 1st, 2021 meeting minutes. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Administrative

Public Safety and Police Report

Commander Duncan Bedlion, the Commander of the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Community Comment

Update from Councilmember Brooke Pinto

Councilmember Brooke Pinto gave an update from her office.

Update from Ward 2 State Board of Education Member Allister Chang

Allister Chang, the Ward 2 member of the State Board of Education (SBOE), gave an update regarding the work of the board.

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 the Georgetown BID

Jamie Scott, the Director of Planning and Economic Development for the Georgetown BID, gave an update from the organization.

Update from Georgetown Main Street

Rachel Shank, the Executive Director of Georgetown Main Street (GMS), gave an update from the organization.

Announcement Regarding TakeOutTuesday

Ms. Shank made an announcement regarding TakeOutTuesday.

Update from the Georgetown Business Association

Ed Solomon, the President of the Georgetown Business Association, gave an update from the organization.

Presentation from the District Department of Transportation Regarding the Agency's 2020 Accomplishments and 2021 Goals for Ward 2

Andrew DeFrank, a Community Engagement Specialist for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave a presentation regarding the agency's 2020 accomplishments and 2021 goals for Ward 2.

Presentation from DC Water Regarding DC Water's CSO 025/026 Sewer Separation Project

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

Outreach to Local Parking Lots and Garages to Encourage Customer Parking

Commissioner Lohse gave an update regarding the ANC's outreach to local parking lots and garages to encourage customer parking.

New Business

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Implementation of Any Speed Limit Changes 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: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has been informed that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) may lower speed limits around streateries and sidewalk extensions on arterial streets in DC,

including M Street NW and Wisconsin Avenue NW in Georgetown, to 15 miles an hour in order to reduce conflicts between pedestrians and motor vehicles.

ANC 2E supports efforts to improve pedestrian safety throughout our community and asks that if the speed limits on M Street NW and Wisconsin Avenue NW are lowered, the speed limits on the minor arterial, collector, and local streets in our community also be lowered to the same or a lower speed limit so that drivers are not incentivized to divert from M Street NW or Wisconsin Avenue NW and use primarily-residential streets to transit our neighborhood.

Consideration of a Resolution to the Department of Public Works Regarding Illegal Parking Along the West Side of 28th Street Between M Street and Olive Street NW

Commissioner Lohse moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Burdman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

There are consistently many illegally parked vehicles along 28th Street between M Street and Olive Street NW. Video and photographic evidence is available (Attachment A). The illegal parking is especially persistent on the west side of this block. Many of the illegally parked vehicles are drivers from third party delivery services such as Uber Eats, food delivery trucks servicing the restaurants on the block, and patrons of the restaurants who decide to eat in their cars. This problem existed before the COVID pandemic and has continued and, some nights, grown throughout COVID.

The block is narrow, is mixed-use, has two-way traffic, and is frequently used by drivers from the east entrances of Georgetown on M Street NW and Pennsylvania Avenue NW to cut north through Georgetown's residential blocks. Therefore, illegal parking on the block causes significant congestion as well as the inability of residents to enter their driveways. The illegal parking occurs during the day and most evenings. The restaurant that generates much of the illegal parking activity, George's King of Falafel and Cheesesteak, is open until 2:00 am so noise due to the illegally parked cars persists late into the evening and early morning. Residents have not observed any city ticketing of illegally parked vehicles along this block. George's says it is unable to monitor the parking of third party delivery services visiting their establishment.

ANC 2E urges the Department of Public Works (DPW), when it begins its regular parking enforcement ticketing again, to ticket all illegally parked vehicles along this block and to visit the block frequently.

ANC 2E also requests that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) works with the restaurants on that block, the ANC 2E06 Commissioner, and the Georgetown Business Improvement District (BID) to determine where vendors, including third party delivery services, can legally park when needing to do delivery pick-up from restaurants located on this block. Third party food delivery services cannot, and should not, treat our public roads as parking lots.

Consideration of a Resolution Requesting that the Department of Public Works Returns to Ticketing

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Murphy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

As customers return to commercial districts, including Georgetown, ANC 2E strongly requests that the Department of Public Works (DPW) returns to ticketing at expired meters as well as vehicle booting and towing as appropriate.

Consideration of a Resolution to DC Public Schools Regarding Considering Opening a High School in Georgetown and Moving Hardy Middle School to 4530 MacArthur Boulevard NW

Commissioner Putta moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, a DC Public Schools (DCPS) workgroup on expanding the capacity of the Wilson High School feeder pattern began meeting in February of 2021 and ANC 2E appreciates this as the ANC passed a resolution in 2019 asking for a process and a plan to address overcrowding in the pattern,

WHEREAS, while the workgroup initially did not include community representatives from Burleith or Georgetown, it now will include such representatives going forward, and

WHEREAS, one of the options being discussed calls for moving Hardy Middle School out of ANC 2E and opening a new high school in its building, which would be a major change for our neighborhood and families.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E requests that the residents of the ANC be consulted extensively before any decisions are made about the future of Hardy Middle School or other major changes to our neighborhood.

Consideration of a Resolution Asking the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority to Extend the Deadline for Submission of Testimony on Proposed FY 2022 Operating Budget and Related Service Proposals

Chair Murphy moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) recently issued a Notice of Public Hearing concerning WMATA's Proposed FY 2022 Operating Budget and Related Service Proposals.

ANC 2E observes that WMATA's Proposed Service Plans, if adopted, would include Metrobus changes, particularly in the second half of FY 2022, that would have a dramatically negative effect on our entire community, including students and workers at Georgetown University and employees, patients, and visitors of MedStar Georgetown University Hospital.

The proposed service changes are wide ranging and they call for careful review and consideration by affected individuals and organizations, including ANC 2E, before thoughtful and comprehensive comments could be prepared.

Currently, WMATA has scheduled a public hearing for DC to take place on March 8, 2021 and has set March 16, 2021 as the deadline for responding to a survey, which could include written comments. ANC 2E is concerned that the schedule WMATA has established fails to provide a reasonable amount of time for affected organizations and individuals to prepare and provide useful comments.

Therefore, ANC 2E requests that WMATA (1) schedules at least one additional public hearing for a date in the third or fourth week of March 2021 and (2) extends the deadline for submitting testimony on the Proposed Service Plans to at least April 5, 2021.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Application by Foxtrot for Renewal of the Establishment's Retailer's Class "B" Full Service Grocery License at 1267-1271 Wisconsin Avenue NW

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has no objection to the application by Foxtrot for renewal of the establishment's Retailer's Class "B" Full Service Grocery license at 1267-1271 Wisconsin Avenue NW.

Appointment of Representatives to Address Potential Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration Changes

Chair Murphy moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E supports the creation of a task force to review the Mayor's proposals regarding modifying the regulation of alcoholic beverages in the ANC's community. The ANC names Commissioners Rick Murphy and Lisa Palmer as the ANC's representatives to the task force.

Public Space Committee

Public Space Application for the Replacement of an Existing Driveway Apron with a New Concrete Driveway Apron at 3123 Dumbarton Street NW

Chair Murphy moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Mitchell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has no objection to the granting of the application for the replacement of an existing driveway apron with a new concrete driveway apron at 3123 Dumbarton Street NW.

Public Space Application for the Replacement of Two Boxwood Bushes in Planters with Sculptures at 3614 Prospect Street NW

Commissioner Palmer moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Putta seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E believes that the public space application for 3614 Prospect Street NW, which requests the use of public space for sculptures, has a procedural deficiency. All items that are viewable in public space must be reviewed by the Old Georgetown Board, who will determine if and how an applicant's plans abide by the standards of the historic district. In this case, the applicant installed the sculptures prior to any such review or prior to review by the Public Space Committee.

ANC 2E appreciates that the sculptures are unique and bring smiles to many people who see them; however, the ANC has also heard from some neighbors who do not believe that the sculptures fit within the guidelines set forth by the Old Georgetown Board. Importantly, the ANC asserts that the applicant must follow the appropriate review process prior to making any changes viewable in public space and/or located in public space. As such, the ANC does not support the granting of a public space permit at this time and asks for the applicant to go through the appropriate steps such that the Old Georgetown Board can review this application and provide guidance to the appropriate permitting agencies.

Zoning

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application by Rover Enterprises, LLC for a Special Exception from the Rear Addition Requirements to Construct a Three-Story, Rear Addition to an Existing, Attached Three-Story Principal Dwelling Unit at 3550 Whitehaven Parkway NW

Commissioner Putta moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

Having considered the application and the views of neighbors, ANC 2E recommends that the Board of Zoning Adjustment grants the special exception relief requested.

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application by Love Properties, LLC for a Special Exception from the Rear Yard Requirements to Construct a Two-Story Rear Addition to an Existing, Attached Two-Story Commercial Building at 2818 Pennsylvania 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: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E supports the granting of special exception relief for the applicant located at 2818 Pennsylvania Avenue NW. The ANC believes that the rear yard addition fulfills the requirements set forth by the Zoning Commission, including that it is in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the mixed-use zone and that it does not adversely impact the use of neighboring properties. Furthermore, the ANC believes that the application fulfills the

requirements of Subtitle G, 1201 and thus should receive rear yard relief. The ANC believes that the applicant's application for this work accurately represents the conditions on the ground.

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application by 1515 Wisconsin Avenue, LLC for a Special Exception from the Lot Occupancy Requirements to Construct a Two-Story Addition on the Top of the First Floor at the Rear Portion of the Existing Building and to Construct a Three-Story Rear Addition to Construct 6 Residential Units in the Existing, Three-Story Building at 1515 Wisconsin Avenue NW

Chair Murphy moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E remains concerned about the impact that the mass of this proposed addition would have on the neighbors to the east of the project and the ANC urges the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) to require the production of a light study before it makes a decision on the granting of the special exception to make sure that there is no adverse impact on the neighbors from the construction of this project.

However, ANC 2E is also pleased to see that this project, if constructed, would result in the addition of three housing units to the mixed-use area in Georgetown, which is something that the ANC favors. Therefore, subject to the other provisions of this resolution, ANC 2E does not object to the granting of the special exception by the Board of Zoning Adjustment.

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application for an Area Variance from the Lot Occupancy Restrictions to Construct a Second Story Addition to an Existing Two-Story, Nonconforming, Semi-Detached Principal Dwelling Unit at 3216 Reservoir Road NW

Commissioner Mitchell moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Palmer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

After reviewing all materials, ANC 2E supports the Board of Zoning Adjustment application for an area variance at 3216 Reservoir Road NW.

Old Georgetown Board

SMD 2E06 - OG 21-113 (HPA 21-207) 1404 27th 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: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E has no comment on this project.

SMD 2E07 - OG 21-111 (HPA 21-205) 1805 Wisconsin Avenue, NW

Commissioner Miller moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Murphy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E is very pleased to see a project of this nature, which incorporates commercial and residential development, moving forward at this location. The ANC believes that a project like this could bring a great amount of energy to this block and transform this important gateway into Georgetown.

ANC 2E supports the applicant's raze application for a new building. With that said, the ANC has concerns about the proposed plans specifically related to the overall size and mass of the building. At four stories plus a penthouse, it is twice the height of both the rows of attached two-story contributing commercial structures north and west of it on Wisconsin Avenue NW and the detached single-family one- and two-story residences on S Street NW. Creative ideas have been suggested and the ANC believes that this concern can be rectified.

ANC 2E strongly suggests that ample parking be part of the design process of this building and that special attention is paid to the concept of a roof deck, which is not something the ANC generally supports. The ANC is eager to see this project move forward and the ANC sincerely hopes that concerns can be addressed and a building can be designed for this important block of our community that is both economically viable and sensitively designed.

Adjournment

Chair Murphy adjourned the meeting at 10:58 pm.