

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

September 29, 2009  
Georgetown Visitation School, 35<sup>th</sup> and Volta Place, Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Commissioner Starrels, Chair, with Commissioners Solomon, Golds, Starrels, Birch and Eason present, constituting a quorum.

**Administrative**

***Public Safety and Police Report***

Commissioner Solomon reported on public safety matters and recent crimes in the community. He mentioned that there is an awards banquet this evening to honor officers in our area, that major crime is trending downwards, Georgetown has received extra-duty officers to help with busy weekends, and BID has been hiring reimbursable detail to help patrol the business corridors.

***Approval of August 31 Meeting Minutes***

The minutes for the meeting of ANC 2E held on August 31, 2009 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Eason (Commissioner Solomon seconded) by a vote of 5-0.

***Financial Report***

Commissioner Solomon reported on ANC 2E's finances.

ANC 2E's budget for FY2010 was approved on a motion by Commissioner Eason (Commissioner Birch seconded) by a vote of 5-0.

Commissioner Solomon made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded) to give ANC 2E Executive Director Melanie Gisler a raise, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E approves effective as of October 1, 2009 a salary for Ms. Melanie Gisler, Executive Director of the Commission, a half-time position of at-will employment, of \$1,200 per month payable monthly in arrears, and a maximum of \$14,400 for such salary payments in any twelve-month period.

***Transportation Report***

Commissioners Starrels reported on transportation matters in the community. He mentioned that streetlight poles are being refurbished and brick sidewalks are being improved. He reminded the community to call 311 for potholes and to bring major issues to the attention of the Commission. Commissioner Eason mentioned that the intersection 29<sup>th</sup> Street, NW and R Street, NW will be converted to an all-way stop.

## **Community Comment**

Community members made comments regarding issues associated with Philly Pizza and Grill including late-night noise and possible zoning violations. The Commission will continue to explore this issue and work with other relevant DC Government agencies to resolve the issues. Commissioner Birch mentioned that four baby girls have been born recently on Poplar Lane in Georgetown. Healthy Living, Inc. made an announcement about a fundraising event next week (Thursday, October 10) and the mission of their organization.

## **New Business**

### ***Merriment in Georgetown on Wisconsin Ave. NW in December***

Representatives from the Georgetown BID presented plans for their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Merriment in Georgetown event planned for Sunday, December 6. Roads will be closed from 8 am to 8 pm for set-up and take down. Traffic control officers will be present. After discussion by commissioners and community members, Commissioner Solomon made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the work Georgetown BID has done to pull this annual event together and in the spirit of that, ANC 2E supports the Merriment in Georgetown event scheduled for Sunday, October 6, 2009.

Commissioner Solomon left the meeting at this point.

### ***Lawyers Have Heart 10K***

Representatives from the Lawyers Have Heart 10K presented plans for their June 12, 2010 charity event in Georgetown, including street closures. After discussion by commissioner and community members, Commissioner Eason made the following motion (Commissioner Starrels seconded), which passed by a vote of 4-0:

ANC 2E endorses the request of the American Heart Association for street closures for their event scheduled for Saturday, June 12, 2010.

### ***DDOT Decision to end the Wisconsin Ave. NW portion of the DC Circulator Route***

DDOT's plans to cut service on Wisconsin Ave. and the ensuing reinstatement of service were discussed. The Commission noted the phenomenal work of CAG, Councilmember Jack Evans and the entire community. After discussion by commissioner and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 4-0:

On behalf of the Georgetown and Burleith communities, ANC 2E expresses sincere thanks to Mayor Fenty for today's decision allowing the Wisconsin Avenue Circulator route to remain in service. The Circulator is important to all elements of our community—residents, businesses, public schools, Georgetown University and Georgetown Hospital alike—and we are very grateful for the decision to keep this

route in place. We appreciate as well the leadership role taken on this by Councilmember Jack Evans, along with the outpouring of support for the Circulator voiced so effectively by members of the community. ANC 2E would also like to thank Mr. Gabe Klein for his leadership on this important issue.

### **Zoning and Planning**

#### ***1605 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, NW, and 1644 31<sup>st</sup> Street, NW, Tudor Place Foundation, Inc. Special Exception to allow the continued operation of a museum***

A representative from Tudor Place presented their previous successes and their community benefits. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Eason made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 4-0:

ANC 2E, having reviewed the application for Tudor Place Foundation, Inc. to allow their continued operation, finds the request consistent with the expectations of the community and recommends that the Board of Zoning Adjustment grant the application as submitted. ANC 2E authorizes any of its members to speak on behalf of this project before the Board.

#### ***3046 N Street, NW, Appeal the BZA decision to allow the addition of a 2<sup>nd</sup> story deck with stair to the ground and a separate 3<sup>rd</sup> story deck to a non-conforming structure devoted to a conforming use***

A representative from an adjacent property presented his case against the addition of the decks. The pros and cons of the BZA decision were discussed. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded), which passed by a vote of 4-0:

ANC 2E supports the appeal of the Board of Zoning Adjustment decision regarding the property at 3046 N Street, NW in view of the fact that the proposed addition of a second story deck and a separate third story deck raises issues of lot occupancy, rear yard loss, number of stories on the property and the negative impact on adjacent properties. ANC 2E authorizes any of its members to speak on behalf of this project before the Board.

#### ***3240 O Street, NW, St. John's Episcopal Church, Application for a special exception to continue a child development center for 45 children and increase the number of faculty/staff from 9 to 13 at the second floor of the church building***

Representatives from the church presented their plans to continue the child development center and increase staff. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded), which passed by a vote of 4-0:

ANC 2E does not object to the request of St. John's Preschool to increase its staff by a total of 4 people, from 9 to 13, because of the school's importance to the ongoing health and vitality of our community; the minimal size of the proposed increase in

staff; the likelihood that not all of the increased staff will park in the community, given the tightness of parking generally, the availability of convenient public transit, and the 2-hour parking zone restrictions; and the absence of objections from the neighbors. ANC 2E authorizes any of its members to speak on behalf of this project before the Board.

## **Old Georgetown Board**

### *Regular Calendar*

#### **Private Projects**

##### **3301 M Street, NW, OG 09-299 (HPA 09-337), Retail:**

Representatives from Georgetown Cupcake presented plans to alter the storefront at their new location. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded) which passed by a vote of 4-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the presentation and appreciates the evolution of the concept and the design and encourages the OGB to pay close attention to the details going forward and that the materials used keep within the historic nature of Georgetown.

##### **1075 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, OG 09-334 (HPA 09-374), Commercial:**

Review of this project has been postponed to a later date.

##### **3032 N Street, NW, OG 09-345 (HPA 09-411), Residence:**

Concept plans were presented for the Historic Preservation Review Board, focusing on the alterations to the rear, side and underpinning of the property. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded) which passed by a vote of 4-0:

ANC 2E is unable to support the proposed alterations at 3032 N St. NW and regrets the absence of a formal presentation, but in view of the plans as presented we have concerns with loss of historic fabric and issues arising from the proposed underpinning.

##### **3137 N Street, NW, OG 09-303 (HPA 09-341), Residence:**

Permit plans were presented for a two-story rear addition with a basement and alterations to the garage. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded) which passed by a vote of 4-0:

In the absence of plans and a presentation, ANC 2E is unable to support the proposed addition and alteration at 3137 N St. NW.

##### **2623 O Street, NW, OG 09-348 (HPA 09-414), Residence:**

Concept plans were presented for a two-story rear addition and the addition of dormers. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Starrels seconded) which passed by a vote of 4-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the concept for a rear addition at 2623 O St. NW. We appreciate the time and effort invested by the applicant to discuss the plans with neighbors and propose alternatives to address concerns. We encourage the OGB to consider the alternatives presented which may address issues of mass and scale to keep the structure compatible with the green space and housing on this block. ANC 2E has no objection to the proposed dormer windows on the front of the house and we have no objection to a shed dormer on the rear of the house. We, however, do encourage the OGB to ensure that the addition of a balcony on the rear of the house does not impinge on the privacy of the neighbors.

**3212 P Street, NW, OG 09-308 (HPA 09-346), Residence:**

Concept plans were presented for a rear addition at the second floor. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded) which passed by a vote of 4-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the concept proposed at 3212 P St. NW for a second floor rear addition.

*Commissioner Skelsey entered the meeting at this point.*

**3009 Dumbarton Street, NW, OG 09-339 (HPA 09-405), Residence:**

Concept plans were presented for a two-story rear addition and the demolition of a rear wing and garden structure. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch made the following motion (Commissioner Eason seconded) which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E objects to the addition proposed at 3009 Dumbarton St. NW with particular concerns over the incursion on the sense of open space enjoyed by the surrounding neighbors, privacy concerns for neighbors given the extent and the open aspects of this addition, the design of the addition, which while contemporary and may have its appeal, is very much not within what is appropriate for this property. Indeed, there is something to be said for recognizing the integrity of the pairing of 3009 with 3011 on Dumbarton Street. We have serious concerns for the preservation of the historic elm tree but we call special objection and concern for the proposal to the swimming pool and extensive pavement which will result in a loss of existing ground surface and green space and may create drainage runoff issues for the adjacent property.

**3273 P Street, NW, OG 09-351 (HPA 09-420), Residence:**

This project was moved to the No Review portion of the agenda.

**1511 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, NW, OG 09-342 (HPA 09-408), Residence:**

Permit plans were reviewed for the Historic Preservation Review Board, with a focus on the enclosed porch area at the basement level and the addition of a glass bay. After

discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Skelsey made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded) which passed by a vote of 5-0:

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

**3212 O Street, NW, OG 09-312 (HPA 09-350), Commercial:**

Permit plans were presented for a partial demolition and a new two-story rear addition with a basement. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Skelsey made the following motion (Commissioner Birch seconded) which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E has reviewed the project again and our position remains unchanged in that we regret the loss of one of the last small wood-frame free-standing buildings on this block of O St. NW and note that the proposed addition dramatically changes the mass and form of that original structure.

**At 9:32 p.m., with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Starrels moved (Commissioner Golds seconded) to adjourn this public session of ANC 2E. The motion passed unanimously.**

Submitted for the approval of ANC 2E,

Aaron Golds  
Secretary, ANC 2E