



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 1st, 2016; 6:30 p.m.

Georgetown Visitation School, Heritage Room – 1524 35th Street NW

Call to Order

Chair Ron Lewis called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. Commissioners Ed Solomon (2E01), Ron Lewis (2E02), Jeff Jones (2E03), Mara Goldman (2E04), Bill Starrels (2E05), Tom Birch (2E06), Monica Roache (2E07), and Reed Howard (2E08) were present.

Approval of the Agenda

Approval of November 1, 2016 ANC 2E Public Meeting Agenda

Chair Lewis moved to approve the November 1st meeting agenda. Without objection the motion was passed.

Approval of the October 4, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Chair Lewis moved to approve the October 4th meeting minutes. Without objection the motion was passed.

Administrative

Public Safety and Police Report

Lieutenant Gary Durand, the Lieutenant for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Police Service Area (PSA) 206, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood. He also gave an overview of the crimes that occurred in the neighborhood during Halloween.

Financial Report

Commissioner Jones said that the ANC's finances are sound.

Transportation Report

Chair Lewis encouraged meeting attendees to continue to report broken streetlights through the Mayor's ongoing streetlight repair initiative. He also encouraged attendees to look at the LED streetlights that have been installed at certain places in the neighborhood and to let the ANC know what they think about the lights. He added that community members could consider leaving their stoop lights on at night in order to deter crime in the neighborhood.

Community Comment

Brief Explanation of the Advisory Referendum on DC Statehood (Advisory Referendum B) on November's General Election Ballot

Nik Nartowicz, Policy Counsel for the DC Office of Federal and Regional Affairs (OFRA), gave an overview of Referendum B, which calls on the DC government to support statehood for the District, on the November general election ballot. He said that, through the referendum, the DC Council has asked residents if they want the city to petition Congress to be admitted as the 51st state.

Mr. Nartowicz said that the draft state constitution, as well as the proposed boundaries of the new state, are available online at <http://statehood.dc.gov/>. He encouraged meeting attendees to reach out to the Office of Federal and Regional Affairs if they have any questions about the referendum.

Brief Announcement Regarding Georgetown BID's Annual Georgetown GLOW Event

Debbie Young, the Events Director for the Georgetown Business Improvement District (BID), said that this year's Georgetown GLOW event is the BID's third annual GLOW event. She said that, for this year's event, the BID received a grant from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. She added that the event will run from December 2nd through January 1st, and encouraged attendees to visit the BID's website for the event schedule.

Other Public Comments

Ruth Werner, the Committee Director for Councilmember Jack Evans, said that the DC Council is currently in session through the end of the calendar year. She added that she is available to answer any questions.

Richard Livingstone, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), encouraged meeting attendees to attend one of the upcoming Age-Friendly DC Progress Report community meetings. He added that the homeless shelter hotline number had recently changed to (202) 399-7093. He encouraged attendees to program the new number into their phones.

Kimberly Manning, a representative for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) regarding the proposed DC Streetcar extension to Georgetown, encouraged meeting attendees to attend DC Streetcar's upcoming community meeting on Thursday, November 17th at 6:00 pm at Pinstripes at Georgetown Park, during which updated plans for the extension will be discussed.

A representative for the Georgetown Village said that in honor of the Village's 5th anniversary, the Village is unveiling discounted annual memberships. She also encouraged attendees to become a volunteer for the Village.

New Business

DDOT's Proposed Parking Regulations

Commissioner Jones moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Lewis seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-2). The resolution replaces a motion adopted at the Commission's previous public meeting and reads as follows:

ANC 2E greatly appreciates DDOT's effort to update the parking regulations throughout the District. We recognize that this is a difficult challenge considering all the variables that may impact District residents, businesses, and institutions, such as universities and community associations, as well as the potential for differing views that may arise among the interested parties. We also recognize that different areas within an ANC may warrant different treatment. We support DDOT's goal of working collegially to address these possible impacts and conflicts. Therefore, we ask DDOT to consider the following in finalizing the proposed regulations:

We recommend that the regulations encourage neighborhoods, working through ANCs, to bring the interested parties together and reach consensus recommendations to DDOT on specific solutions for their particular situation.

We recommend that the regulations recognize that if one-side- of-the- street RPP parking is proposed, it need not be throughout an entire ANC area but could be limited to particular blocks or areas as appropriate.

We recognize that DDOT reserves the ability to designate areas for particular RPP treatment based on appropriate metrics and policies; however, we insist that DDOT shall consult with relevant parties (such as the ANC and other community organizations) in creating final determinations for RPP within an ANC area.

Hyde-Addison Elementary School's Proposed Construction and Swing-Space Location

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

Be it RESOLVED that the ANC2E strenuously urges Mayor Bowser and District of Columbia public school officials to suspend the decision to relocate Hyde-Addison Elementary School to 11th and Euclid Street Northwest and instead work with ANC2E, community representatives of Georgetown and Burleith, and Hyde-Addison parents to identify a local swing space for Hyde-Addison before beginning construction. In addition, ANC2E strenuously urges Mayor Bowser and District of Columbia public school officials to restore elements of the original design of this project, including the separate, above ground cafeteria, the campus main entrance on O Street and the full gymnasium. Our reasons are as follows:

District of Columbia Public School (DCPS) officials have proposed to relocate Hyde-Addison Elementary School to 11th and Euclid Street Northwest (Meyer Elementary School) during its renovation for two full academic years, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019.

Hyde-Addison is the only public elementary school of right for Georgetown children.

Hyde-Addison currently enrolls 320 children, including 56 children of the ages of three and four.

DCPS found the commute by bus would take up to 40 minutes one-way at times of heavy traffic and foresaw an 8am bus departure time from Hyde, thereby lengthening the time that young children who are bused spend away from home or other activities by at least 1.5 hours per day.

This lengthy commute is inappropriate for children as young as three years old, will substantially reduce time with family and participation in extracurricular activities, and may have adverse effects on child health and safety as well as academic performance.

Hyde-Addison is the only DCPS neighborhood elementary school that is being required to relocate over three miles away. Whereas the decision to relocate has been made without a single meeting with the community, even as DCPS has held multiple community meetings for Lafayette and Murch construction.

Minimal impact on families and the community is cited as a DCPS criterion for swing space.

The decision to send Hyde-Addison children to 11th and Euclid Street Northwest for two years was made against the expressed wishes of the community. Relocation to 11th and Euclid Street Northwest was opposed by 93% of respondents to a survey conducted by DCPS and distributed to every Hyde parent.

Insofar as DCPS's justification to forgo local relocation options is due to cost, that justification is undermined by the fact that DCPS recently spent \$8.9 million constructing a temporary campus close to Murch Elementary School for Murch's two-year relocation.

Attrition due to relocation is likely to damage one of the top-ten performing elementary schools of DCPS. Whereas ANC2E is mindful of the attrition that resulted at Hardy Middle School in 2006, when the relocation of the school during construction resulted in a loss of more than one-quarter of the student body in a single year.

DCPS proposes to cut the project by reducing the overall size of the co-located gym and cafeteria by 2,000 square feet or approximately one third to save costs.

DCPS has proposed significant changes to the ANC and Old Georgetown Board-approved original design of the addition, which may result in additional extensive delays to the project.

DCPS proposed to co-locate the cafeteria in the gym, underground, with very limited natural light in non-compliance with LEED recommendations, which recommend natural light in a space such as the cafeteria for the health and well-being of children.

Colocation of the cafeteria and gym will pose logistical challenges and will limit simultaneous use, for example when a basketball team would require use of the gym at the same time that aftercare requires the use of the cafeteria. Whereas such co-location imposes a burden on teachers, staff and parents.

A gymnasium of adequate size is critical for a school with no outdoor athletic fields and a proposed 25% enrollment increase.

DCPS has proposed to move the location for the entrance of the school from O Street as approved by the Old Georgetown Board to a less secure location facing the playground requiring visitors to cross unsecured areas used by the Hyde children before checking in with the security guard.

The Planned Closure of the Fillmore Arts Center

Commissioner Birch moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Lewis seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia Public Schools has announced its intention to cease funding for the Fillmore Arts Center program for the coming school year,

WHEREAS, the arts program provides a valuable resource with a broad range of arts instruction to students from five D.C. public schools, including for our neighborhood students attending Hyde-Addison Elementary School in ANC 2E,

WHEREAS, elimination of the arts program would mean the end of the high-quality arts education offered to the 1,700 students served by the program from the 5 schools each now lacking both the space and the budget to provide a quality arts education curriculum, and

WHEREAS, arts instruction is an essential component of elementary school curriculum and contributes to higher overall student achievement levels, and the arts program is a reason many local families choose to send their children to Hyde-Addison and continue to support the D.C. public school system.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E urges the District of Columbia Public School officials to restore funding for the Fillmore Arts Center program for the coming school year and to continue funding an arts education program for the future.

Traffic Congestion at the Intersection of 28th Street and M Street NW

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

WHEREAS, the existing parking configuration seriously impedes the free flow of traffic entering and exiting 28th Street at M Street NW, creating less than two full lanes often exacerbated by the presence of trucks making deliveries,

WHEREAS, 28th Street NW serves as a major commuter route for traffic through Georgetown, as well as the initial point of entry for residents living on the east side of Georgetown and for emergency vehicles serving those residences, and

WHEREAS, the traffic congestion is most severe during the morning and afternoon commutes when a complete standstill is not unusual; the situation persists every single day with traffic partially blocked throughout the day, causing significant difficulty for drivers attempting to navigate and travel through the block of 28th Street between M Street and Olive Street NW, and creating unsafe conditions for bicyclists and pedestrians as well.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E insists that DDOT implement the optimal solution – including options to remove the remaining lane of parking on the west side of the block, or to eliminate the spaces at the entry from M Street on the east side of 28th Street NW – to correct the current problem by providing wider access to traffic and improve the flow of traffic at this clogged point of entry point into Georgetown. The current situation is untenable.

Traffic Congestion at the Intersection of Thomas Jefferson Street and M Street NW

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

WHEREAS, there is severe traffic congestion on Thomas Jefferson Street NW, creating gridlock south beyond the C&O Canal towards K Street NW. This traffic is a result of the current lack of designated left and right turn lanes at the intersection of Thomas Jefferson Street and M Street NW, and

WHEREAS, the two parking spaces on the northeast corner further impede what should be a right turn cueing lane for Thomas Jefferson Street traffic turning eastbound onto M Street NW.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2E requests that DDOT implement the following solution:

1. Remove the two parking spaces closest to the intersection on the northeast corner at M Street NW,
2. Remove the single lane striping at the north end of the street,
3. Install a left turn arrow in the roadway for traffic turning westbound, and
4. Install a right turn arrow in the roadway for traffic turning eastbound onto M Street NW.

The current situation is intolerable and this relatively easy solution will help to increase the efficient flow of traffic and will eliminate some of the congestion that is a daily occurrence.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board

Expedited Retailer's Class "D" Multipurpose Facility License Application for Escape Room Live at 3345 M Street NW

Commissioner Birch moved to approve the signing of a settlement agreement with Escape Room Live and to support the issuing of a stipulated license for the establishment's new Retailer's Class "D" Multipurpose Facility license application. Commissioner Starrels seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Renewal of Gypsy Sally's Retailer's Class "C" Tavern License at 3401 K Street NW

Commissioner Starrels moved to protest Gypsy Sally's application for the renewal of its Retailer's Class "C" Tavern license based on negative impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. Commissioner Birch seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Zoning

Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School, 1524 35th Street NW (BZA No. 17549A, Additions to an Academic Building and Enrollment and Staff Increases)

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

ANC 2E supports the application by Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School ("Visitation" or the "School") for a special exception to increase the size of an academic building and to increase the enrollment cap for students from 490 to 530 and the cap on faculty and staff from 120 to 125, with appropriate protections.

We support the application in recognition that Visitation is both a fine institution and a welcoming, considerate and generous-spirited neighbor in our community, and because we believe the proposed additions to St. Joseph's Hall and the increased enrollment and

faculty/staff caps can be accommodated without significant adverse impacts to neighboring properties.

The increase in size proposed for St. Joseph's Hall is modest, particularly in the context of the considerable open space that will remain on the School's campus. The addition at the northern end does bring the building closer to the townhouses to the north, and we anticipate that the neighbors and the School will work together to assure sufficient landscaping or other measures to provide visual screening and to provide protection from additional light spillage into the townhouses at night.

We understand also that the School and the neighbors are considering the effects of parked cars on the School's grounds near the townhouses. We encourage these discussions, provided the issue can be addressed without increasing parking demand on 35th Street NW and other nearby streets.

The School already has in place an extensive Traffic Management Plan ("TMP"), instituted as part of the BZA approval in 2007 of an increase in enrollment and faculty/staff caps. The TMP has worked well, with the School achieving a reduction in peak-period traffic that not only complies with the TMP but is significantly greater than what the TMP would require. In these circumstances, and given the School's seriousness about good-neighbor, green-neighbor transportation policies, we are comfortable that the currently requested enrollment and faculty/staff cap-increases can be similarly accommodated within the current TMP.

Old Georgetown Board

SMD 2E02 - OG 17-013 (HPA 17-020) 1524 35th Street, NW

Chair Lewis moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Jones 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 proposed additions at the northern and southern ends of St. Joseph's Hall. We urge the Board to consider the fenestration with care, particularly given the visibility of the eastern façade from 35th Street NW and the proximity of the northern façade to the townhouses at the nearby property line.

SMD 2E03 - OG 17-008 (HPA 17-015) 3317 P Street, NW

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

ANC 2E does not object to the proposal as presented, but requests the HPRB consider that the length of the addition does not extend too far beyond adjacent properties, so far

as to prevent any impacts regarding the historic character. ANC 2E does not oppose the proposed roof terrace.

SMD 2E03 - OG 17-022 (HPA 17-029) 3255-3259 Prospect Street, NW

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

Although ANC 2E finds some appearance and context improvements, we continue to have concerns with how the latest iteration proposed impacts the character of the Georgetown Historic District, such as:

- The mass and height continue to be an issue and should be reduced
- The setback of the northern facade should be aligned with the building directly to the east
- We appreciate the applicant's effort to improve the transition, but we ask for further improvements to be made
- The glazing is too imposing on the northern façade facing directly onto adjacent properties
- The northern façade terraces facing properties along N Street NW are not appropriate

We ask for further information and details pertaining to the northern and western façades in context with the properties along N Street NW and Potomac Street NW.

SMD 2E05 - OG 17-025 (HPA 17-033) 1055 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW

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

ANC 2E questions the appropriateness of the number of signs that are presented.

SMD 2E06 - OG 17-005 (HPA 17-012) 1210-1214 28th Street, NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

SMD 2E06 - OG 16-340 (HPA 16-598) 2716 O Street, NW

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

ANC 2E has no objection to the concept of a rear addition at 2716 O Street NW but we ask the Old Georgetown Board to consider the appropriateness of the length and mass of

the proposed addition and its impact on adjacent properties. We also suggest that the balcony be reduced so that it is not a place to step out but rather a place that can be appropriate for plants.

SMD 2E06 - OG 16-384 (HPA 16-675) 3032 Q Street, NW

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

ANC 2E has no objections to the plans as proposed for this concept.

SMD 2E06 - OG 16-383 (HPA 16-674) 3016 Dumbarton Street, NW

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

ANC 2E is supportive of the concept of the addition proposed at 3016 Dumbarton Street NW, however we call to the attention of the Old Georgetown Board the concerns about the materials (wood siding) and their appropriateness to the character of the historic district. We also call to attention the amount of glass on the rear of the addition and the extent to which the glass is or is not in keeping with the design of buildings on this block. We recognize the impact that the addition will have on neighbors to the south, the east, and the west and we appreciate what measures are taken to minimize those impacts.

Landscaping is another important feature and we appreciate the attention of the applicant to appropriate landscaping to continue to provide privacy for the adjoining properties.

SMD 2E07 - OG 17-023 (HPA 17-031) 3058 R Street, NW

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

ANC 2E has no objection to the proposal for the increased height of the garage at 3058 R Street NW, with reservation based on it not being subservient to the building. We do not support the proposed windows on the south façade.

Adjournment

Commissioner Birch adjourned the meeting at 10:14 pm.