

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

January 6, 2009
Georgetown Visitation School, 35th and Volta Place, Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Commissioner Solomon, Chair, with Commissioners Solomon, Lewis, Golds, Starrels, Birch, and Eason present, constituting a quorum.

Administrative

ANC Officers and Committees for 2009

Commissioner Solomon thanked the community and ANC for making his time as Chair so easy and also thanked the Executive Director, Melanie Giesler, for her outstanding service. He gave special recognition to his fellow Commissioners and thanked them for their service.

Commissioner Birch and others thanked Commissioner Solomon for his time and leadership as Chairman.

Commissioner Solomon nominated Commissioner Lewis to be the Chair for 2009. This was seconded by Commissioner Eason and passed by a vote of 6-0.

Commissioner Lewis thanked his fellow Commissioners and thanked Commissioner Solomon for his outstanding service as Chair.

Commissioner Lewis nominated Commissioner Starrels to be the Vice-Chair for 2009. This was seconded by Commissioner Eason and passed by a vote of 6-0.

Commissioner Lewis nominated Commissioner Golds to be the Secretary for 2009. This was seconded by Commissioner Eason and passed by a vote of 6-0.

Commissioner Lewis nominated Commissioner Solomon to be the Treasurer for 2009. This was seconded by Commissioner Eason and passed by a vote of 6-0.

Committee Chairmen and Co-Chairmen

Commissioner Lewis made the following motion relating to committee and other designations for 2009 (Commissioner Solomon seconded), which passed by a vote of 6-0:

Commissioner Starrels to be ANC2E's non-voting representative to the BID board of directors; Commissioners Starrels and Birch to co-chair the ABC committee; Commissioner Solomon to chair the Public Safety committee; Commissioners Birch and Skelsey to chair the Historic Preservation committee; Commissioners Starrels and Lewis to co-chair the Transportation committee; Commissioner Eason to chair the Public Works

and WASA committee; Commissioners Golds, Skelsey, Lewis and Solomon to co-chair the Community and University Relations committee; and Commissioners Skelsey and Eason to co-chair the Schools and Library committee.

Public Safety and Police Report

Commissioner Solomon reported on recent public safety matters and introduced MPD Sergeant Hackley who reported on recent crimes within PSA 206. She stressed the importance of attending to your personal property and reminded people that MPD is stretched due to training in preparation for the Inauguration. She also responded to questions from Commissioners and the community. Commissioner Solomon spoke about the new CrimeAlertDC program to help alert people about crimes. More information is available at www.72hours.dc.gov. Statistics on recent public safety incidents are available at <http://crimemap.dc.gov/presentation/query.asp> There is also a Second District web site including crime information at 2D_mpd@yahoo.com.

Commissioner Skelsey joined the meeting at this point.

2009 Meeting Dates

Commissioner Lewis presented the proposed public meeting dates for 2009, noting the change from Tuesday evenings to Monday evenings beginning in February. The location for future meetings will continue to be the Georgetown Visitation School, with the room to be determined at a later date. The principal purpose of this change is to give the Old Georgetown Board more time to receive and consider ANC 2E's recommendations.

Commissioner Lewis moved (Commissioner Solomon seconded) to adopt the following meeting dates, which passed 7-0:

ANC PUBLIC Meetings in 2009

January 6

February 2

March 2

March 30

May 4

June 1

June 29

No scheduled meeting until the end of August

August 31

September 28

November 2

November 30

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the meeting of ANC 2E held on December 2, 2008 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Lewis (Commissioner Solomon second) by a vote of 7-0.

Financial Report

Commissioner Solomon reported on the current financial status of ANC 2E and reported that a quarterly financial report for the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2009 will be presented at the February meeting.

Commissioner Solomon introduced the following resolution authorizing ANC 2E to participate in the Security Fund the District of Columbia provides for ANC's:

Resolved, that this Commission approves the ANC's participation in the Advisory Neighborhood Commission Security Fund and authorizes the Treasurer to pay the \$25 fee for the period January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009. The Chair and Secretary are authorized to execute the requisite agreement.

It is understood that (1) the check for participation in the ANC Security Fund should be made payable to "ANC Security Fund," (2) the ANC is not considered a participant in the Fund until the ANC has received the acceptance notice of the agreement which has been signed by the District of Columbia Auditor, and (3) the agreement will not be accepted by the Auditor until all required documents have been received by the Office of the Auditor. The required documents are: Resolution; Agreement; ANC Check; Statement of Information – Chairperson; Statement of Information –Treasurer; Bank Survey; and Copy of Current Bank Signature Card.

Commissioner Lewis moved to adopt this resolution (Commissioner Birch seconded) and the resolution passed by a vote of 7-0.

Transportation Report

Commissioners Starrels and Lewis reported on transportation matters, including recently approved funding to rehabilitate some of the streetlight poles in the historic area of ANC 2E. They reported that the streetlight poles probably will be painted matte black to match the poles on Wisconsin Avenue and M Street, and they asked the community for comments before the February meeting on whether it would be preferable, since funding is limited, to begin with the streetlight poles most in need of rehabilitation, wherever located, or to focus on rehabilitating the poles in a specific contiguous area.

Community Comment

Denise Cunningham, President of the Citizens Association of Georgetown, thanked Commissioner Solomon for his service as Chair and congratulated Commissioner Lewis on becoming Chair.

Members of the community and Commissioners spoke about matters of concern in the community, including overly bright security lights at Addison School (a DCPS construction official attending the meeting told the community that actions are being taken to address this concern); issues arising from a new "No Left Turn" sign affecting northbound traffic on Wisconsin Avenue at 34th Street; backed-up northbound traffic on 35th Street waiting to turn left

onto Reservoir Road; and rush-hour issues for eastbound Whitehaven Parkway traffic at Wisconsin Avenue.-

New Business

New Safeway Store—Transportation Matters

Safeway representatives, including consulting transportation engineer Louis Slade, requested the Commission's support for allowing two driveways for the proposed new Safeway store in Georgetown, one to the north and one to the south of the new building. They said District Department of Transportation planners have asked Safeway to design for just one driveway to the south of the building, but Safeway is convinced this would not be sufficient to meet the demands of customer traffic, deliveries, and emergency-vehicle access. Mr. Slade assured the community that two driveways would be safe and that Safeway would work with DDOT on whatever additional safety features DDOT requests.

After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Eason moved (Lewis seconded) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 7-0:

Be it resolved by Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E, that after examining driveway access to the new store proposed by Safeway at 1815 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., the Commission believes that a single driveway to the south of the building would not be sufficient or practical for access to and from the property. The Commission will work with Safeway and the District Department of Transportation toward a plan that includes two driveways, one at the north and one at the south of the building, to make vehicle traffic as efficient as possible and as safe as possible for pedestrians and drivers alike.

Parking Enforcement on K St. and Water St., NW

Commissioner Starrels reported that DPW parking enforcement appears to be concentrated on K Street and Water Street during some rush hours, at a time when parking enforcement is needed more in other areas of Georgetown. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution to be sent to the Director of the Department of Public Works, which passed by a vote of 7-0:

Director Howland:

Parking enforcement in Georgetown is very important to residents and businesses. It is important that the resources that DPW provides Georgetown for parking enforcement are used in the most efficient manner.

It has been brought to the attention of the Commission that parking enforcement officers from DPW are assigned to the K and Water Streets area, under the Whitehurst Freeway during the evening rush hour period.

Evening rush hour is the most active period for traffic in Georgetown, according to the recently completed comprehensive Georgetown Traffic Study. At the same time, few

areas have lighter traffic than K and Water Streets west of Wisconsin Avenue. Although some cars may be parked at expired meters during the height of the evening rush hour, these cars do not impede traffic like the illegally parked cars on M Street or Wisconsin Avenue during rush hour. Furthermore, if these parking enforcement experts were reassigned, they could also be used in residential areas to ease the parking needs of residents returning from work with their cars.

It would be appreciated if you could consider reassigning those professionals who do parking enforcement on K and Water Streets west of Wisconsin Avenue during the evening rush hour.

Thank you for your consideration.

ABC Issues

ABC Extended Hours for Inaugural Weekend

Commissioner Starrels reported that under recently enacted legislation, ABC-licensed establishments in the District of Columbia will be permitted to remain open until 4:00 a.m. during a four-day period around the Inauguration. He said the D.C. Attorney General has ruled, however, that establishments with voluntary agreements that specify permitted operating hours will not qualify for the extended hours unless all parties to a voluntary agreement reach an agreement approving the extended hours.

Commissioner Starrels reported further that several establishments with voluntary agreements limiting operating hours to the same hours as permitted under D.C. law generally (2:00 a.m. weekdays and 3:00 a.m. weekends) have requested ANC 2E, which is a party to the voluntary agreements, to agree to extended hours during the Inauguration period.

Representatives of the requesting establishments presented their reasons for requesting the extended hours. Discussion by Commissioners and community members followed during which the pros and cons of extended hours were considered. During the discussion, a representative of the Citizens Association of Georgetown said that CAG, which is also a party to at least some of the voluntary agreements under discussion, would not agree to extended hours.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Commissioner Starrels moved (Commissioner Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 4-3 (Commissioners Solomon, Golds and Birch voting against the resolution):

ANC 2E does not approve and objects to amending the voluntary agreements.

Zoning and Planning

Zoning Exception Application for 1626 Wisconsin Ave. (2 townhouses at rear facing 33rd St.)

The developer of two proposed townhouses at the rear of 1626 Wisconsin Avenue (facing 33rd Street) requested support from ANC 2E for a zoning area variance to permit greater lot coverage than zoning rules would otherwise allow. The developer presented a letter from 10 neighbors in

support of the variance. One community member spoke in opposition to the variance. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Lewis moved (Solomon second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 7-0:

The developer and many of the affected neighbors have worked together in a constructive and thoughtful process and have accommodated each other's concerns. The result is a design that has received initial historic preservation approval and a footprint that we believe does not encroach significantly on the rear-yard open-space area, especially the area adjacent to the nearest residential neighbor. The project would also retain the residential character of this block of 33rd Street, N.W., an important consideration given the possible alternatives for this commercially zoned parcel.

For these reasons, ANC 2E supports the application of Jupiter's Trail, LLC for an area variance from the applicable lot occupancy requirement in order to construct two residential townhouse condominiums at the rear of 1626 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.

Old Georgetown Board

Commissioner Lewis recused himself from the consideration and vote of all of the following items relating to the Old Georgetown Board on the ANC 2E agenda for this meeting, except for 3331 Dent Place. Commissioner Birch chaired the meeting for consideration of the following OGB-related matters.

Regular Calendar

3001 M Street, NW, Ice Berry, O.G. 09-023 (H.P.A. 08-028):

Concept plans were presented for awnings, sign and light fixtures. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch moved (Commissioner Skelsey seconded) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC2E is opposed to the blade signs attached to the building, and to the addition of awnings to this building because they detract from the architectural details of the building. Furthermore, the easement held by the Foundation for the Preservation of Historic Georgetown prohibits awnings on this building. We ask that the Old Georgetown Board review the lighting fixtures.

3019 P Street, NW, Residence, O.G. 09-060 (H.P.A. 09-093):

Revised concept plans were presented for alterations to a rear fence and brick piers. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Birch moved (Commissioner Solomon seconded) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E would prefer a design approach to the fence of this property that preserves this brick wall, while accommodating the applicant's desire to raise the height and preserve the elm tree on the property.

2928 M Street, NW, O.G. 08-270 (H.P.A. 08-403):

Revised concept plans were presented for alterations to a storefront, razing a rear garage and a one-story rear addition. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels moved (Commissioner Solomon seconded) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the design concept as presented and has no objection to the concept as long as it preserves the historical context of the building.

1211 Potomac Street, NW, Philly Pizza & Grill, O.G. 09-043 (H.P.A. 09-065):

Permit plans were presented for alteration to a first floor window and door and for roof mechanical equipment and screen. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels moved (Commissioner Birch seconded) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection to the window and will leave the judgment to the conformity of the window on that street up to the OGB. We expect the window to conform to the neighboring property (Georgetown Cupcake). ANC 2E has reservations as to the mechanical equipment. First, ANC 2E wants to inform the Board that the new mechanical equipment is replacing the previous equipment that was never presented to this body and was not, as far as we know, approved. And, ANC 2E is concerned about the following aspects of the equipment: 1) how it blends in with the historic neighborhood and 2) the noise and smell emitting from the equipment and 3) ANC 2E wants to make sure that the residential neighborhood is not negatively impacted by this equipment. We call to the attention to the Old Georgetown Board that there may be zoning issues attached to the use of this property, especially the operation of a carryout and delivery business.

3331 Dent Place, NW, Residence, O.G. 09-063 (H.P.A. 09-096):

Concept plans were presented for rear additions at the first and third floors and alterations. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Lewis moved (Commissioner Birch seconded) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 7-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the collegial approach taken by the property owner and the neighbors toward proposing a mutually acceptable re-design of the rear grade-level addition. We support the concept of the re-design.

At 9:38 p.m., with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Lewis moved (Starrels 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