# Minutes for the Meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

December 4, 2007 Georgetown Visitation School, 35<sup>th</sup> and Volta Place, Heritage Room

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. by Commissioner Solomon, Chair, with Commissioners Solomon, Lewis, Lowenstein, Starrels, and Eason present, constituting a quorum.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE**

### Public Safety and Police Report

The ANC Commissioners presented a letter of recognition and appreciation to MPD Lt. Felicia Lucas for her service to the community while she was the lieutenant in charge of Police Service Area 206. A copy of the letter is in the Commission's files.

Commissioner Lewis reported briefly on month-to-month crime statistics and called upon MPD Sgt. Lennox Antoine from PSA 206. Sgt. Antoine spoke to the community about crime patterns in our area and tips for increasing safety during the holiday season. Statistics on recent public safety incidents are available at <a href="http://crimemap.dc.gov/presentation/query.asp">http://crimemap.dc.gov/presentation/query.asp</a> There is also a Second District web site including crime information at <a href="mailto:2D\_mpd@yahoo.com">2D\_mpd@yahoo.com</a>.

## Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the meeting of ANC 2E held on October 30, 2007 were approved on a motion by Commissioner Eason (Starrels second) by a vote of 5-0.

## Financial Report

Commissioner Eason, Treasurer of the Commission, gave an interim report on the Commission's finances.

## **COMMUNITY COMMENT**

Commissioner Lewis noted that Georgetown University President De Gioia has responded to the Commission's earlier letter about off-campus partying and that the response is available on the Commission's website. Commissioner Lewis also noted that the National Park Service has scheduled a community meeting to discuss an upcoming environmental impact study of Georgetown University's proposed plans for a boathouse on Park Service land.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### Special Items

# Request by the Friends of Book Hill Park for support for a proposal to close the Book Hill Park grounds from dusk to dawn daily, to increase safety.

A representative of the Friends of Book Hill Park reported that their organization is requesting that the Department of Parks and Recreation post one or more signs in Book Hill Park closing the park grounds from dusk to dawn daily, to increase public safety, and requested the Commission's support. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Eason moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E recommends to the appropriate authorities that Book Hill Park be posted as closed from dusk to dawn.

#### ABC Issues

## Update on Morton's protest hearing

Commissioner Starrels reported on the protest hearing held by the ABC Board on the protest by ANC 2E and the Citizens Association of Georgetown to the application of Morton's of Chicago to increase the number of seats and to place the additional seats outdoors on the applicant's property. The ABC Board is considering the matter and will issue a decision in due course.

#### ABC consent calendar

On November 27, 2007, the ANC gave notice to the community listing certain establishments that are up for ABC license renewal, that will not be reviewed at this time by the ANC unless a request to do so is received by the ANC by the time of this meeting. No such request had been received as of the time of this meeting. The listed establishments are:

The Georgetown Biblioteque-3287 M St. Nathan's Restaurant-3150 M Street Saloun-3259 M Street
The Rhino-bar & Pumphouse-3295 M Street Garrett's Restaurant- 3003 M Street
Blue Gin-1206 Wisconsin Ave.
Chadwick's-3205 K Street
Third Edition

Commissioner Starrels reported that the Commission does not know of any serious problems with these establishments and asked if there was a motion to consider any of the listed establishments at this time; there was no motion.

## Zoning and Planning

Commissioner Eason moved (Solomon second) that the proposed project for 1617 29<sup>th</sup> Street be moved to the Commission's consent calendar. The motion was adopted by a vote of 5-0.

After hearing community concerns about possible un-permitted construction at 3045 N Street, Commissioner Eason moved adopt the following resolution (Solomon second) to call these concerns to the attention of appropriate officials, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E has serious concerns about whether exterior work is continuing without permits at 3045 N Street NW, and we urge the Historic Preservation Office to look into this closely.

**Consent Calendar:** Commissioner Eason moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

The following items are considered to be on ANC 2E's Consent Calendar and will be sent to the Old Georgetown Board and other agencies without objection:

1318 28th Street

3022 O Street

3014 N Street

3700 O Street, Georgetown University, Residential Village A, alterations to replace railing, new fences, remove stairs, Concept, O.G. 08-030 (H.P.A. 08-028) 1617 29<sup>th</sup> Street

# 1626-1632 (rear) Wisconsin Avenue, NW, O.G. 07-186 (H.P.A. 07-295):

Plans were presented for construction of new townhouses facing 33<sup>rd</sup> Street on this property. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Lewis moved (Starrels second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the continuing dialog between the neighbors and the property owner on the massing and design of this proposal. We do not object to the concept of the redesign. We note improvements in the scale and design from an earlier proposal and urge that this collegial process continue.

1046, 1048, 1050, 1052 and 1054 Potomac Street, NW and 1025, 1027 and 1029 33rd Street, NW, Caton's Walk, O.G. 07-098 (H.P.A. 07-147):

No presentation was made or plans presented for a project described by the Old Georgetown Board as alterations, a rear addition and rooftop additions for the property known as Caton's Walk. After discussion, Commissioner Starrels moved (Solomon second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 4-0 (Lewis not present):

Since there was no presentation to us, ANC 2E objects to the proposal. Further, ANC 2E would like to emphasize the importance of preserving the integrity of the row houses on Potomac Street.

# 1211 Potomac Street, NW, O.G. 08-025 (H.P.A. 08-027):

Plans were presented for alterations to a first-floor window. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels moved (Solomon second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the presentation and hopes the Old Georgetown Board will maintain the historic integrity of this block including its residential feel..

# 1209 Potomac Street, NW, O.G. 08-026 (H.P.A. 08-028):

Plans were presented for replacement of three windows in the front façade. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the presentation and hopes the Old Georgetown Board will maintain the historic integrity of this block including its residential feel..

Commissioner Skelsey joined the meeting at this time, after the vote on 1209 Potomac Street.

# 3270 M Street, NW, Georgetown Park Mall, demolition and new construction, O.G. 08-011:

Concept plans were presented for demolition and new construction of a mixed-use residential/retail building for Georgetown Park Mall. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Skelsey moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E is not able to endorse the concept as presented due to the lack of coordinated information on the entire project and its implications for the neighborhood, including the massing and design of the overall complex and the implications for the neighborhood, e.g., effects on traffic, parking and pedestrians.

ANC 2E objects to the height and massing and the building and its imposing impact on the historic market place and on M Street. We are also concerned about the modern glass expression on the northwest corner.

ANC 2E emphasizes, and hopes the Old Georgetown Board will continue to recognize, the historic appearance of M Street versus the more industrial uses of the canal.

ANC 2E would like to have all of the proposed components in place in order to give a proper, thoughtful evaluation of the project.

# 3222 M Street, NW, Georgetown Park Mall, new entrance, O.G. 08-012:

Concept plans were presented for a new entrance to Georgetown Park Mall. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels moved (Skelsey second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E reiterates the comment with respect to O.G. 08-011 that the lack of comprehensive information about the entire project makes review of any part of the project disadvantageous and extremely difficult.

If this aspect of the project is nonetheless reviewed at this time, ANC 2E does not object to the entrance concept as presented in and of itself.

# 3245 M Street, NW, Tackle Box, New storefront, revised design, O.G. 08-059 (H.P.A. 08-083):

Revised plans were presented for a new storefront. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels moved (Solomon second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E appreciates the revised design and has no objection to it.

## 3303 M Street, NW, Qdoba Mexican Grill

Plans were presented for a back-lit or internally illuminated oversized sign and projecting sign. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels moved (Solomon second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E objects to the oversize backlit sign as presented because it is not in keeping with the historic M Street location.

3509 M Street, NW, Spinal Arts Institute, O.G. 07-196 (H.P.A. 07-307):

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

ANC 2E objects to the proposed plan because it would compromise the integrity of a historic property in Georgetown. The entire structure of 3509 M Street has been deemed historic by the Old Georgetown Board. The height of the buildings on M Street is important. The building is part of the sightlines one sees when approaching Georgetown from Key Bridge. Further, we question whether the proposed construction is attainable without jeopardizing the existing structure.

# 1063 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW, Replacement front door, O.G. 08-036 (H.P.A. 08-056):

No presentation was made or plans presented for a proposal described by the Old Georgetown Board as a replacement front door. After discussion, Commissioner Starrels moved (Solomon second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0 (Lewis not present):

ANC 2E objects to the proposal, since there was no presentation and no information offered to us.

# 1078 Wisconsin Avenue, NW (Square 1200, Lot 838), Capitol Restaurant Concepts Ltd. – Paul restaurant/café, O.G. 08-029 (H.P.A. 08-048):

Revised concept plans were presented for alterations to the façade. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels moved (Lowenstein second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 6-0:

ANC 2E has no objection in general to "Scheme E" as presented, but urges the Old Georgetown Board to examine the effect of the proposal on the width of the sidewalk.

Commissioner Solomon departed from the meeting following the vote on 1078 Wisconsin Avenue.

## 1516 29th Street, NW:

Concept plans were presented for partial demolition, a 2-story rear addition and a shed-dormer. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels moved (Eason second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E objects to the appearance and character of the addition and its predominant use of glass as well as the presence of a balcony, for the lack of appropriate response to the historic house to which they are attached and the visual intrusion upon the adjacent properties.

### 3214 O Street, NW:

Plans were presented for enlarging the window of a bay and changing a gate. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Skelsey moved (Lowenstein second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

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

# 3313 O Street, NW, O.G. 08-042 (H.P.A. 08-063):

No presentation was made or plans submitted for a proposal described by the Old Georgetown Board as replacing the first floor windows at the rear with French doors. After discussion, Commissioner Skelsey moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

We can offer no opinion on the project because no plans were submitted. We encourage OGB to consider it very carefully.

## 2903 Q Street, NW, O.G. 08-050 (H.P.A. 08-071):

ANC 2E took no action as this project has been postponed by the applicant.

## 1023 Cecil Place, NW:

Concept plans were presented for a two-story rear addition, removal of a rear wall and replacement windows. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Starrels moved (Lewis second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E urges the Old Georgetown Board to review carefully the proposed addition to this property.

# 1320 31st Street, NW (3100 Dumbarton Street, NW):

Plans were presented for excavation of a garage. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Skelsey moved (Eason second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E remains strongly opposed to this project and reaffirms its earlier resolutions about the proposal, by virtue of its impact on a critically important property in Georgetown.

### 1229 Wisconsin Avenue, NW, Apple, O.G. 07-201 (H.P.A. 07-310):

No presentation was made or plans submitted for a proposal described by the Old Georgetown Board as revised concept façade alterations. After discussion, Commissioner Starrels moved (Eason second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E is unable to take a position on the proposal because no materials were submitted and there was no presentation. We ask that the Old Georgetown Board not approve this project.

### 1346 28th Street, NW, O.G. 08-051 (H.P.A. 08-072):

Revised concept plans were presented for a 2-story rear addition. After discussion by Commissioners and community members, Commissioner Lewis moved (Eason second) to adopt the following resolution, which passed by a vote of 5-0:

ANC 2E is concerned about the appropriateness of the addition in this historic environment and concerned also about the effect of a side addition that is planned for the property. We are particularly concerned about the effects of a second floor addition on the neighboring properties.

We urge the Historic Preservation Review Board to consider both the rear and the side proposals as part of a unified approach. Had we known of both proposals, we would not have put the side proposal on our consent calendar for the Old Georgetown Board, and in light of the current facts we revoke our consent to the side project.

# 1611 29th street, NW:

ANC 2E took no action as this project has been postponed by the applicant.

At 11:15 p.m., with no further matters on the agenda, Commissioner Solomon moved (Lewis second) to adjourn this public session of ANC 2E. The motion passed unanimously.

Submitted for the approval of ANC 2E,

Ron Lewis

Secretary, ANC 2E