



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

# Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

## Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 3rd, 2023; 6:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom

### Call to Order - 6:33 pm

Commissioner Elizabeth Miller called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. Commissioners Kishan Putta (2E01), Topher Mathews (2E02), Paul Maysak (2E03), Joe Massaua (2E04), Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06), Elizabeth Miller (2E07), and John DiPierri (2E08) were present.

### Approval of the ANC's April 3rd, 2023 Meeting Agenda - 6:33 pm

Commissioner DiPierri moved to approve the ANC's April 3rd, 2023 meeting agenda. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES 6-0-0).

### Approval of the ANC's February 27th, 2023 Meeting Minutes - 6:34 pm

Commissioner DiPierri moved to approve the ANC's February 27th, 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

### New Business - 6:34 pm

#### Consideration of a Resolution Commending Metropolitan Police Department Commander Duncan Bedlion - 6:34 pm

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

ANC 2E commends the constant dedication, leadership, and outstanding service of Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Commander Duncan Bedlion to Georgetown, Burleith, and Hillandale; Ward 2; and the city. During his tenure at MPD's Second District, Commander Bedlion was consistently thinking about how he and his team could best partner with the local community to promote public safety in both the commercial and residential areas. For example, Commander Bedlion:

- Maintained strong, targeted communications with our community during the global pandemic, including holding one of community's first outdoor meetings during the pandemic – likely the city's first streatery effort,
- Launched the delivery of a monthly crime statistics reporting process to ANC 2E,
- Closely partnered with ANC 2E on local needs during the city's period of civil unrest,
- Established a formal role for an appropriately trained MPD liaison to caringly work with individuals experiencing homelessness, which proved essential during a global pandemic,

- Ensured that residents and the assigned MPD team were well acquainted by encouraging MPD attendance at community events such as MPD and resident bike rides, local park events, and Coffee With a Cop, and
- Coordinated with ANC 2E on community impact statements for delivery to the court system.

Commander Bedlion's contributions have improved our village and city. ANC 2E will miss the Commander's action-oriented approach, humor, and partnership style. The ANC wishes Commander Bedlion much success in his ongoing public service to our city.

### **Administrative - 6:38 pm**

#### **Public Safety and Police Report - 6:38 pm**

Commander John Branch, the new Commander of the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, introduced himself to meeting attendees. Sergeant Philip Robinson, a representative for MPD's Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

#### **Approval of the ANC's FY 2023 Quarter 2 Financial Report - 7:02 pm**

Commissioner Massaua moved to approve the ANC's FY 2023 Quarter 2 financial report. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

### **Community Comment - 7:02 pm**

#### **Update from the Mayor's Office - 7:02 pm**

Grace Reeder, 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 Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office - 7:11 pm**

Brian Romanowski, the Constituent Services Director for the Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, gave an update from the Councilmember's Office.

#### **Update from the Department of Parks and Recreation Regarding Projects in the Neighborhood - 7:18 pm**

Tommie Jones, the Chief of External Affairs and Director of Strategic Partnerships and Development for the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), gave an update regarding projects in the neighborhood.

#### **Update from the New DC Ticket Adjudication Ombudsman - 7:48 pm**

Tony Dugger, the Adjudication Ombudsman for the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), gave an update regarding his work with the DMV.

#### **Update Regarding the DC Smart Street Lighting Project - 8:02 pm**

Ashley Wells, Chris Lockard, and Ana Hassegawa, representatives for the DC Smart Street Lighting Project, gave an update regarding the project.

Update Regarding Safeway Construction - 8:15 pm

Craig Gross, the Manager of the Safeway at 1855 Wisconsin Avenue NW, gave an update regarding Safeway construction.

Update from Dent Place Market Regarding the Company's Vision for Georgetown - 8:23 pm

Vivien Tsang, the Co-Owner of Dent Place Market, gave an update regarding the company's vision for Georgetown.

Update Regarding the New MacArthur High School and Other Local Schools - 8:35 pm

Commissioner Putta gave an update regarding the new MacArthur High School and other local schools.

Update from Georgetown University Students - 8:37 pm

Commissioners DiPierri and Massaua gave an update regarding Georgetown University students.

**New Business (Continued) - 8:41 pm**

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Mayor's Proposed FY 2024 Budget - 8:41 pm

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

ANC 2E commends Mayor Bowser for including important funding in her FY 2024 proposed budget for Hardy Middle School, Book Hill Park, and the triangle park. These projects provide real-world educational benefits to our young residents and the community at-large.

ANC 2E would like to voice our support for these projects and further request that additional money be included for more extensive renovations at Hardy Middle School. Moreover, the ANC continues to feel strongly that the city should provide money to improve the physical infrastructure for Mt. Zion United Methodist Church, the oldest African American congregation in Washington, DC and part of the Underground Railroad.

ANC 2E seeks clarification and input on the \$3 million line item for the Georgetown (Wisconsin Avenue NW) Safety and Mobility Project. This is the first that the ANC has heard of this project and neither the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) nor our Ward 2 Councilmember nor the Georgetown Business Improvement District (BID) know the intent and scope of the project.

Finally, ANC 2E would like to reiterate the ongoing need in our city to bolster public safety, including adequate staffing, recruitment, and training for our Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). The ANC urges the Mayor and the DC Council to place the needed resources

towards the MPD budget, at a minimum supporting the existing budget request from the Mayor.

**Hardy Middle School:**

Expand Common Spaces: Hardy Middle School will be at full capacity next year with an anticipated 600 students. The Mayor has proposed a new expanded cafeteria and ANC 2E supports that. The ANC also asks the DC Council to provide additional funding to renovate and modernize the degraded auditorium. The auditorium’s sound quality has gotten so bad that the Hardy Middle School spring musical is seeking other venues and new, larger lockers also are needed.

**Book Hill Park and Triangle Park:**

Green spaces are integral to the well-being of our city and residents, providing respite, gathering spaces, and biodiversity. ANC 2E appreciates Mayor Bowser including \$400 thousand in the FY 2024 proposed budget for Book Hill Park. The ANC would like to clarify that the ask was for \$200 thousand for Book Hill Park and \$200 thousand for the triangle park, two parks that are across the street from each other and are gateways into Georgetown. Councilmember Pinto clarified that in her budget letter and the ANC would like to amplify that clarification – \$200 thousand would go to the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) for Book Hill Park, which would be used for irrigation, mending and painting the fence, building out the garden, and providing tables and benches, and \$200 thousand would go to the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) for triangle park improvements in order to activate the space for local businesses and residents.

**Mt. Zion United Methodist Church:**

Reinforcing and improving the physical structure of Mt. Zion United Methodist Church is important to ensuring accessibility for all who want to enter. Mt. Zion is the oldest African American congregation in Washington, DC, formed by free and enslaved African Americans. The church buildings played a role in the Underground Railroad. The structures represent a microcosm of the African American journey in America. Renovations are needed for the structural integrity of the buildings so that they can continue on as a key part of our city’s African American education landmarks, and so that this historic landmark can be accessible to all no matter their physical abilities. Please add \$1,500,000 to the FY 2024 budget.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Community Priorities for the Jelleff Recreation Center - 8:49 pm

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

In February 2023, community leaders, including ANC 2E, the Burleith Citizens Association (BCA), the Citizens Association of Georgetown (CAG), and the Georgetown Village, outlined priorities (and non-priorities) related to the renovation of the Jelleff Recreation Center.

The priorities were sent via email to the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), the Department of General Services (DGS), and the DC Council. Outlined priorities included:

1. Building and Programming Priorities to be Priced in Advance,
2. Community Building, Landscaping, and Programming Priorities,
3. Process Priorities, and
4. Items Not to be Prioritized.

Community leaders hope this document will serve as a rough guide for the architects to use while working on initial design concepts. Furthermore, leaders requested the opportunity to speak with the agencies, as well as the architects, about the community's priorities prior to the revealing of initial working concepts.

The community looks forward to a collaborative approach to building this once-in-a-lifetime community center.

The priorities are:

### **Jelleff Recreation Center**

Building and Programming Priorities to be Priced in Advance (so options and tradeoffs are clear and concrete):

- Question to DPR: In considering tradeoffs and selecting priorities, does the community need to factor in maintenance and staffing costs as well as the costs of construction? E.g., additional staff for fitness room? Lifeguards for pool?
- Items To be Priced:
  - Basketball Courts: Full-size v. half size.
  - Pickleball Courts: Cost of "lining" basketball courts, retractable netting, etc.
  - Pool: Renovated pool v. new outdoor pool v. new indoor pool v. "bubble" covering outdoor pool.
  - Automobile Parking: Moving current parking lot v. "under-grounding" parking.
  - Fitness room: Exercise equipment and weights.
  - Kitchen: Demonstration v. service.
  - Outdoor play equipment for children.
  - Outdoor exercise equipment.
  - Audio visual and sound equipment.

Community Building, Landscaping, and Programming Priorities:

- New building with a different footprint and presentation on street or turning circle.
- High-quality building materials.
- High-quality, long-lasting performance furniture.
- Whether new or renovated, the building must be architecturally distinguished, reflecting Jelleff's important location in Georgetown, and must harmonize with neighboring buildings such as the Dumbarton Oaks Museum and homes on S Street.
- Landscape design and architecture that provides ample greenspace and areas for outdoor play and exercise equipment, and also makes creative (and probably

different) use of Jelleff's current fields and open space. Landscape elements should include (but not be limited to):

- Distinctive “edge” on S Street (e.g., masonry, signage, lighting).
- “Screening” for parking lot, adjacent buildings, parking lots on Wisconsin Avenue, and Safeway ramp.
- “Green” features such as EV charging facilities (which might bring different, additional funding).
- Programming and amenities:
  - Continued access on weekends and evenings.
  - Full-size gym scaled for high school basketball, with retractable bleachers and ample room for parents and others to safely, comfortably watch and wait (e.g., like Kenilworth Recreation Center). [See items to be priced above.]
  - Second gym with floor-markings for pickleball. [See items to be priced above.]
  - Large, light-filled fitness room with exercise equipment and weights. [See items to be priced above.]
  - Inviting, comfortable, light-filled, flexible and multi-use meeting and waiting rooms (e.g., seniors, book clubs, yoga, birthday parties).
  - Fresh air; open windows and possibly balconies (e.g., like Marvin Gaye Recreation Center). DC recreation centers without windows that open are uncomfortable and sometimes not even usable when the air conditioning doesn't work.
  - Full-size pool, either indoor or outdoor, with supporting locker rooms and facilities. [See items to be priced above.]
  - Adequate number of bathrooms or stalls.
  - Welcoming, light-filled entrance and meet-up area with community bulletin boards and comfortable seating.
  - Community access to facilities while meeting the reasonable security needs of after-school programs.
  - Service or “warming” kitchen, available for general community use; not a large, expensive kitchen available only to staff use or for use as a “demonstration” kitchen. [See items to be priced above.]
  - A hallway along the full-size gym sufficient to allow easy flows of large groups (i.e., athletes, coaches, and parents)
  - HEPA compliant air filtration; wi-fi sufficient to provide public hotspot.

#### Process Priorities:

- Input on initial concept designs (before, not after).
- Candid discussion of pricing and trade-offs now, not after creation and presentation of initial concept designs.
- Initial concept designs should have options and pricing, so tradeoffs are clear and concrete.
- Opportunity for the community to weigh in on options and trade-offs.
- Community input on the timing, structure, and content of community meetings and outreach.
- Consideration of public/private partnerships, such as a partnership with coffee house/food vendor, rental income from parking, leasing space for weekend exercise classes.

Items Not to be Prioritized:

- Separate, dedicated rooms for computer labs.
- Unused hallways; internal rooms without natural light; overly generous storage space.
- Dedicated offices and other spaces and facilities closed to the public.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Citizens Association of Georgetown's Concert in the Park and Earth Day Celebration in Rose Park on Sunday, April 23rd, 2023 - 8:52 pm

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

ANC 2E fully supports the Citizens Association of Georgetown's (CAG) Concert in the Park and Earth Day Celebration in Rose Park on Sunday, April 23rd, 2023 at 2609 Dumbarton Street NW. The CAG concert series is fun and informative, and the concerts are wonderful community building events. The ANC hopes to see more CAG concerts throughout the year.

Special Event Application for the Army Ten-Miler on Sunday, October 8th, 2023 - 8:55 pm

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

ANC 2E supports the special event application for the Army Ten-Miler that is scheduled for October 8, 2023. The route takes the runners from Virginia over the Key Bridge, where they will exit onto the Whitehurst Freeway then into Potomac Park.

ANC 2E appreciates the consideration that the organizers have given to their planning and to the minimal disruption for residents all along their route.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Grant Funding for an ANC Planned Unit Development Coordinator - 8:58 pm

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

ANC 2E hereby authorizes Treasurer Joe Massaua (Commissioner, 2E04) to apply for the technical assistance fund to secure funds for a Planned Unit Development (PUD) coordinator.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Proposed Cuts to DC Circulator Service - 8:59 pm

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

ANC 2E recognizes the vital importance of convenient and reliable public bus service for Georgetown, particularly considering the lack of a Metrorail station. The ANC is alarmed to learn that the Mayor's FY 2024 budget proposal calls for the removal of three DC Circulator bus routes, including the Rosslyn-Dupont Circle route that services M Street NW through Georgetown. The ANC strongly encourages the DC Council to restore the funding for these bus routes in its final budget. The ANC believes that maintaining the DC Circulator bus service through Georgetown at current levels is critical. Residents, employees, and visitors have come to rely on this service and maintaining it is essential to the success of our residential, educational, and business communities.

### **Alcoholic Beverage Control Board - 9:04 pm**

#### **Application by Streets Market for a New Retailer's Class "B" Full-Service Grocery Store License at 2617 P Street NW - 9:04 pm**

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

ANC 2E protests Streets Market's application for a new Retailer's Class "B" Full-Service Grocery Store License at 2617 P Street NW based on the adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. The ANC agrees to withdraw the protest when a satisfactory settlement agreement is executed by the ANC and the applicant and presented to the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board for approval.

ANC 2E authorizes Commissioner Gwendolyn Lohse to negotiate and execute a settlement agreement with the applicant. The ANC further authorizes Commissioner Lohse and/or ANC 2E Executive Director Peter Sacco to represent the ANC at all hearings concerning the matter. The ANC will support a stipulated license for this application if an agreed upon settlement agreement is reached.

#### **Application by Taichi Bubble Tea for a New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 1357 Wisconsin Avenue NW - 9:15 pm**

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

ANC 2E protests Taichi Bubble Tea's application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license at 1357 Wisconsin Avenue NW based on the adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. The ANC agrees to withdraw the protest when a satisfactory settlement agreement is executed by the ANC and the applicant and presented to the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board for approval.

ANC 2E authorizes Commissioner Paul Maysak to negotiate and execute a settlement agreement with the applicant. The ANC further authorizes Commissioner Maysak and/or ANC 2E Executive Director Peter Sacco to represent the ANC at all hearings concerning the matter.



**Public Space Committee - 9:32 pm**

**Public Space Application for the Construction of a 4-Foot Fence at 3728 R Street NW - 9:32 pm**

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

ANC 2E has no comment regarding the public space application for the construction of a 4-foot fence at 3728 R Street NW.

**Old Georgetown Board - 9:36 pm**

**SMD 2E05 - OG 23-149 (HPA 23-246) 1023-1027 31st Street, NW - 9:36 pm**

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

ANC 2E supports the application for a demolition permit. The ANC recognizes that partial demolition of the rear of these townhouses is necessary for the greater project that is at 1023 31st Street NW.

**SMD 2E05 - OG 23-182 (HPA 23-283) 1023 31st Street, NW - 9:42 pm**

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

ANC 2E has previously reviewed this project, a hotel, in July 2022. The ANC recognizes that the applicant has worked to address concerns of both the Old Georgetown Board (OGB) and the ANC. The ANC recognizes however that the applicant has yet to focus on concerns regarding traffic, loading, and unloading. The use of the public alley to assist in these areas has been noted in the plans. Other businesses also use this alley.

Like in ANC 2E's resolution in July 2022, the ANC leaves recommendations for the overall design of the project to OGB but cannot emphasize enough concerns regarding traffic. It is important for the public alley to be large enough for the applicant's trucks to enter and exit without needing to back onto 31st Street NW. It is important that the supply deliveries and the guest loading and unloading areas are managed appropriately.

ANC 2E appreciates the applicant incorporating two townhouses in the design and the overall respect given to maintaining a piece of the historic district.

**SMD 2E05 - OG 23-183 (HPA 23-284) 3277 M Street, NW - 9:52 pm**

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

ANC 2E supports the project at 3277 M Street NW. The proposed work on the façade will add a touch of historical flavor to the current building. There has been thoughtful consideration of the need to adjust the aesthetics of this corner to increase the possibility of business success. The improvements will also compliment the future development of the Georgetown Market, a Silverton and Starr Italian market, which is across the street.

SMD 2E05 - TBD (HPA TBD) 3614 Prospect Street, NW - 10:05 pm

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

Per public record, the applicant did submit to OGB in April 2021. At this time, OGB stated that there was no objection to the “temporary installation of the two sculptures depicting Transformers”, provided that the sculptures are installed for no longer than six months from the submission date. This six month date has come and gone.

In December 2022, ANC 2E did not support the application for use of public space for 3614 Prospect Street NW for the two sculptures given that the applicant had not reapplied to OGB, so the OGB permit was no longer valid. In December 2022, the ANC did not and would not now support granting of a public space permit until the applicant completes the process with OGB. It is our understanding that OGB will hear from the applicant at their meeting this month. The ANC looks forward to reviewing the OGB ruling.

Beyond valuing our community’s OGB process, ANC 2E also values public art and creativity. The ANC commissioner for this area is also willing to work with the owner of these sculptures to display them in a more central location or to develop a rotating schedule for community display.

ANC 2E finds it extremely disappointing that the applicant yet again decided to not attend the ANC meeting.

SMD 2E06 - OG 23-156 (HPA 23-256) 2801 M Street, NW - 10:33 pm

*The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.*

SMD 2E06 - OG 23-150 (HPA 23-247) 2617 P Street, NW - 10:33 pm

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

ANC 2E is pleased to welcome Streets Market to Georgetown. The market will be located at 2617 P Street NW, which is a mixed-use block. The ANC urges OGB to support this new market to comply with the same design conditions required by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA) in 2012 for the previous tenant at this property, a 7-Eleven. The previous design conditions, including frosted glass, are memorialized in letters of agreement to the

neighborhood (Attachments 1-3, with accompanying pictures). These design conditions are necessary to preserve and maintain the historic character of the neighborhood.

### **Adjournment**

Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 10:47 pm.