



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 4th, 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 6:33 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 October 4, 2016 ANC 2E Public Meeting Agenda

Chair Lewis moved to approve the meeting agenda. With no objection, the motion was passed.

Approval of the August 29, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Chair Lewis moved to approve the meeting minutes. With no objection, the motion was passed.

Administrative

Public Safety and Police Report

Captain David Sledge from the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District provided the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Commissioner Starrels asked about the sexual assault perpetrator that MPD had apprehended a few weeks ago. Captain Sledge said that the perpetrator was arrested on one charge but that MPD has not yet connected him with other recent sexual assaults that occurred in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Birch thanked Captain Sledge for the level of detail he provided regarding the recent incidents that occurred in the neighborhood.

Approval of FY 2017 ANC Budget

Commissioner Jones moved to approve the ANC's FY 2017 budget. Chair Lewis seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Transportation Report

Commissioner Birch gave an overview of the congestion that currently develops where the neighborhood's numbered streets intersect with M Street NW. He said that he would like to have a conversation with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) and the Georgetown Business Improvement District (BID) during an upcoming ANC meeting regarding the situation. He mentioned that one proposal is to create one-way streets in Georgetown.

Community Comment

Commissioner Roache gave an overview of the history of Epiphany Catholic Church in Georgetown. She said that this past Sunday the church community held a celebration that recognized the history of the church, during which they brought back former church members.

Commissioner Birch said that this past Sunday Mount Zion United Methodist Church celebrated its 200th anniversary. He said that the church is the oldest African American church in DC and that it was formed because Dumbarton United Methodist Church had mistreated the African American community members who were attending the church.

Richard Livingstone, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), shared copies of the Mayor's weekly newsletter. He talked about the Mayor's recently-launched efforts to fix broken streetlights in the city, including a new ability to text broken streetlights to 3-1-1. He said that the Mayor will be attending the farewell celebration for the C&O Canal's canal boat the following day.

Ruth Werner, the Finance Committee Director for Councilmember Jack Evans, said that she is available to answer any questions.

Joe Sternlieb, the CEO and President of the Georgetown BID, gave an overview of the BID's farewell celebration for the C&O Canal's canal boat the following day. He said that the BID has created a nonprofit group to work with the National Park Service on restoring the canal. He said that at noon on the following day the old canal boat will be towed out of Georgetown and dismantled. He added that shortly thereafter the canal will be drained in order for the locks to be restored, and that the canal will be re-filled in 2018.

Jim Wilcox, a local resident, said that the Friends of Rose Park will be holding their annual Fall Benefit Concert on October 6th. He encouraged meeting attendees to attend the concert.

Commissioner Jones said that DC's new zoning regulations have officially gone into effect.

Commissioner Birch said that local residents have expressed concerns regarding individuals who buy up houses in the neighborhood and then turn them into party houses to rent out on Airbnb. He said that the DC Council has introduced legislation to address this issue, and that the proposed legislation would require regular property inspections, for property owners to have business licenses, and for rental properties to have an owner in residence. He encouraged meeting attendees to send any feedback regarding the legislation to Councilmembers Evans and Nadeau.

Candace Mosely, the Special Projects Coordinator for Georgetown University's Office of Government Relations and Community Engagement, said that registration for the university's community learning classes has opened. She also gave an overview of the university's recent Georgetown Community Day.

Georgetown University Office of Sustainability's Clean Block Competition

Commissioner Goldman said that Georgetown University's Office of Sustainability is putting together a clean block competition for West Georgetown and Burleith residents. She said that competition prizes will include plaques installed on clean blocks and gift cards. She said that more information regarding the competition will be circulated in upcoming community newsletters.

Introduction of Candidates for ANC 2E

Introduction of First-Time Candidates and Candidates in Contested Elections for ANC 2E

Each ANC 2E candidate gave a quick overview of their candidacy.

New Business

DDOT Report on Upcoming Key Bridge Rehabilitation Work

Sean Moore, a representative for DDOT's Key Bridge project, said that the project has kicked off and that contractors are currently carrying out mobilization work. He said that the majority of the project's work will be done underneath the bridge, thus local residents will not see any major traffic effects in the short term. He said that DDOT has scheduled a community meeting on Monday, October 24th from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at the Georgetown Library, during which community members can find out more information regarding the project.

Commissioner Starrels asked that DDOT maintain active communications with the residents of 3003 Water Street NW regarding the project.

Mr. Moore said that the project website at www.keybridgeproject.com will be launching shortly. He added that the project will have a dedicated call and text line for residents to ask immediate questions.

Unauthorized Contractor Parking for Duke Ellington School Construction

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

ANC 2E requests that the Department of General Services (DGS) work with Duke Ellington contractor Sigal Construction to ensure that employees and sub-contractors do not park on neighborhood streets. ANC 2E is disappointed that DGS has not instituted a pro-

gram that requires its contractors to enforce a policy of off-street parking for its employees and sub-contractors.

DDOT's Proposed Regulation Amendments on Resident Parking

Commissioner Howard moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Roache seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-3-0, with Commissioners Solomon, Goldman, Birch, Roache, and Howard voting in favor and Commissioners Lewis, Jones, and Starrels voting against). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E does not support the concept set out in recent proposed parking regulations of broadening the availability of and establishing criteria for resident-only parking restrictions on established RPP streets.

Needed Repairs to Neighborhood Street Lights

Commissioner Starrels gave an overview of his recent walk around the neighborhood with Terry Lynch, a local resident, where they looked for burnt out streetlights. He also gave an overview of the Mayor's subsequent launch of an initiative to fix broken streetlights across the city. He said that he is going to write a letter to the Mayor thanking her for her work on the initiative.

Permits for Volta Park Day on October 30th and Breakfast with Santa at Volta Park on December 4th

Chair Lewis moved to support the issuing of park permits for the two events at Volta Park. Commissioner Howard seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E supports the issuing of park permits for the Friends of Volta Park's Volta Park Day on October 30, 2016 and Breakfast with Santa at Volta Park on December 4, 2016.

Old Georgetown Board

OG 16-371 (HPA 16-662) 1801 35th Street, NW

Commissioner Solomon 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:

ANC 2E has concerns with the massing, the size, the height, and the scope of the project. We hope OGB will closely examine those aspects of the project.

The glass link between the main building and the addition is concerning, as it will give off a large amount of light into the surrounding community.

We would like OGB to take a look at the privacy issues regarding the rooftop farm. There are also questions regarding the proposed modifications to the alley.

The community is thrilled to have an arts facility in the community. We are also receptive to the landscaping and architecture of the building as proposed.

ANC 2E encourages the Board to consider the concerns of the neighbors. We look forward to working with the applicant to address these concerns.

OG 16-375 (HPA 16-666) 3401 Water Street, NW

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

ANC 2E appreciates the presentation, but is not yet ready to give its approval of the concept as presented.

The area where the new residential building is being proposed is an important area. It resides next to the historic towpath, Georgetown Waterfront Park, and the C&O Canal, and is close to the residences at 3303 Water Street NW. The building is also situated across from existing and proposed boathouses. The overall massing of the building is a concern.

The following are concerns of ANC 2E regarding the concept:

1. Impacts on the C&O Canal: The C&O Canal is historic and the walls of the canal are fragile. The integrity of the canal is paramount. Any compromise of the canal would not be good.
2. Massing: The overall massing of the building is a concern considering the location and the size of the footprint.
3. Lighting: When the building is lighted at night, how will the lighting affect the overall feel of the C&O Canal and the canal's towpath?
4. Balconies: The balconies, which overlook the C&O Canal, seem out of place.
5. Roof Deck: The roof deck seems to be too large with too many items. A smaller roof deck, perhaps with a single pool, seems more in keeping with the area. Noise and light pollution from the roof deck seem to be a potential problem for this historic area.
6. Views: The vistas as they relate to the Key Bridge, the Potomac River, the C&O Canal, and the canal's towpath all have to be addressed.
7. The Francis Scott Key Park is important. The views from the park should not be impacted. One should not be looking at a large structure from the park.
8. The views and other impacts on the residences at 3303 Water Street NW should be considered.
9. Traffic and Pedestrian Flow: This is a very active area with pedestrians, cyclists and some cars. There has to be a traffic study to ensure the safety of everyone.

10. Views from North of M Street NW: Is the building visible from the area north of M Street NW?

Before ANC 2E can consider supporting the concept plans, we urge that these items be addressed by the developers and OGB.

The plans also should be considered in the comprehensive traffic plan which DDOT has initiated for this area.

OG 16-368 (HPA 16-659) 1724 34th Street, NW

Chair Lewis moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Birch seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

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

OG 16-309 (HPA 16-562) 3320 Reservoir Road, NW

Commissioner Starrels moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Roache 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 project as proposed.

OG 16-352 (HPA 16-637) 1316 34th 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:

ANC 2E does not oppose the addition of a new garage at this location, but does have concerns regarding maintaining the historic character in context with the adjacent service structures as proposed. The current structures that are to the north of this proposed addition are of lower height and without a gable roof. We also request that the Board consider and maintain the appropriate historic context between the proposed addition and the neighboring green space directly to the south.

Adjournment

Chair Lewis adjourned the meeting at 9:57 pm.