Minutes for the Public Meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission ANC2E

Tuesday, June 1, 2004 Georgetown Visitation School

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 by Chairman Birch with all Commissioners present, constituting a quorum.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND COMMUNITY COMMENT

<u>Minutes of March 30</u>: The minutes of the May 4 meeting were accepted as presented by Commissioner Glick.

<u>Announcements</u>: Commissioner Lever announced Volta Park Day on June 13. A reception will be held at Georgetown Visitation School on June 11, along with a silent auction to be catered by 1789 Restaurant.

Chairman Birch announced that Burleith Community Day would be held on June 12.

The Rose Park Farmer's Market is open every Wednesday from 4pm to 7pm. The Farmer's Market at Hyde School is open every Saturday from 9am to 1pm.

The next meeting of ANC2E will be held on June 29 so as to precede the Old Georgetown Board meeting scheduled for July 1.

<u>Commendation for Cynthia Jackson</u>: Commissioner Ryan presented the following commendation for Cynthia Jackson:

Whereas Cynthia Elizabeth Jackson, a fourth generation Georgetowner, has selflessly contributed to the honor, preservation and protection of our village and its heritage,

For her integral role in making Georgetown University's 1986 Documentary Video of an Oral History of Black Georgetown, and the ensuing Research Committee that produced "Black Georgetown Remembered: A History of Its Black Community from the Founding of The Town of George in 1751 to the Present Day,"

For her years of service and contributions to the Archdiocese of Washington's Office of Black Catholics and receiving its Medal of Merit in 2002,

For being a member of and serving on the board of the Rock Creek Citizen's Association when black Georgtowners were excluded from membership in the two other white citizen's groups.

With deep affection and gratitude, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E recognizes and salutes her this First Day of June, 2004.

The commendation was accepted by Monica Rocher, Ms. Jackson's daughter.

Georgetown Project update: Commissioner Levine provided the monthly Project report.

M Street is nearly complete. The final steps are the painting of crosswalks, some pavement repair, and then installation of new parking meters and streetscape items such as newspaper corrals.

Work continues on Wisconsin Avenue, with PEPCO doing the bulk of the work currently. Washington Gas is complete and DDOT is doing traffic control infrastructure. In August, WASA will begin installation of new water North of Q Street. By the end of the summer, weather permitting, paving could be done on Wisconsin Avenue from M Street to O Street.

The Project completion date is still July 2005.

Approval of the financial quarterly report: Commissioner Lever presented the quarterly report for the period from January 1 to March 31, 2004. Disbursements for the quarter totaled \$1,774.46. Commissioner Glick moved for approval (Starrels second) which passed unanimously.

<u>Wisconsin Avenue Canal Bridge Project</u>: Karyn LeBlanc from DDOT announced that work is ready to begin on the Wisconsin Avenue Canal Bridge. One lane on the bridge will remain open northbound throughout, and work is expected to go from July 2004 to May 2005. Commissioner Starrels asked if work could be done at night to save time and Ms. LeBlanc said she would look into it. Commissioner Glick requested appropriate signage to indicate that pedestrian traffic would continue throughout the project's duration.

Ms. LeBlanc also announced the hiring of Ramona Burns as the Ward 2 Transportation Planner. Ms. Burns can be reached at (202)-671-2234 and by e-mail at ramona.burns@dc.gov.

<u>Bank Street Status</u>: Anthony Lanier of EastBanc announced that Bank Street would be reopened on July 1. The garage is scheduled to open in August and main building will be open by the end of the year.

Mr. Lanier took a moment during the Community Comment portion to request that ANC 2E grant residential parking stickers to teachers in area schools. The commissioners agreed to think about it.

<u>O and P Streets</u>: Victoria Rixey introduced herself as the new President of the Citizens Association of Georgetown. She noted that the Board recently recommended expedient repair of potholes on O and P Streets.

<u>Basketball at Volta Park</u>: Doug McFadden, resident of the west side of 33rd Street complained about the latenight basketball at Volta Park. He stated that basketball begins at 7am and represents a threat to the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. He requested signage

indicating that basketball should be limited from 9am to 7pm on weekdays and noon to 7pm on weekends. Commissioner Lever understood Mr. McFadden's concerns and stated that the idea would be discussed at the next ANC meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

ZONING AND PLANNING

32nd Street Proposed Houses: Chairman Birch explained that since the May 4 meeting, the ANC had received two orders from the city regarding the proposed construction in the 1500 block of 32nd Street. The first, dated May 12, was from the BZA and was the final order granting by unanimous decision the appeal of ANC 2E claiming error in a Zoning Administrator's ruling allowing construction to proceed as a matter of right on the three lots in question on 32nd Street, and finding that the Zoning Administrator's order was in error.

The second order was from the Mayor's Agent dated May 20. The Mayor's Agent issued a Modified Decision and Order permitting developers of the 32nd Street properties, on review of a modified site plan, to choose trees or sidewalk on the street, but did not require both.

Chairman Birch argued that because none of these plans were reviewed with participation of the ANC or neighbors who have been parties to the case, and no notice of the scheduled hearings before the Mayor's Agent was served on any of the affected parties, the Mayor's Agent decision was made in what Birch termed "a closed procedure."

In support of the neighbors filing of a Petition for Reconsideration of the Mayor's Agent's order, or in the alternative, a stay pending judicial review before the Court of Appeals, Birch offered the following motion (Ryan second) which passed by unanimous vote:

ANC 2E supports the Petition for Reconsideration of the Mayor's Agent's order regarding 1515 and 1517 32nd Street, and in the alternative, supports a stay pending judicial review before the Court of Appeals.

<u>3229 M Street, Mexx Clothing</u>: Application was for revisions to the storefront on this new sportswear and apparel store. Commissioner Starrels moved (Glick second) for the following which passed unanimously:

ANC 2E appreciates the applicant's approach to modify 3229 M Street. Two schemes were offered and of the two, ANC supports the three-window approach with a raised foundation perhaps using a variety of materials to make the façade more interesting. We recommend that the signage be brought down to 12" with no back lighting.

<u>1307 35th Street, Brody residence</u>: Application was for a two-story side addition with garage. Commissioner Skelsey moved (Ryan second) for the following which passed by a vote of 6-0 (Levine abstaining):

- ANC 2E cannot support the plans as presented for additions to 1307 35th Street due to its serious impact on the historic fabric of the 1300 block of 35th Street, the negative impact to the historic structure itself and the profound loss of light it will cause to the adjoining residence.
- <u>3330 N Street, Ryan residence</u>: Application was for alteration to driveway, entrance, and terraces. Commissioner Starrels moved (Birch second) for the following which passed unanimously:
 - ANC 2E supports the alterations as proposed for 3330 N Street but takes exception to any proposed gate that opens onto and interferes with the public space.
- <u>3252 N Street, Lonardo residence</u>: Application was for a 3rd floor wood deck to replace a similar deck which had to be removed due to flooding this past spring. Commissioner Starrels moved (Birch second) for the following which passed by a vote of 6-1 (Ryan opposed):
 - ANC 2E supports the plans for the deck replacement at 3252 N Street so as to alleviate the past problems of roof leakage as long as it does not exceed the height of the western wall and that the openings allows the maximum light to come through. The replacement work should replicate the latticework if practical.
- **1611 Wisconsin Avenue, Commerce Bank:** This was a revised design of a project seen three times previously. This is a renovation of the Reed Electric building. Commissioner Lever moved (Levine second) for the following which passed by a vote of 6-0 (Glick abstaining):
 - ANC 2E is encouraged by the progress being made at 1611 Wisconsin Avenue but we still feel that the project does not complement the immediate streetscape. The tower needs to be pulled back more in line with the neighboring properties. We look forward to refinements that offer a more graceful look as opposed to a klunky look as was presented.
- <u>1039 33rd Street, Chez Mama San</u>: Application was for alterations and signage. A mural was mentioned on the OGB application, but no specific design was presented. Commissioner Starrels moved (Glick second) for the following which passed unanimously:
 - ANC 2E supports the plans as presented and we remain open to the opportunity to review the mural when ready for presentation.
- <u>3240 P Street, Jean Luc Vivier</u>: Application was for a renovation to convert the property from its current use as a hair salon to add a residential unit by adding a free-standing structure at the rear of the property and altering the rear of the main structure. Commissioner Skelsey moved (Starrels second) for the following which passed by a vote of 6-1 (Glick opposed):
 - ANC 2E supports the work proposed for the façade at 3240 P Street but cannot support the proposed rear renovations. ANC 2E does take issue with the proposed new residence in the rear of the property in regard to the lack of egress and location in such a high-density area.

<u>1557 33rd Street, Bennett residence</u>: Application was for alterations to the carriage house and garage. Commissioner Lever moved (Starrels second) for the following which passed by unanimously:

ANC 2E supports the plans as shown but propose the following changes: the full bath to become a half bath; height not over thirteen feet; move the chimney to the southern side and remove the lantern.

<u>1416 30th Street, Guillot residence</u>: This project was removed from the Consent Calendar just prior to the meeting. Application was for a rear addition and alterations. Commissioner Birch moved (Glick second) for the following which passed unanimously:

ANC 2E has no objection to the proposed rear addition to the extent that it does not encroach on neighboring properties.

<u>3124 Q Street, Miller residence</u>: Application was for alterations to the pergola, pool cabanas, fence and new stairway. Commissioner Birch moved (Ryan second) for the following which passed unanimously:

ANC 2E has no objections to the project revisions as presented but we continue to have objections to the wall facing 32nd Street as it has not been handled in the way ordered by the Old Georgetown Board.

1335 Wisconsin Avenue, Five Guys Famous Hamburgers: Application was for alterations to the gate and awning replacement on the Dumbarton Street side of the café. No plans were presented for the Wisconsin Avenue awning. The discussion was based upon the zoning and renovation efforts and not usage of the property or ABC issues. Commissioner Birch moved (Glick second) for the following which passed unanimously:

ANC 2E has no objection to the proposed awning and over the door signage but we ask that consideration be given to address the stability of the rear of the building. Also, we support the idea of a sliding door as opposed to a swinging door.

<u>Consent Calendar</u>: Chairman Glick moved (Lever second) for adoption of the Consent Calendar, indicating that the following items were reviewed by the ANC and that no opposition to them had been expressed before the ANC:

Georgetown University Business School, new building, OG 04-187 1072 30th St, Yip residence, brick wall to replace wood fence, OG 04-170 2451 P St, McGrath residence, one-story rear addition, infill, OG 04-182

3021 N St, Burden residence, new pergola to replace wooden structure at rear, OG 04-

191

2816 O St, Arora residence, kitchen vent on front façade, OG 04- 189

1557 33rd St, Bennett residence, alterations to front door, stoop, windows, rear door & stoop, 04-179

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Glick ANC2E Secretary