

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F REGULAR MONTHLY  
PUBLIC MEETING**

Wednesday, January 6, 2010 – 7:00 PM  
WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL  
10 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

**Present:** Charles Reed (2F01) (Chairman), Mike Benardo (2F06) (Vice Chairman), Andrew Warth (2F02), Brian Vargas (2F03), Matt Raymond (2F04),  
**Absent:** Dustin Cole (2F05-Treasurer)

**COMMUNITY FORUM**

**Election and Installation of Officers 2010**

The meeting was called to order by **Charles Reed**, who turned the meeting over to **Cyndie Cota** to conduct the annual election of officers. **Andrew Warth** nominated **Charles Reed**. **Brian Vargas** seconded. No other nominations were made, and a vote was called. Charles Reed was elected **Chairman**, to serve until his statutory term expires or until his successor is duly qualified to serve. **VOTE: (5-0) unanimous**

**Reed** then assumed the chair. He opened nominations for Vice Chair. **Brian Vargas** nominated **Mike Benardo**. **Reed** seconded. **Andrew Warth** nominated **Brian Vargas**. **Matt Raymond** seconded. No other nominations were made, and a vote was called. Mike Bernardo was elected **Vice Chairman**, to serve until his statutory term expires or until his successor is duly qualified to serve. **VOTE: (4) Benardo (1)Vargas.**

Nominations for Secretary were opened. **Reed** nominated **Brian Vargas**. **Benardo** seconded. No other nominations were made, and a vote was called. **Brian Vargas** was elected Secretary, to serve until his statutory term expires or until his successor is duly qualified to serve. **VOTE: (5-0) unanimous.**

**Reed** opened nominations for Treasurer. **Reed** nominated **Matt Raymond**. **Benardo** seconded. No other nominations were made. No other nominations were made, and a vote was called. **Matt Raymond** was elected Treasurer, to serve until his statutory term expires or until his successor is duly qualified to serve. **VOTE: (5-0) unanimous.**

**Reed** asked for nominations to chair the CDC (Community Development Committee). **Reed** nominated **Mike Benardo**. **Andrew Warth** seconded. No other nominations were made, and a vote was called. **Mike Benardo** was elected chairman of the CDC, to serve until his term expires or until his successor is duly qualified to serve. **VOTE: (5-0) unanimous.**

**Commissioner Announcements and Monthly Government Reports**

**Reed** announced that Alcoholic Beverage Regulatory Agency (“ABRA”) has relocated its offices to 1250 U Street, NW. Also, that the GSA has invited the public to a design review of

renovations to the National Aquarium, located in the Commerce Department building on 14th Street, NW.

### **Executive Office of the Mayor**

**Francisco Fimbres**, Outreach Specialist is available anytime to answer questions or to listen to community concerns. Mr. Fimbres can be reached at 202-727-9223 (office), 202-664-6119 (cell) or [Francisco.fimbres@dc.gov](mailto:Francisco.fimbres@dc.gov).

### **PSA 307 Report – Lt. Vanessa Moore**

Inspector **Angel Medina** [anglemolina@dc.gov](mailto:anglemolina@dc.gov) introduced himself and will be working out of the substation 3<sup>rd</sup> district.

Sergeant **Bobrick** reviewed crime statistics for the prior month in Police Service Area (PSA) 307, covering a large portion of the ANC 2F area. PSA had a 2% drop in total crimes in 2009 from the previous year. However, violent crime actually rose 9% last year, with total crime declining thanks to a 4% drop in property crimes. Property crimes accounted for 83% of the 974 total crimes in Logan in 2009. Sergeant Bobrick can be reached on his cell at 202-489-1227 or office 202-576-7447.

The two major increases in 2009 were in robberies committed with a gun (up 126%) and thefts (up 18%). The major decreases were in burglaries (down 25%), stolen autos (down 23%) and thefts from autos (down 7%).

Bobrick urged that any suspicious activity be reported immediately through 911, giving a full description. Average response time from 911 is 6 minutes depending on call volume. Bobrick also announced that the City had increased parking meter hours of operations to include Saturdays and then, commencing January 9, **DPW will enforce all meters on Saturdays city wide**. Responding to a question as to the high prevalence of crimes in the 1400 block of R Street, NW, Bobrick reported that policing this block is unusually hard because crime suspects often are residents in the buildings on the south side of the block, and take cover there. Since the buildings are private property, the police cannot follow without obtaining warrants, a time consuming, and essentially futile process. A real-time crime camera, however, is still working in that area.

Commissioner **Reed** pointed out that **Boderstan.com** maintains a very active crime watch on its web site.

**Brian Bray** is handling prostitution cases. Bray can be reached at [brian.bray@dc.gov](mailto:brian.bray@dc.gov). Please feel free to email him with prostitution problems. Lt. Vanessa Moore Lt. Moore can be reached at 202-553-9247 or by email at [vanessa.moore@dc.gov](mailto:vanessa.moore@dc.gov).

## **DDOT**

Christopher Ziemann Ward 2 Transportation Planner reported that businesses on 15<sup>th</sup>, Street south of Massachusetts have complained of the existing one-way traffic restrictions during rush hours. DDOT is studying a change, with a preliminary indication that two-way at all times would be advisable. The CDC Committee will review the matter at its January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **Community Announcements**

The D.C. Council Committee on Public Service and Consumer Affairs will hold a public hearing, to give an opportunity to comment on experiences with Pepco, Washington Gas, and Verizon, the 3 major utility companies serving District ratepayers. The public hearing will be held on Saturday, January 23, 2010 at 10:00 AM- John A. Wilson building, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Room 500. Please call Davida Crockett at 202-741-0898 or [dcrockett@dccouncil.us](mailto:dcrockett@dccouncil.us) for more information.

DC Public Charter School Recruitment Expo will be held on Saturday, January 9, 2010 from noon- 4:00 pm at the Washington Convention Center. For more information, please call 202-328-2660.

Vicky L. Beasley, ESQ - People's Council Nominee for the District of Columbia. Please feel free to contact Ms. Beasley with any questions at [vivkybeasley@yahoo.com](mailto:vivkybeasley@yahoo.com) or contact your Council Member by email or phone to support Ms. Beasley's nomination as the People's Counsel.

*- 10 Minute Recess -*

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

### **Approval of Agenda**

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded by **Vargas** and after further discussion, the agenda was approved with the following amendments and a direction that a copy be filed with the minutes and posted on the ANC 2F website:

Add Under DDOT: Birch and Barley Valet Parking  
Add Under Treasurer's Report: ANC2F participation in the ANC Security Fund  
Add Under New Business: AD Hoc Committee to review District Condo Laws  
Add Under New Business: Website Development Committee

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

### **Approval of ANC 2F Minutes of Meeting of December 2, 2009**

Minutes of the meeting of December 2, 2009, were presented for approval. Upon motion by **Vargas** seconded by **Benardo** and after further discussion, the minutes were approved with direction to the Executive Director to post the same on the ANC 2F website.

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

**DCHSEMA/Street Closures**

**Diane Thomas** presented a request for street closing for the 5th Annual National Marathon and Half Marathon, which will be held on Saturday, March 20, 2010 from 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM. **Thomas** stated that the request complies with the published street closing policy of this ANC and that he had made substantial progress in dealing with others entitled to notice and opportunity to comment. **Thomas** can be reached at 202-857-5914 for more information.

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded by **Raymond**, and after further discussion, it was,

**RESOLVED**, That upon review of the street closing application of 5th Annual National Marathon and Half Marathon, to be held March 20, 2010 pending before the DC Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency (“DCHSEMA”) and presented to the ANC, ANC 2F advise HSEMA to grant such application.

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

**Nicola Beddow** presented a request for street closing for the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Race for Hope 5k, which will be held on Sunday, May 2, 2010 from 8:00 AM -10:00 AM. **Beddow** stated that the request complies with the published street closing policy of this ANC and that he had made substantial progress in dealing with others entitled to notice and opportunity to comment. **Beddow** can be reached at [nicola.beddow@abc2.org](mailto:nicola.beddow@abc2.org) for more information.

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded by **Raymond**, and after further discussion, it was,

**RESOLVED**, That upon review of the street closing application of, to be held 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Race for Hope 5k, which will be held on Sunday, May 2, 2010 pending before the DC Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency (“DCHSEMA”) and presented to the ANC, ANC 2F advise HSEMA to grant such application.

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

**DDOT**

*Birch and Barley Valet Parking*

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded by **Vargas**, and after further discussion, it was,

**RESOLVED**, That ANC2F advise DDOT not to grant the public space permit, and it is

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That DDOT did not provide notification to the ANC or to adjoining property owners (1339 14th Street), and that the action taken by the space committee to grant the license was, therefore, invalid; and it is,

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That owing to numerous failures of communication

between DDOT and this ANC a meeting be sought with the Director of DDOT to seek better coordination on matters involving the ANC and DDOT.

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

**ABRA**

*Cork and Fork 1522 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Voluntary Agreement*

Upon motion by **Vargas**, seconded by **Reed**, and after further discussion, it was,

**RESOLVED**, That the Voluntary Agreement between ANC 2F and Cork and Fork be and is hereby ratified and that the Alcohol Beverage Control Board (“ABC Board”) be advised to accept the Agreement, and subject to licensee’s continued compliance with the terms of the Agreement, that the pending application for liquor license be granted and the protest of this ANC be withdrawn..

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

*Estadio Voluntary Agreement*

A form of voluntary was presented to the meeting. **Commissioner Vargas** stated his disagreement with a provision that provides a discount to neighborhood patrons, because such doesn’t have anything to do with peace, order and quiet complaint which formed the basis of the ANC protest in the matter. While the ANC should not provide for such a discount in the agreement, nothing, in Vargas’s view, precludes the licensee from offering such a discount. **Reed** disagreed, pointing out that traffic and other concerns are relevant to the peace, order and quiet issue, and that the provision in question (which also appears in analogous form in other voluntary agreements of this ANC) is directed at incentivizing a neighborhood restaurant which does in fact bear on peace, order and quiet. A consensus was reached that this particular provision, stating a specific discount, might have the appearance of undue pressure on a license applicant, and should be removed. Mr. Mark Kuller, the owner of the licensee, indicated that he would in all events offer the discount, regardless of the voluntary agreement.

Upon motion by **Raymond**, seconded by **Reed**, and after further discussion, it was,

**RESOLVED**, That the Voluntary Agreement between and among ANC 2F, Credo, LLC, and other Community Parties with respect to a pending application for a liquor license at 1520 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, C-1, as presented to this meeting as be revised by removal of a provision granting discounts to local residents and that, as so revised, that ANC 2F advise the Alcohol Beverage Control Board (“ABC Board”) to accept the agreement subject to continued compliance with its terms, and that upon acceptance by the ABC Board the pending protest of this ANC be withdrawn.

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

## **Community Development Committee**

### *ANC 2F Arts Overlay Review Committee's Economic Development NIF Recommendations*

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded **Vargas** by and after further discussion, it was

**RESOLVED**, That ANC 2F adopt the recommendations of the ANC2F Arts Overlay Review Committee's Economic Development NIF Recommendations and advise the Deputy Mayor's Office.

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

### *Columbia Heights/Shaw Family Support Collaborative- Clean and green the commercial corridors; DC Cultural Tourism U Street Visitors Center*

Upon motion by **Vargas**, seconded **Benardo** by and after further discussion, it was

**RESOLVED**, That ANC 2F advise the Deputy Mayor's Office to accept the NIF grant applications for Columbia Heights/Shaw Family Support Collaborative and DC Cultural Tourism U Street Visitors Center.

## **New Business**

### *Hatch Act*

The Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508) restricts the political activity of individuals principally employed by state, county, or municipal executive agencies in connection with programs financed in whole or in part by loans or grants made by the United States or a federal agency. An employee covered by the Act may not be a candidate for public office in a partisan election. The Act applies to the District of Columbia as well. The Act applies only to executive branch employees. A bill has been introduced in Congress to amend the Act so as not to apply to ANCs, which is a non-partisan, non-executive agency.

Upon motion by **Vargas**, seconded by **Reed**, and after further discussion, it was,

**RESOLVED**, That ANC 2F endorses H.R. 1345 (District of Columbia Hatch Act Reform Act of 2009), and urges its adoption; and it is

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the appropriate officers of this ANC communicate such support to DC Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton and advise enactment of the bill.

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

*Ad Hoc Committee to Review District Condo Laws*

Upon motion by **Vargas**, seconded by **Reed**, and after further discussion, it was,

**RESOLVED**, That the ANC 2F does hereby create an *ad hoc* committee to review the DC condo laws with the view of suggesting changes therein to better protect potential co-owners of condominium units; and that Charles Biggio be and is hereby appointed Chairman of such committee, with direction to provide a monthly interim progress reports

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

*Website Development Committee*

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded by **Vargas**, and after further discussion, it was,

**RESOLVED**, That ANC 2F does hereby create an *ad hoc* community to review the website to make it more user friendly, appoints Commission Warth to chair such committee, and appoints Commissioners Benardo, Vargas, and Raymond and Tim Barnes to serve as members of the Committee.

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

**Treasurer’s Report (Matt Raymond, Treasurer)**

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded by **Vargas** and after further discussion

**RESOLVED**, That ANC2F hereby approves the ANC2F participation in the ANC Security Fund; as presented to the meeting.

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

Upon motion by **Raymond**, seconded by **Benardo** and after further discussion, the following expenses were approved:

Cynthia Cota .....	\$938.45
Verizon .....	\$60.36
DC Treasurer.....	\$54.00
ANC Security Fund.....	\$25.00
DOES.....	\$54.00
IRS.....	\$1,173.45
Andrea Doughty (Arts Overlay Committee printing)....	\$108.63

**Vote: (5-0) Unanimous**

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned at 9:46 PM.