

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2003 7:00PM  
THE WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL**

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Helen Kramer  
Jim Brandon  
Bob Hinterlong  
Cary Silverman  
Miriam Trimble

Election of ANC Officers

Elizabeth Blakeslee was introduced by Helen to conduct the election of officers. Roll call was taken to certify a quorum was present. Blakeslee asked for a nomination for chair. Hinterlong nominated Kramer. There was no other nomination. Brandon moved for election by acclamation. Trimble seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0. Kramer nominated Brandon for Vice Chair. Silverman seconded. There were no other nominations. **Vote:** Approved 5-0. Trimble nominated Silverman for secretary. Hinterlong seconded. There were no other nominations. **Vote:** Approved 5-0. Kramer nominated Hinterlong for Treasurer. Trimble seconded. There were no other nominations. **Vote:** Approved 5-0. Blakeslee congratulated the new ANC officers for 2003.

Community Forum

Richard Neidich asked if the city had published the SMD maps for ANC 2F. The Board of Elections has not published them yet, but they will be in the next issue of the LCCA newsletter.

Don Smith expressed strong opposition to the proposal by N Street Village to rename the 1300 block of N Street "Steinbruck Way," after the former Pastor of Luther Place Memorial Church, saying it would be an insult to this community. He said that street renames in DC are generally reserved for people who have national or international stature, and that as good a person as Pastor Steinbruck may be, he does not rise to that level. It would set a precedent for naming DC streets after non-resident pastors.. He suggested that the congregation name the building after him. Smith recounted the numerous conflicts between Luther Place and the community, and concluded by saying that this issue opened a raw wound in many of the people in the neighborhood who remember the battles. Jackie Reed added that Steinbruck invited prostitutes into the church, sheltering and feeding them, and allowing them to turn tricks in the parking lot despite the fact that the community was trying to rid the neighborhood of prostitutes. She stated that Luther Place opened a homeless shelter in the Parish Hall without permits or

getting ANC approval and that it was approved as an office building. Jim Smith said that it's important to know the impact a name change would have on the city. He showed a neighborhood map with all the streets that could be renamed after pastors who have churches in the area. He called this spoof "Recognizing your Icon."

Holly Porter asked to report on the problems with two houses at Q and 12<sup>th</sup> Street. She said that prostitutes, johns and drug dealers have frequented these houses at all hours. Both homes are owned by area churches. The minister at Vermont Avenue Baptist Church has agreed to meet with neighbors, but they have gotten nowhere with pastor Marguerite Rollins of Second Genesis Baptist Church. Kramer called on Sean Metcalf of Councilmember Evans' staff to talk about Vermont Avenue and the parking lots that are springing up where houses are torn down by churches who own the property. Metcalf said that they have been doing everything by the book so far, getting permits to demolish the houses. Kramer asked how they can have parking lots that are not contiguous to the church, that are not blacktopped and have no fencing. Metcalf said they've agreed to put up bushes. Kramer: before they can put up these parking lots, they are to apply for a special exception from the Board of Zoning Adjustment. John Taylor who lives at the Leumass and is a member of the Vermont Avenue Baptist Church, wanted to know why no one from the church was invited to the ANC meeting. Kramer said that there was nothing about this issue on the agenda—this was brought up during community forum, when the community is invited to address issues or make announcements.

Pat Durkin said she has lived in the neighborhood for many years and wanted everyone to know that neighbors have tried to work with a lot of churches in the area, and that there are two kinds of pastors —those who are good to work with, and those who want nothing to do with the residents.

Elizabeth Blakeslee said that residents both old and new, and visitors appreciate the logical street order. You can find your way around this city, despite the circles. She also mentioned that the few streets that have been renamed are named after much more illustrious people.

Tim Hillard asked the commissioners to consider how they want the results of the ABC survey presented—at a special meeting or during an ANC meeting.

There were no more comments. Kramer then called on Ashley Gerstenfeld of SJG Properties to give a short presentation. They were unable to get on a CDC agenda in a timely manner, due to the holidays, so Kramer permitted them as an exception to the rule to present directly to the ANC. The project is at 1410 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Holly Lennihan, Hickok Warner Fox Architects, said that the two rowhouses will be brick with wooden bays, and will house 7 units. They will be just over 50' in height, while the zoning allows 60'. George Galt asked how high the adjacent buildings were. Lennihan said that they were within 8-10' of the

height of the proposed buildings. Gerstenfeld said that three parking spaces will be provided. Richard Neidich asked about trash pickup and where the trash will be stored. They said in the alley. Kramer said that multi-unit buildings must have private trash pickup and cannot store dumpsters in the alley. Gerstenfeld said that they will look at other options for the dumpster; perhaps under the rear stairway. Pricing for the project has not been determined. Size ranges from 500 to 1200 square feet. Kramer said the project would be discussed during the formal agenda.

1426-1430 K Street (demolition and new construction (office building)) Due to a mixup as to which ANC in which this project was located, this project was being presented during community forum for vote later in the meeting. Attorney Michael Cain said that these buildings need special exceptions for FAR, rear yard variance and special exception for the location of the mechanical penthouse on the roof. 1426 K Street was originally built as a parking garage, and 1430 is the honeycomb designed building next door. There is a projection on the front of the proposed new building, a colonnade feature. It comes out a maximum of 4'. The front is in reflective glass. Following a discussion with the Commissioners, it was determined that if the projection into public space does not count for zoning, and there is no need for FAR exception. There was a question about the spire at the top of the building. Alan Nessim, the developer, said that the spire is an architectural embellishment. The building will have ground floor retail, and 11 floors of office space.

Chair Kramer made an announcement about the construction about to begin on January 13 on the National City Christian Church parking lot at 14 and N Street. Construction trailers will close the curb lane of 14th Street going south. Kramer asked anyone who experiences severe inconvenience to contact the ANC. Brandon said that that area has been disrupted by construction problems for the past three years. Frona Hall noted that a disruption of 14<sup>th</sup> Street will cause more traffic on Vermont Avenue and 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Stephanie Clipper, Eric Korpon and George Galt said that usually one lane becomes two, and workers' vehicles park in the closed lane, using an additional lane for the equipment. Jim Smith said that vehicles cannot park in closed lanes. Only construction equipment is permitted there, and a phone call to Denise Turner, manager of public space, will handle it.

Following a short break, Kramer reconvened the meeting

#### Approval of Agenda

Kramer had several additions to the agenda. 1) Discussion of payphones 2) Crime problems on Vermont, Q and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets, 3) Discussion of goals and objectives 4) Announcement of closed circuit cameras during demonstrations. Silverman moved accepted the agenda as amended. Hinterlong seconded.

**VOTE:** Approved 5-0.

### Approval of Minutes

Brandon moved that the minutes be approved. Trimble seconded. **VOTE:** Approved 4-0.

### Community Development

Brandon moved that we reject the renaming of N Street. Hinterlong seconded. Discussion: Brandon said that he was the chair of the ANC when Luther Place packed the meeting at which the proposed shelter was discussed and mayhem broke out.. Brandon said that at his parish, 70% of the congregants walk to church. At this church, the congregants must drive to church because they don't live in the city. Silverman noted that a representative of the church was not present at the ANC meeting to present their proposal. He expressed his concern that the church had not been adequately informed that the proposal was on the ANC agenda for a vote. Kramer replied that in addition to the matter being on the agenda, Sean Metcalf informed them that it would be discussed at the ANC meeting. Brandon said that they would be welcome to come to another meeting for a discussion of the renaming issue. **Vote:** Approved 5-0-1, Silverman abstaining.

### 1426-1430 K street

Brandon moved approval of rear yard variance and exception for the roof structure. Silverman seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0. Silverman to send letter.

### 1410 12th Street

Brandon moved approval of the new construction at 1410 12<sup>th</sup> Street and that a letter of support be sent to HRPB. Trimble seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0. Ashley Gerstenfeld asked that the motion be amended to include approval of combining the two lots. There was no objection to the amendment.

### ABC Survey Report

Cary Silverman reported that the committee would be meeting tomorrow, and that they were very pleased with the response. They will also be developing a set of guidelines for future ABC licenses. Brandon moved that the commission should get the raw data next month and that the commission would then present the findings to the public in March. Hinterlong seconded. Kramer also asked that the committee discuss the bill for the printing and mailing and how it would be paid. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

### ANC Security Fund

Hinterlong moved that we participate in the Security fund for 2003. Brandon seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

### Public Pay Phones

DDOT asked for comments regarding pay phones in our ANC that lack public space permits. There was a discussion among the commissioners about the location of the payphones. They decided to ignore those located in the downtown

district. Brandon moved that we oppose those payphones located in residential areas. Hinterlong seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

#### Announcement of Deployment of Closed Circuit Cameras

Kramer made the announcement that there will be closed circuit cameras, monitored by law enforcement, located at Dupont Circle, Farragut Square and other locations during the anti-war demonstrations January 17-19.

#### Vermont Avenue problem properties

There was a discussion of whether the demolition of properties was due to neglect, or to create more parking. Kramer said that Frank Mobilio, president of LCCA, volunteered to meet with the new pastor to see if a discussion can be started for negotiation to resolve these issues amicably. Brandon suggested that we invite the pastor and his board members to come and speak to us during community forum. Kramer thought we should see if there would be a basis first.

#### ANC's Goals and Objectives

Each commissioner has a copy of those accepted by the previous commission. Kramer asked that each commissioner come prepared to discuss these at the February meeting. It will be the first item on the agenda.

#### Treasurer's Report

Hinterlong moved that the following expenditures be approved:

300.00	National City Christian Church Foundation, February rent
51.45	Verizon, monthly telephone service
34.08	DC DOES, 4th Quarter Unemployment compensation
400.43	Sherri Kimbel, December wages, 27.5 hours
25.00	DC Treasurer, December withholding
693.87	U.S. Treasurer, 4th Quarter Federal taxes
106.69	Cary Silverman for Voter List for survey
25.00	ANC Security Fund

There followed a discussion of the charges from the printer. Hinterlong suggested that we send the bill back and ask for two separate bills, one for the ANC charges and one for the ABC committee charges. Kramer seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

Brandon moved authorization for the Executive Director to purchase office supplies up to \$100. Hinterlong seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

Kramer said that the commission needs to adopt a budget for the upcoming year. Hinterlong said that we have a budget for the upcoming year of \$16,750.00. He gave each commissioner a copy of a draft budget to review for the next meeting.

Brandon moved that we adjourn. Silverman seconded. **Vote:** Approved: 5-0.