

FINAL

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2003 7:00PM
THE WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL**

IN ATTENDANCE: Helen Kramer, Chair
Jim Brandon, Vice Chair
Bob Hinterlong, Treasurer
Cary Silverman, Secretary
Thomas Funk

Community Forum

Norman "Chip" Glasglow, Jr. gave an overview of a proposed hotel project at 1000 K Street, NW. Financing for this project, as for many commercial projects, got more difficult to secure following the events of 9/11/01. His clients are seeking a one a one year extension on the permits for constructing the hotel. Chair Kramer said that she would add the matter to the agenda. Bruce Millen represented ANC Commissioner Miriam Trimble, who was not present at this meeting, and asked that the commission set their sites on improving Thomas Circle, and not spend all their time on Logan Circle. Millen said that Trimble also wants the commission to support legislation to protect the elderly in nursing homes.

Lt. Grooms gave a crime report. Burglaries are still a major problem. Thieves have been kicking in doors and taking computers, etc. In PSA 310, the biggest problem is stolen autos. She is also trying to meet with the pastor of Second Genesis Baptist Church about a derelict property. Kramer said that Pastor Bob Holum also offered to meet with other churches. Grooms said she'd call him to set up a meeting. Grooms asked that anyone who might be working from home during the day call 311 or Lt. Grooms or Lt. Smith if they see anyone going door to door in the neighborhood, as this seems to be the MO for burglars checking to see if homes are vacant.

Mona Bowden of Thomas House said that NCPC has an action item for parking of trucks and vehicles at the convention center. She asked that the commission stay on top of this.

Sherry Robinson of Robinson Associates, a public relations firm, said her firm is one of the 7 finalists for the proposals for the old convention center, and said that she would be happy to make a presentation to the ANC on her proposal if they wanted to see it.

Scott Pomeroy Executive Director of the 14th and U street Main Street project said that on March 29 the project will be the kick off site for the great American clean up.

Kramer announced that the vacancy in 2F05 has been filled by Tom Funk, 1113 M Street. He's a local hairdresser and has been living in the neighborhood for 4 years. There was a question as to how a vacancy on the ANC is filled. Kramer explained that any interested person could pick up a form from BOEE, collect 25 signatures of support from registered voters in the SMD, and be sworn in.

Michael Romanello said that he has formed the South Logan residents and business association. It has not yet been incorporated. Interest is in development along Massachusetts, 13th Street and L Street.

After a short break, Kramer reconvened the meeting and explained that the public input portion was closed, unless the chair asked for public input.

Approval of Agenda

Kramer added announcements on the ANC 2F By-laws and the ANC oversight hearing. Brandon asked to have a discussion of "courtesy tows." Brandon moved approval of the agenda, Silverman seconded. **VOTE:** Approved 5-0.

Approval of January Minutes

Hinterlong moved to approve the January minutes. Brandon seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

Preliminary Report on Liquor License Survey

Tim Hillard, chair of the ABC ad hoc committee presented the preliminary report of the ABC survey. George Galt, Cary Silverman, Charles Biggio, Wayne Dickson, Lt. Mike Smith and Crawford Sherman are the other members of the committee. Hillard explained how the survey was distributed. The committee got a list of registered voters in ANC 2F who had voted in any of the past three elections. The survey was sent via a commercial mailer to every third voter on this list. The response rate was more than 10%, a very good response for any survey.

Galt presented the raw results. The majority of the survey respondents lived nearest to 14th Street, the remainder near 9th or 11th. The age distribution was even between the age groups on the survey. The average respondent has lived in the neighborhood 11.5 years. In addition to multiple choice questions, respondents were asked to give comments on a variety of subjects regarding the future development of ANC 2F. The top comments were to avoid Georgetown and Adams Morgan parking problems, maintain a neighborhood-oriented community, encourage unique stores, avoid chains, continue the mix of

commercial and residential, maintain ethnic diversity, and strive for active or lively street life. The biggest concerns are crime and trash. The majority of the respondents felt that if an establishment has a capacity of over 75 persons, it should provide off-street parking (58%). Other questions and responses: Do you support more nightclubs in Logan Circle? Yes (32%) No (47%), not sure (20%). Do you support more bars and taverns in Logan Circle? Yes (58%). Most who answered yes to that question stated a preference for a sit-down lounge or neighborhood gathering place. 49% said that there were enough retail liquor establishments. Nearly 70% of the respondents said that retail stores should not be permitted to sell single bottles of beer. 80% want to see more restaurants, and sidewalk dining. Late night dancing and live music and dancing was not wanted by 45% of the respondents.

Kramer thanked the committee for their work. Hillard said that they would be back again next month with more details. Scott Pomeroy asked about getting a copy of the information, as that would be helpful to the U Street initiative. Tom Brown of 1418 Corcoran Street asked for the raw data. Kramer said that she would take it under advisement. Glen Mlaker commended the committee and the ANC for taking this effort to see what the public wants in their neighborhood.

Goals and Objectives for 2003

This was tabled until the March meeting. Kramer asked that all the commissioners get a copy of everyone else's comments and that copies be made for the public.

ANC2F Website

The ANC2F website has been out of commission for over a year. Silverman put together a group to brainstorm ideas for getting it back in operation. Tim Barnes and Dennis Loney offered to design and implement the website voluntarily. Silverman distributed an outline, and asked for input from the community before the website was put together. Pomeroy asked that a link to the U Street initiative be put on the website. Clipper said that the outline is wonderful and that getting the website up and operational would be a great effort. Hinterlong asked about expenses to get this up and running. Silverman said that there is a \$40 set up fee, and approximately \$12/month to host it. Silverman said that the committee would continue to move forward with this project.

Office of Planning Announcements

Chris Shaheen said that there are 4 planning initiatives going on, and the Office of Planning wants the public to know about them.

Old Convention Center site – planning for reuse of old convention center. There are 7 proposals. Interviews will begin next week. A public hearing will be February 19 at 6:30 at the old convention center. The new convention center will open in March.

Mt. Vernon Triangle – encouraging the development of a new residential neighborhood. There will be a public meeting about this to get input.

Baseball stadium site – potential sites are being examined by a consultant. One is in the Mt. Vernon triangle area and one is at New York and Florida Avenue, both of which may be of interest to this ANC.

Convention Center headquarters hotel at 9th and Massachusetts—Marriott and Kingman Gold partnered to create the hotel. Unanswered questions include historic preservation issues, how many rooms, meeting space, etc.

Temporary Closure of Mt. Vernon Square to traffic, and diversion at O Street

Tony Robinson of the Convention Center made a presentation about the progress of the building. It is about 95% complete. The original schedule called for the street work to continue for another 3 months. Robinson said that they'd like to speed it up by closing Mt. Vernon Place. Local access will be available on 7th and 9th Streets to not inconvenience residents and businesses. 371-3200 is the construction hotline for any problems that need to be addressed immediately. Bill Carlson, a traffic consultant, said that the traffic on O Street will not be affected but the traffic to the south (south on 7th, south on 9th) will be affected. The detour routes have been established, and are used to work with the traffic flow. Funk asked when L and M Streets will reopen. Robinson said when the convention center opens, they will be reopened. Biggio asked if new fiber optic and water lines would be put in when the streets are torn up. Some of it has been done, but the new convention center hotel may need more infrastructure work.

Alex Padro, ANC 2C commissioner, addressed the commission and the audience about the problems with the traffic. Padro said that all of the traffic diverted from 7th has been detoured to 10th Street, a residential street that will be clogged with trucks and other traffic. He feels that businesses on 7th will be hurt by the detours. ANC 2C voted unanimously tonight to oppose the street closure that the convention center is requesting. He asked ANC 2F to join with ANC 2C to oppose the closing of Mt. Vernon Place. Robinson disagreed, saying that they have taken every effort to keep closings to a minimum. Hinterlong asked about traffic diverted to 10th Street. Robinson said that it isn't a permanent detour, but there are too many unknown variables to know when the roads will need to be closed, and traffic diverted. Hinterlong asked why emergency vehicles cannot be informed about closings in advance. Robinson said that is their intention, and the closings are run by fire department, etc.

Kramer: are you asking the commission for any kind of statement of support or are you just here to inform us? Answer: we are just here to inform you.

CDC Report

Kramer reminded the commission that Chip Glasglow asked for an extension on the zoning modifications for 1000 K Street during the community forum. Hinterlong moved that the ANC send a letter to the zoning commission supporting the request for an extension of time to enable the developers to raise the financing for the hotel which was adversely affected by the collapse of the Washington tourist industry. Funk seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

The CDC considered two matters at their January meeting. One was the traffic control plan at 1401 Church Street. The developers need to close the sidewalk and the committee considered the developer's proposal and decided that the pedestrian traffic would not be adversely affected. The second item is a proposal by Michael Vallen for a renovation at 1418 11th Street. A modification was made to the front of the building back in the 50's and needs to be addressed, replacing the storefront with a first floor unit with landscaping. The proposed use is residential—4 one bedroom condominiums. The committee recommended that the ANC approve this schematic.

Brandon moved that the ANC accept the report of the CDC. Hinterlong seconded. Vote: Approved 5-0.

Government Oversight Committee Hearing

The ANC has been summoned to a hearing at 9:20 on February 18th. Kramer asked for input for the report by Sunday so that she can draft the testimony.

By-Law changes

Kramer reviewed the by-laws and found that they were somewhat outdated, and the boundaries need to be changed to conform to the 2000 census and the new ANC 2F boundaries. The changes will be discussed at the March meeting. Kramer said she will circulate the proposed amendments to the Commission within the next two weeks.

Courtesy Tows

Brandon said that he has had constituents who parked legally and were towed to a different location, making it very difficult to find the car. These were referred to as "courtesy tows." Sometimes they were towed to parking meters and tickets were given because the meters were not fed. Lt. Smith said that the towing companies are to report to dispatch where they have moved the towed vehicles.

Treasurer's Report

The budget was tabled to the next meeting. Brandon moved that the Executive Director seek repair work for the computer since it is having some problems. Funk seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

Brandon suggested that we have a petty cash fund of \$50 for small expenses. There was some discussion, and consensus was to put a petty cash fund into the budget. Hinterlong moved the following expenses be approved:

300.00	National City Christian Church Foundation, March rent
55.37	Verizon, monthly telephone service
54.19	Sherri Kimbel, reimbursement for office supplies
633.21	Sherri Kimbel, January wages, 43 hours

32.00	DC Treasurer, January withholding
7.40	Sherri Kimbel, reimbursement for postage stamps
217.00	B & B Duplicators, Inc. for envelopes & other printing

Brandon seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

Brandon moved that we adjourn. Silverman seconded. **Vote:** Approved: 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.