

FINAL

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Helen Kramer, Chair
Jim Brandon, Vice Chair
Cary Silverman, Secretary
Thomas Funk
Miriam Trimble

Community Forum

Edward Sayre, President of Thomas House asked to address the commission on a matter concerning Thomas House residents. There are large steel plates in 14th Street that constitute a hazard. Kramer asked Shawn Metcalf of Councilmember Jack Evans' office if he knew when it might be fixed. Heather Brophy of DDOT said that 14th Street is under design for streetscaping this year, and the implementation of the design would be in 2004. Heather said she would look into the public space permit pulled to put those plates in. Billy Clamb, 1300 Massachusetts Avenue NW, asked that Brophy call Thomas House to report what she discovers. She will report to Miriam Trimble.

Mesfun Ghebrelul ("MG"), manager of Barrel House, and Jackie Reed, who owns property next door to the Barrel House, spoke about Barrel House's temporary closing. Reed spoke for MG, explaining that he was conned into buying wine that was stolen. He called the wine distributor to find out why he didn't get an invoice and that's how they discovered that he had been purchasing wine from an unauthorized distributor. Chairman Roderic Woodson of the ABC Board was outraged that he appeared before the ABC Board to face these charges without an attorney. MG did not think he needed an attorney, since he had reached an agreement with the U.S. Attorney's office. The ABC Board closed him down until the next hearing date, when he came back with an attorney. Silverman said that this entire issue came as a surprise to him, and to many others in the community and wondered why the ANC was not notified of the hearing. Kramer said that new regulations may determine which hearings are advertised and which are not.

Michel Verdant moved into Blagden Alley a year ago and heard that Blagden Alley was being repaved and wondered when it would be. He also asked about adding utilities to carriage houses that he purchased along Blagden Alley. Brophy said that Blagden Alley and Naylor Court were under design, due to their historic preservation status. She said that she would report back to the commission at the next meeting on the progress. He was also told that he could not add utilities to carriage houses, due to a law that was passed two years ago.

None of the commissioners had ever heard of this law. Sean Metcalf will look into it. Helen asked him to check into the large hole in the sidewalk in front of 1310 12th Street, NW, where a manhole cover fell into the hole.

Heather Brophy spoke about the parking plan for the new convention center. DDOT has worked with Jack Evans' office and Chris Shaheen from the Office of Planning to design this plan. This plan has facets of educating the public, the conventioners, *etc.* so that they know about the parking regulations. They will also deploy additional parking enforcement officers. Metro is very accessible to the new convention center. Many more streets in the convention center parking area will have Residential Permit Parking (RPP). There will be areas set aside for residents only, meaning that those who do not have permits can not park there for any amount of time. Visitor passes will be acceptable in the resident-only area. Fines for parking violations in this area will be raised to \$50. Restrictions will be in place from 7:00 am until 8:30 pm. Additional parking meters will be put in along commercial corridors. Residents with RPP stickers would not be required to pay at these meters. Residents in the affected area will have increased accessibility to visitor parking permits, and they will be for shorter periods of time than 2 weeks as it is now. They will also make the RPP stickers available to those who live in the area, even those who cannot get them now because they are not on RPP streets (blanket RPP for everyone in the areas.) Chris Barrett asked about people parking at the edges of the zone—will people really park that far away and walk to the convention center? Brophy said that they will look at this in 6 months, but that they set up the zone to include all areas within a 10 minute walking distance from the convention center.

Following a short break, Kramer reconvened the meeting.

Approval of Agenda

Helen Kramer added approval of the quarterly report to the agenda. Brandon moved approval of the amended agenda, Silverman seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

Approval of February Minutes

Brandon moved approval of the minutes as amended by Kramer. Funk seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

Liquor License Issues

Kramer asked if anyone from the Helix Hotel was present. The voluntary agreement had not been reached, which was required prior to approval by the ANC. The item was tabled.

Goals and Objectives for 2003

Silverman said that they began by deciding what was important to the ANC. The new document addresses parking and outreach efforts. The newly revised website is in the goals, and that the ANC will try to work cooperatively with local businesses. There is also a section on ABC policy, so that licensees know what is expected by the community. Trimble asked if there were funds for mailing of agendas. Kramer said that there was not funding for this. Silverman moved that the Goals and Objectives as drafted be approved. Trimble seconded. **VOTE:** Approved 5-0.

Revised By Laws

Kramer asked for comments on the revised bylaws. Brandon had a question on the election procedures. There was some discussion and it was decided that the process was clear as it stood. Brandon asked about notice of our meetings. Kramer replied that notices are disseminated through email, local publications, and by each commissioner. Any suggestions are always welcome. Brandon asked about grants. Kramer said that it was a holdover from the last by-laws as this ANC hasn't had the funds to make grants. Brandon asked about Article XI and wanted to know if we could solicit funds for something special, such as our website. There was some discussion on this topic. Trimble moved to accept the bylaws as written. Silverman seconded. **VOTE:** Approved 5-0.

CDC Report

Kramer gave a report on the CDC meeting. Metropolis Development Corp. asked for zoning variations in three areas: recreation space, lot coverage and court space. The committee voted to ask the ANC to send a letter to the BZA asking for approval. The ANC decided to defer discussion of the convention center parking plan until the next meeting. The Studio Theatre requested zoning changes due to the fact that they are located in an arts overlay district. One of the requirements is for display windows, which are not possible in a theater. The CDC voted to recommend that the ANC support the zoning relief sought. Brandon moved approval of the CDC report, Silverman seconded. **VOTE:** Approved 5-0.

Treasurer's Report

In the absence of treasurer Hinterlong, who is ill and unable to attend this meeting, Silverman gave the treasurer's report. Silverman moved that the following items be approved:

(Items to be added)

Brandon asked about the expense for domain name approval. Silverman explained the process. Funk seconded the motion to approve. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

Funk moved approval of the quarterly report. Trimble seconded. **Vote:** Approved 5-0.

Old Business

Kramer asked for an update on the removal of the phone in front of Crew Club on 14th Street. Brandon said that he had a meeting upcoming. Kramer asked that the update on this issue be given at the April meeting.

Brandon moved that we adjourn. Silverman seconded. **Vote:** Approved: 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.