

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2003 7:00PM
THE WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL**

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

Community Forum

Jim Brandon opened the meeting, explaining that Helen Kramer was out of town, and that he would be chairing the meeting in her absence. Brandon told the attendees about the death of a former ANC2F Commissioner, David Morris. He also said that he and Jim Kane would be looking into the rat problem behind the James apartment building.

Lt . Groomes, PSA 309 gave a police report. Theft from autos still plagues the area. Mostly out of state tags are targeted. She had several complaints about HR57. They were cited for not having a liquor manager on premises, and for band members using the alley as a bathroom. Burglaries are down, due to the arrest of a person who was committing many of them. Hinterlong asked about a report of a young black female targeting white females and attacking them at bus stops. Groomes said that it is mainly occurring in PSA 309.

Billy Pat Clamp, 1300 Massachusetts Avenue asked about the metal plates on 14th Street in front of the Holiday Inn. Heather Brophy said they were put there after a utility company dug up the road, and they were supposed to repave the street. She has reported it repeatedly but to no avail. It has been there over 3 years. Brophy suggested that the ANC get more involved and ask public safety for action.

Silverman noted that that Bovis Construct ion has removed the trees in front of their site on 14th Street. This was approved at the last ANC meeting so that they could put in a pedestrian walkway. However, they have not put in a walkway, and are using the area for a staging area for their trucks. He wants the ANC to take action. Brophy suggested that the Commissioners email her and Craig Baldwin at DDOT when they see this happening.

Silverman asked Brophy about repaving on Q and R Streets. Brophy said that paving on R is ongoing, but Q Street is not scheduled to be repaved until Spring of 2004.

Mike Ferren, 1713 15th Street, who represents Smoke Free DC asked if he could be on a future agenda. Brandon asked that he contact Sherri Kimbel to be put on a future agenda.

Approval of Agenda

Following a short break, Brandon reconvened the meeting. The following items were added to the agenda: Lack of notification by the ABC Board to the Commission on liquor licenses; an update on Wagtime; Bovis Construction's removal of trees; the look of the CVS on 14th Street. Silverman moved approval of the agenda, Trimble seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Approval of 6/4/03 Minutes

Silverman outlined some changes he made to the minutes. Hinterlong made one other change. Funk moved approval of the revised minutes, Silverman seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Hinterlong noted that Lt. Dykes had arrived, and asked if he had update he'd like to give on PSA 310. Lt. Dykes thanked those citizens who attended the crime walk on Sunday, July 6th, and said he'd be looking into all that was discussed.

Thomas Circle reconstruction design update

Heather Brophy gave a review of the changes proposed for Thomas Circle. It will be reconstructed as a circle, and the additional traffic lanes will be removed. The sidewalks will be concrete, not brick. Historic preservation thought it would be more consistent with historic documentation, and almost all other circles have concrete sidewalks. It will also be more pedestrian friendly. National Park Service has completed their design, showing walkways in the circle corresponding to the crosswalks in the circle, and grass (sod) in between. The sixteen additional trees will be weeping cherry and weeping elm. There will be no benches and no trash receptacles. There will be water sprinkler hookups for irrigation. Bike access will be much improved. Funk asked about lighting. Brophy said that the lighting will be consistent with lamps in other areas of the cities. Funk said that the historic photos show beautiful lights and questioned whether they could not be duplicated. Alice McClarty at National Park Service designed the park, so she would be the one to ask, and that it would be worth researching. Brandon asked for interpretive signage about General Thomas. Annys Shin, City Paper, asked if the traffic lights would be changed. Brophy said that it would change the movement, as it will now be a flow around the circle rather than through it.

Charles Biggio asked about ambulance access to Thomas House. Brophy said that she would work with the commission to ensure that access would not be impacted. Trimble moved that the design of Thomas Circle be accepted, noting that the lamps will be researched and interpretive signage would be added.

Silverman seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Liquor License Issues

Hinterlong noted that the Commission is not getting proper notification of liquor license changes, renewals, etc. Numerous recent notifications have not been sent to the Commissioners or the office. He noted that it makes the commission's job extremely difficult. Hinterlong moved that the ANC send a letter to the ABC Board detailing these notification lapses and asking for repair. Brandon added that there area many inaccuracies in the information they do send, as well. Funk seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0. Silverman to send the letter.

CDC Report

In Kramer's absence, Funk gave the CDC report. Craig Baldwin of DDOT outlined a construction traffic proposal for 1001 L Street which would bring the trucks up 11th Street, east on N Street and south on 10th Street. This new proposal was in response to the ANC negative reaction to the original proposal. The modifications to the Metropolis Development project at the Duron site were outlined. Funk also gave a review of the proposal for the Sign of the Lamb site. The project needs to have more approvals prior to coming before the ANC for approval, but it was met with much excitement. Funk moved that the ANC support the motions of the CDC. Hinterlong seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Pay Phone Request

Brandon brought up a discussion of a new pay phone at 1318 14th Street. He also said that a different payphone located across the street had been denied in large part due to the testimony of Lt. Smith. Brandon moved that the ANC oppose the pay phone. Trimble seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Upcoming ANC Meetings

Brandon noted that there will be no CDC meeting in July. He asked the commission if they wanted to skip the meeting in August or September. Funk moved that the ANC skip the August meeting, unless something important come up, and then it must be noticed 7 days in advance. Hinterlong seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Treasurer's Report - Hinterlong moved that the following items be approved:

\$300.00 to National City Christian Church for August rent
60.30 to Verizon for phone bill
(other checks to be added)

Funk seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Since there will be no August meeting, the commission asked that a letter be sent to the DC Auditors office notifying them that the Quarterly report will be a few days late.

Wagtime Update

Silverman gave the background of this business, a dog daycare and boarding center in a residential neighborhood. The property is zoned commercial, but there is a question of whether this is a permitted use. Silverman said that since the last meeting, he has learned that the business was asked to vacate their previous location. The business opened on Q Street on June 30 without having the proper permits to operate. The owner has been fined several times over the past week. DCRA and Historic Preservation have been very attentive to the neighbor's concerns. Silverman moved that the ANC pass a resolution commending the city agencies for their responsiveness. Trimble seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0. The resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION With regard to 1412 Q Street, NW

WHEREAS Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2F (ANC 2F) at its June 4, 2003

public meeting recommended that the Government of the District of

Columbia closely review all applications including, but not limited to,

building permits, certificates of occupancy (C of O), historic

preservation matters, and any applications for zoning relief related to the proposed

occupancy of 1412 Q Street, NW by WagTime LLC, a proposed dog kennel and retail facility;

WHEREAS ANC 2F has recognized that the proposed use of the property has raised serious noise, public health, environmental, and sanitation concerns among those who live around the property, and may adversely impact the peace, order and quiet of the residential block in which it proposes to operate;

WHEREAS WagTime LLC opened for business on June 30, 2003 without a valid Certificate of Occupancy (C of O) and has since received a Cease and Desist Order

prohibiting it from further use of the property before obtaining a valid C of O;

BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2F express its concern in regard to the operation of WagTime without a C of O and reiterate its concerns regarding the proposed use of this property;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2F express its appreciation for the high level of responsiveness to residents' concerns and the diligence of enforcement efforts that the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs and its staff have demonstrated to date on this matter;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2F request that DCRA continue to closely review this matter for strict compliance with all applicable DC laws and regulations.

Bovis Construction site tree removal

Funk gave the background. Bovis sought approval to remove two large trees to make a pedestrian walkway along 14th Street. This tree removal was approved strictly to remedy a dangerous pedestrian situation. Bovis removed the trees, did not put in the walkway, and are using the space to park their vehicles. They have shown no effort to put in a covered walkway, as per their agreement with the ANC. Funk moved that the ANC write a letter to Mr. Roy of Bovis Construction citing his inaction. Silverman made a friendly amendment that the letter go to Craig Baldwin and be copied to Mr. Roy. Funk asked Silverman if he knows of specific fines for this action. Silverman said that there are substantial fines for removing trees and although they had permission, they seem to have obtained it under false pretenses.

VOTE: Approved 5-0. Funk to write the letter.

CVS at 14th Street

Trimble said that she has contacted the CVS to complain about the walkway along 14th Street, the trash and chewing gum. They say they can do nothing as the building is owned by the hotel. Trimble moved that the ANC send a letter to the manager of the hotel asking them to clean up the 14th Street side. Silverman amended it to include that a copy go to the CVS manager. Funk seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Craig Baldwin asked that the ANC send a letter to DDOT citing the ANC approval of the construction traffic plan at 1101 L Street, and Paul Hoftzyer asked that a letter be sent detailing the ANC approval for the Duron site. Brandon said both letters would be sent.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30.