

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6, 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.

Approval of Agenda

Brandon asked to have the Treasurer's report moved up earlier on the agenda. Hinterlong asked to add a discussion of street traffic on 11th, 12th and 13th Streets. Funk asked to give an update about the scaffolding on Claridge Towers. Brandon moved changes to the agenda, Funk seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

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

\$300.00 to National City Christian Church for September rent
53.44 to Verizon for monthly phone service
750.32 to Sherri Kimbel for July wages
32.00 to DC Treasurer for July withholding

Trimble seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Hinterlong moved that the ANC approve the 3rd quarter report to the City. He reviewed the details for the Commission. Trimble seconded.

Vote: Approved 5-0.

Approval of 7/9/03 Minutes

Silverman outlined some changes he made to the minutes. Trimble moved approval of minutes as changed, Silverman seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Studio Theatre Project

Bob Dalton and Paul Moore of Kfoury Construction gave an overview of the traffic management plan for Studio Theatre. Moore said construction will require

blocking the alley behind the Studio Theatre part of the time. They would like to work with the neighborhood to make sure the alley is not blocked during specific times (such as when residents were going to and from work) and that they would give advance notice to neighbors to let them know when it was going to be closed. Craig Baldwin, DDOT, has approved the closing 14th Street in front of the Theater for the new construction. A walkway will be put in for pedestrians. Fencing will be up from September through December. Work in the alley could continue for up to six months, but not continuously.

Silverman asked about the path to get to the site, and whether Q Street will be used. Dalton said that trucks will enter the alley from Q Street. The alley is not wide. Silverman asked about entering the alley through the open areas on 14th Street. Dalton said he would be meeting with Giorgio Furioso to discuss working together. Silverman said that from the resident's point of view access through 14th Street would be much preferable than Q Street.

Ben Boyd, Kingman Place, asked if the alley would be permanently blocked for a week at a time. Dalton said that details were still being worked out. Tom Wiles, Kingman Place, said that his home was next to the empty parking lot, and he worried about damage to his home from the trucks possibly using that as an entrance. Moore said that the construction company would pay for any damage. Laurie Donovan, Kingman Place, asked where the alley would be blocked. Dalton said that the work area would be behind the former Ace Electric and the automotive repair shop. There will not be fences put up.

Silverman asked the people in attendance who would be the best person to act as a communications conduit for the residents who will be affected. Donovan said they would work something out and get back to Khoury and Silverman.

Silverman moved that the ANC approve the plan as presented, with the understanding that communication continue with the ANC and Craig Baldwin, and that maximum pedestrian access, and minimum traffic disruption be attained. Funk seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Report from Hinterlong on ABC Board

Hinterlong said that Silverman sent a letter to the ABC Board complaining of the lack of advance notice to the ANC of license renewals. Robb Halliway, a commissioner in ANC 2B01 said that he spoke to Gottlieb Simon about the report and that the ABC is going to try to do a better job. Funk said that he had Quality Liquor on 13th Street and wanted a copy of the voluntary agreement. Jim Smith, Mr. Permit, said that he had been working with S & W Liquors, 9th and P, to get permits to do construction work to improve the building.

Liquor License Issues

Cary Silverman, introduced Somsak Pollert of Rice to give an overview of this new restaurant that will be located on 14th and Q Streets. Capacity will be approximately 65 persons on the first floor. They would also like to open a sidewalk café. There is a basement where Rice plans to open a waiting area and sushi bar. Hours of operation will be 11:30-midnight on weekdays, until 1 am on Friday and Saturday. They want to try to accommodate theatre patrons after shows. They've also made arrangements to use the parking lot across the street for their patrons. Funk asked about the restaurant transmogrifying into a nightclub. Pollert assured the commission that he doesn't want to have a nightclub, he just wants to have liquor to accompany his meals. Halliway of ANC2B said that Pollert has a restaurant in his ANC, and he is a wonderful neighbor and will cause no problem. Silverman thanked Pollert, and said that a voluntary agreement had been drafted with Rice, ANC and the Logan Circle Community Association. He would like the ANC to approve it, as well as approve a stipulated license to allow them to serve alcohol immediately. Silverman moved that the Commission approve a stipulated license subject to the terms in the voluntary agreement. Funk seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

ABC Legislation

Silverman gave an overview of legislation introduced by Councilmember Mendelsohn to protect an ANC's rights to express its views and have them be given great weight by the ABC Board when a liquor license application or renewal is near an ANC boundary line. Other agencies already accord neighboring ANC's recommendations great weight on such matters as historic preservation and zoning. Silverman said he doesn't know how much it would affect this ANC, but that he thinks it's good legislation, and we should support it. Funk reminded the ANC that we have one very large neighbor, the Convention Center. Silverman moved that the ANC vote to support the legislation to give rights to neighboring ANC's. Funk seconded

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Photo Radar Car

Hinterlong said that 11th, 12th and 13th Streets have become drag racing streets during late nights on weekends. He wants to send a letter to Chief Ramsay asking for a police radar car to patrol the area on the weekends. Funk seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0. Hinterlong to send letter to Chief Ramsay.

At 8:00 p.m., Hinterlong left the meeting.

Claridge House

Funk said that this scaffolding has been in place for three years and the neighbors have been very patient with it. There is a history of drug dealing, loitering and crime, plus harassment of pedestrians. Funk moved that this commission inquire as to the status of the scaffolding, and that the construction be completed and the scaffolding removed promptly. Hinterlong seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Bovis Construction site tree removal

Trimble said that the pedestrian walkway still is not in place, and the construction worker's cars are taking up a lane of traffic on 14th Street. Silverman said that he has been working with Craig Baldwin on this issue. Baldwin gave them an August 15th ultimatum, and they have one week left to get the walkway up. Silverman said that they have lied to the ANC's face. Silverman moved that the ANC continue to work with DDOT for immediate installation of the walkway. Funk made a friendly amendment to have Silverman continue to follow up and if the walkway is not in by the deadline, ask that their permits be pulled. Trimble seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Community Forum

Brandon asked if there were any Community Forum issues. There was a discussion on the continuing problem of traffic in front of Thomas House. Trimble said that she has been in contact with Heather Doughty, but they seem to get no response.

Andrea Doughty wanted to bring up issues about Wagtime again. A 6-month certificate of occupancy (C of O) was issued, but they feel that some of the regulations are not being followed and have not been enforced. Doughty asked that the ANC continue to follow up on this matter and the enforcement. Funk asked about the lack of enforcement. Doughty said that the cease and desist order was not observed while in place. Funk said that the C of O had been issued now. Doughty said that it had, but that they had been violating the law prior to the getting their C of O. Funk said that, offering a constructive opinion, that all of these nebulous issues have clouded the major issue, which is whether or not a dog day care belongs in a residential neighborhood. Funk suggested that the neighbors allow the Commission to work on the original problem. Jim Smith, "Mr. Permit," said that the city has been responsive even though it didn't come out the way the residents wanted it to. There were very many meetings with the city, and the agencies have been responsive. The city is still working on certain issues, such as noise, etc. but the city felt that it was a matter of right to have Wagtime located there. Silverman asked if there was a hearing today, and what it

concerned. Doughty said that the hearing was to address three violations. Representatives of Wagtime didn't show up for the hearing. She also said that DCRA never met with the neighbors. Silverman thanked her for the update.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40.