

ANC 2F MEETING

OCTOBER 1, 2003
7:00 P.M.
Washington Plaza Hotel
MINUTES

In attendance: Helen Kramer, Chair
Jim Brandon, Vice Chair
Thomas Funk
Cary Silverman
Bob Hinterlong

Community Forum

Kramer opened the meeting. Chuck Thies of Smoke Free DC made a presentation on smoke free workplaces. He said that the organization is educating people on the dangers of second hand smoke, and wants to protect all workers from second hand smoke. He cited a study from New York stating that restaurants and bars do not lose business from prohibiting smoking. He asked the commissioners to consider passing a resolution supporting the initiative. Kramer asked if anyone on the City Council was going to introduce such a measure. He said that he thought Fenty and Mendelson were going to, although he didn't have a copy of the legislation. Brandon asked how Smoke Free was funded. Thies responded that the organization is funded through the legal settlements from the smoking lawsuits. Thies said that he would send a copy of the legislation information to the ANC email address for all of the commissioners.

Jim Smith asked the commission about the owners of 1304 Rhode Island Avenue parking in front of their house on public space, and the fact that they are using the building as a law office instead of a residential property. Smith said that he was going to go after several other residents who were parking illegally on public space in front of their property. Kramer asked to have 1304 Rhode Island added to the regular agenda.

The Washington Café, 1025 Vermont Avenue has been sold and the former owner introduced the new owners and asked the Commission to support a stipulated liquor license. The new owners had not yet applied for a license. Commissioner Silverman explained that the Commission cannot act on this request until the application is filed with the ABC Board.

Desi Deschaine, Mayor William's Ward 2 outreach coordinator, addressed the meeting about the Citizens Summit on November 1. It's a town hall forum seeking input from the citizens. Kramer asked why "race" was a question on the registration form. Deschaine said that asking that, along with age and sex, allowed the mayor to make certain that all of the diverse population of the District was represented. Residents can register by filling out the form, online, or on the phone. Contact info for Deschaine is: desi.deschaine@dc.gov, 442-8119 is his direct line.

Lt. Groomes, PSA 309, said that crime is down, and two burglars have been apprehended and a lot of property has been recovered. Lt. Groomes is head of the Crimes Unit set up by Chief Ramsay. Crime in the third district is down 20%. The police have picked up a lot of loitering drinkers. Lt. Smith, PSA 313, said crimes are down significantly in 313 as well. He's tried to set up drug-free zones, but needs to have citizens call in when they see drugs, or crimes being committed. He said callers should give as much of a description as possible, and leave their name and phone number.

After a brief break, Kramer reconvened the meeting. Brandon moved acceptance of the agenda, with 1304 Rhode Island Avenue added. Silverman seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

Brandon moved acceptance of the September 10, 2003 ANC meeting minutes. They were approved without objection.

Embassy Suites Hotel, 1000 K Street – revised traffic plan

Tom Page, on-site project manager of Hunt Construction presented revised plans. They show an 11' wide passage for cars (one lane) and passenger walkway. Loucks said that this was what the neighbors had asked for. Hinterlong moved to approve the revised traffic plan, Funk seconded.

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

CDC Report

The project at 1150 K Street sent revised drawings showing the curb cut and driveway but the streets were not identified. Brandon moved to table the approval, Hinterlong seconded. Sherri to call Public Space and ask for more detail.

Architect Bill Bonstra is renovating a long vacant multi-family building at 936 N Street into 7 condominiums. The CDC recommended the ANC approve the project, subject to approval of materials when selected. Brandon moved acceptance of the CDC recommendation, Hinterlong seconded. **VOTE:** Approved 5-0.

Kramer said that the ANC had received notice to raze two buildings at 1323 Corcoran Street and 1725 11th Street. They are both in historic district, and Kramer said a letter should be sent to stop the condemnations. Silverman moved, Funk seconded. **VOTE:** Approved 5-0. Silverman to send letter.

1304 Rhode Island: Kramer asked if it was the will of the commission to send letters to DCRA and BLRA regarding the misuse of this property and asking for inspection of the property. It far exceeds the home use property. Brandon so moved, Funk seconded. **VOTE:** Approved 5-0, Kramer to send letters.

Logan Circle Park Renovations

The Park Service was not coordinating with DDOT on traffic changes that need to be made following the renovation of the park. Mary Brown reviewed the proposed changes. Silverman said that the letter puts all the suggestions for coordination into writing so

that crosswalks will be put in and lights will be coordinated. Kramer asked that Councilmember Evans be copied on the letter. Kramer asked for a vote to support Silverman sending the letter. Brandon so moved, and it was approved unanimously.

Public Pay Phones

A payphone already exists in front of Capital Supermarket and they are now requesting a permit it for it to remain there legally. Funk suggested that the payphone be moved inside the market, so that it cannot be used late at night by drug dealers. Hinterlong moved that the permit be disapproved, and if they want a payphone it should be put inside. Brandon seconded.

VOTE: Approved 5-0. Hinterlong to send letter, response.

DC Animal Shelter

Kramer said that the contract to run the shelter had been given to the Humane Society of Canada, although it's currently under review for the bid process. The Humane Society of Washington had run the shelter for years. Kramer said that the ANC should send a letter expressing dismay that an inexperienced group should be given the contract to run the shelter. Kramer said that the ANC doesn't usually weigh in on issues outside our area, but this is a city-wide issue and therefore impacts all citizens. Hinterlong so moved, Funk seconded. **VOTE:** Approved 5-0. Kramer to send letter.

Treasurer's Report

Hinterlong moved the following expenses be approved:

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| \$300.00 | National City Christian Church, November rent |
| 700.92 | Sherri Kimbel, September wages |
| 32.00 | DC Treasurer, September withholding |
| 1200.00 | Sherri Kimbel, reimbursement for ANC computer |
| 50.00 | US Postmaster, semi-annual box fee |
| 35.75 | DOES, 3 rd quarter unemployment |
| 695.75 | US Treasurer, 3 rd quarter Federal taxes |

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

Old Business

Brandon said that he had called Charlene Barber on the trash issue at Mid-City Fish Market. She hasn't called back and the problem with the trash on that property has gotten worse.

Funk gave an update on the billboards discussed at the last meeting: they have been removed. Kramer congratulated Funk on a job well done.

Parking Task Force Proposal

Kramer asked for suggestions for the task force.

Hinterlong: Richard Neidich, plus one more to be named later
Silverman: Kara McCabe, John Ketchum, Carolyn Peery, Chip Newell of Metropolis, Scott Cannon and Scott Pomeroy of 14th and U Main Street
Kramer: Peter Pizzolongo and Eric Korpon
Funk: J. Russell McBeth and David Tarler
Brandon: Yemane Merisi, Marjori Bergman
Trimble: Terry Vick, Michael Shilby

There was some discussion as to whether Scott Pomeroy should be permitted to serve on this committee, as he does not live in the ANC. It was decided that he could serve as an ex-officio member with no voting rights. There was also discussion of how many persons each Commissioner can appoint. Each Commissioner thought it should be two, except for Silverman. He said that at the last meeting he asked for commissioners to bring nominees for the committee to the October ANC meeting, but no number of appointees had been set, and that as many people as possible would be encouraged to participate. If any other commissioner wants to add additional persons, they can do so, as long as they are residents of the area.

VOTE: Approved 5-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15.