

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F
REGULAR MONTHLY PUBLIC MEETING
Wednesday, February 6, 2008 – 7:00 PM
WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL
10 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

Present: Charles Reed (2F01) (Chairman), Chris Dyer (2F03), Mike Benardo (2F06), Jim Richardson (2F02), Jerome Sikorski (2F05)

COMMUNITY FORUM

Chairman Reed noted a quorum was present, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and directed the Executive Director that a copy of the notice of the meeting be filed with the minutes.

Commissioner Announcements

Vice Chair Dyer announced the Metropolitan Police Department Third District will be enforcing all parking laws in the Logan Circle neighborhood. Residents are encouraged to contact the Mayor's office online at <http://DC.Gov> to answer questions, file complaints or gather information regarding city government and agencies. **Commissioner Richardson** announced that Mayor Adrian Fenty along with Emeka Moneme, Director of the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), is scheduled to announce the implementation of new work zone standards that will require either covered walkways or protected open walkways at most construction sites. These standards, which DDOT expects to fully implement by April 1, 2008 will address the safety concerns expressed by residents and visitors regarding construction related sidewalk closings. **Reed** pointed out that these standards were prompted by ANC2F initiative, in which **Al Collins** was instrumental.

PSA 307 Report – Officer M.J. Caron

Officer M. J. Caron gave the PSA 307 report in the absences of Lt. Smith who was ill. From January 6, 2007 – February 6, 2008 there was a reduction in homicides and thefts. A majority of thefts involved simple car break-ins, which include the theft of global positioning systems (GPS). **Caron** pointed out that often a car is either unlocked or the GPS is sitting in open view. Logan Circle had two cases of sexual abuse last night and one suspect was caught, arrested, with no known address; most likely homeless. An allocution hearing will be held on Friday, February 9, 2008 @ 9:30 AM for **Deantre Kelly**, 916 N Street, NW for drug dealing and possession of firearms. Anyone wishing more information about this case should contact **Lt. Mike Smith** at Michaela.smith@dc.gov or (202)673-7401. Lt. Caron also announced that 11 prostitution arrests were made over the weekend in activities centered at the Washington Plaza Hotel, in which the Hotel management assisted the police.

Brian Vargas asked **Lt. Caron** about car crime and volunteered to head a resident stake-out in problem areas. **Lt. Caron** received the suggestion by Vargas with enthusiasm and this issue will be discussed at a later date.

A police watch on 1107 11th Street, NW, a building which has been closed for loss of potable water, and will more than likely be condemned, has been established to deter vandalism.

Neighborhood crime patterns and information can be found on the web at www.crimereports.com.

Mayor's Office Ward 2 Coordinators- Joseph Martin and Mark Bjorge

Joseph Martin gave a description of the services provided by the Neighborhood Services Coordinators office, "we are the eyes and ears of your community." **Benardo** asked **Martin** about the sidewalk destruction that Washington Gas is creating when replacing the gas lines around Columbia Street, NW. **Martin** assured **Benardo** that Washington Gas was, in fact, responsible for any damage created to sidewalks during gas line replacement.

Martin and **Bjorge** will contact District Department of Transportation (DDOT) regarding the repair and timeline of sidewalks and alleys repair in the Logan Circle area. They will also inquire about the leaves that have clogged the sewer openings on Vermont St, NW. as well as inquire about the construction permit on 14 Street, NW and how long the parking spaces on 14th Street will not be available to residents and businesses.

Mark Bjorge and **Joseph Martin** can be reached at the Office of Community Relations and Services 202-442-9509 or at mark.bjorge@dc.gov or joseph.martin@dc.gov

DDOT Report – Chris Ziemann (DDOT Transportation Planner, Ward 2)

DDOT will host the third public meeting -14th Street Streetscape Design & Transportation Study Open House on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 at the Studio Theatre Atrium from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM. The Studio Theatre is located at 1501 14th Street, NW.

Q Street, NW- **Ziemann** was questioned by **Reed** about the timeline for the temporary surface conditions on Q Street between 14th -13th Street, NW. **Ziemann** said the project should be complete in three weeks and improvements will include historical lighting and brick sidewalk pavers.

P Street, NW, 1400 Block and Church Street Repaving. **Ziemann** stated he had not additional information about his progress of this project.

For additional information about the 14th Street Transportation and Streetscape Study, contact Chris Ziemann, Project Manager, at Christopher.Ziemann@dc.gov or at 202/671-2555.

Community Announcements

The Logan Circle Community Association's (LCCA) next meeting will be February 13, 2008 – 7 PM at the Washington Plaza Hotel- Thomas Circle. Please visit LCCA's web site www.logancircle.org for more information.

- 10 Minute Recess -

BUSINESS MEETING

Approval of Agenda

The draft agenda for the meeting was presented for approval. By consent, additions were made as follows:

Under ABRA

El Sauce – Voluntary Agreement
Vegas Lounge – Roll Call Hearing

Under Crime and Safety

letter to DCRA regarding vacant properties

Under Community Development Committee

call for volunteers to serve on the Residential Advisory Committee- Old Convention Center Site Redevelopment,

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded by **Benardo** and after further discussion, the agenda was approved as amended, and a copy directed to be filed with the minutes and posted on the ANC2F website.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Approval of ANC 2F Minutes of Meetings of January 9, 2008

Minutes of the meeting of January 9, 2008, were presented for approval. Upon motion by **Dyer**, seconded by **Benardo**, and after further discussion, in which a typographical error was noted and corrected, the minutes were approved as corrected with direction to the Executive Director to post the same on the ANC2F website.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Crime and Public Safety Matters

911/311 Call Center

Deletrico Dugger and **Marlene Hollins**, DC Office of Communication, made a presentation as to the changes in the 911/311 call center. All emergency calls involving a need for police, fire department, or medical appearances should be directed to 911. All non-emergency calls, *not requiring* police, fire department, or medical appearances, should be directed to the 311 call center.

Dugger can be reached at 202/373-3875 and deletrico.dugger@dc.gov for more information. **Marlene Hollins** can be reached from 2 PM –midnight at 202/373-3700 or marlene.hollins@dc.gov.

Metropolitan Baptist and Vermont Avenue Church Parking Issue

Marko Santiago, Community Coordinator 3D, of the Metropolitan Department of Police has been receiving complaints from both residents and church goers, surrounding the parking issues on Sundays in the Logan Circle Area. In light of the recent policy decision to commence 24/7

enforcement of parking regulations, the issue may be expected to subside. **Reed** and **Dyer** pointed the out that the policy decision is consistent with the recommendations of the ANC2F task force of 2006-7 and the subsequent Mayor (Williams's) task force on congregational parking. **Reed** suggested to **Martin** that it would be useful for Mayor Fenty to adopt these recommendations for the City, since they contained a useful and workable system for resolving such issues.

Resident, **Arran Adams** of Logan Station Condo Association stated the e-mail from **Lt. Smith** announcing the new parking regulations enforcement contained the suggestion that residents should call in parking violations, parking in medians, crosswalks, fire hydrants, etc. Logan Station HOA presented a petition to the ANC with 15 signatures in favor of the new policy. Pastor **Cornelius Wheeler**, Vermont Baptist Church, stated that the Church supports the policy and will seek to encourage its parishioners to be mindful of the parking rules.

Upon motion by **Benardo**, seconded by **Richardson**, and after further discussion, it was

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F inform Chief of Police Lanier and Commander McCoy (MPD 3D) that it supports the recent 24/7 enforcement policy relating to parking and traffic regulations.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Crime and Safety

No report was given because chair owing to the absence of **Helen Kramer**, the committee chairman. A request was posed that ANC2F advise the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) and the Chief Financial Officer of the District to implement higher tax rates on vacant properties pursuant to DC Code 42-3131.12. It was noted that the Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR) is currently empowered to tax vacant properties at the Class 3 rate (\$5 per \$100 of assessed value and to occupied properties at \$0.88 (residential) and \$1.85 (commercial).

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded by **Dyer**, and after further discussion, it was

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F advise the DCRA and chief Financial Office of Tax and Revenue to enforce the enhanced vacant properties taxes on vacant properties in accordance with existing law, and to implement a system to do so.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Department of Parks and Recreation

Arran Adams of Logan Station Condo Association stated that his association supports the removal of the wading pool on the grounds of Garrison Elementary School, 11th and R Streets, NW. The pool is unused and presents litter and vandalism problems. **Dyer** reported that he has learned through Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) that the agency has recommended formation of a committee to review removal of the pool.

Upon motion by **Dyer**, seconded by **Benardo**, and after further discussion, it was

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F advise Department of Parks and Recreation to promptly form a committee to consider removal of the wading pool at Garrison Elementary School, 11th and R, NW, and to include **Dyer**, **Benardo** and **Adams** as committee members.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

DCEMADHS

Diane Thomas presented a request for street closing for the “National Marathon” The National Marathon will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2008 from 7:00 AM -1:30 PM. **Thomas** stated that the request complies with the published street closing policy of this ANC and that she had made substantial progress in dealing with others entitled to notice and opportunity to comment. **Thomas** can be reached at 202/857-5914 or at dthomas@gwsportsalliance.com for more information.

Charles Brodsky presented a request for street closing for the “The Nation’s Triathlon” The Nation’s Triathlon will be held on Sunday, September 14, 2008 from 7:00 AM -1:00 PM. **Brodsky** stated that the request complies with the published street closing policy of this ANC and that he had made substantial progress in dealing with others entitled to notice and opportunity to comment. **Brodsky** can be reached at 202/257-3472 or at cbrodsky@thenationstriathlon.com for more information.

Nicola Beddow presented a request for street closing for the “Brain Tumor Society 5 K Run/Walk” The 5K walk/Run will be held on Sunday, May 4, 2008 from 9:00 AM -10:15 PM. **Beddow** stated that the request complies with the published street closing policy of this ANC and that she had made substantial progress in dealing with others entitled to notice and opportunity to comment. **Beddow** can be reached at 301/928-2672 for more information.

Rick Freedman presented a request for street closing for the “St. Patrick’s Day 8 K” The St Patrick’s Day 8 K will be held on Sunday, March 9, 2008 from 9:00 AM -10:45 AM. **Freedman** stated that the request complies with the published street closing policy of this ANC and that he had made substantial progress in dealing with others entitled to notice and opportunity to comment. **Freedman** can be reached at 301/871-0005 or at rick@runwashington.com for more information.

Upon motion by **Dyer**, seconded by **Richardson**, and after further discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, That upon review of the street closing applications pending before the D.C. Emergency Management Agency and Department of Homeland Security (“EMADHS”) and presented to the ANC, ANC 2F advise to grant such applications which are pending before EMADHS relating to: The National Marathon- Saturday, March 29, 2008; The Nation’s Triathlon- Sunday, September 14, 2008; Brain Tumor Society 5 K Walk/Run,- Sunday, May 4, 2008 and Capital Running Company St Patrick’s Day 8 K-March 9, 2008

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

ABRA Matters

Be Bar, 1318 9th St NW (CT 02) Amended and Restated Voluntary Agreement

Alana Huffnegle, resident who lives on 9th Street near Be Bar spoke to the ANC about the 2-3 AM disruptions, fighting, dancing on cars, etc. **Huffnegle** stated she has called Be Bar several times to speak with the owner, **Michael Watson** to no avail. **Watson**, who was present at the meeting, recognized the problem and indicated that improvements should result from the security provisions Be Bar has agreed to in its recently revised voluntary agreement with the ANC. A dispute arose between the Huffnegle and Watson as to whether Huffnegle's reference to after hours sales had been occurring. **Reed** pointed out that he believes the revised agreement would give the community effective means of dealing with any future peace, order, and quiet issues with the operations of Be Bar.

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded by **Richardson**, and after further discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, That the ANC 2F authorize the execution of the Amended and Restated Voluntary Agreement as presented to this meeting and that such Agreement be delivered to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board ("ABC Board") with the request that the pending protest be withdrawn subject to acceptance of the Voluntary Agreement by the ABC Board and applicant's continued compliance with the Agreement.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Izalco Restaurant 1228 11th Street, NW (CR-01) #25144- Voluntary Agreement

A form of agreement was presented for discussion by Commissioner **Sikorski**. Because the agreement was not previously circulated, it was decided to defer consideration of the matter until the March ANC meeting.

El Sauce Restaurant and Carry-out 1227 11th Street, NW (Carcamo) (DR-01) #72654- substantial change

No proposal for a form of agreement or other action was proposed at the meeting, but it was noted that the MPD had indicated severe crime problems in this block where the applicant is located, which is shared with Izalco. **Commissioner Benardo** will raise the issue at the March ANC meeting.

Vegas Lounge, 1415 P Street, NW #1273 (CN 01), renewal

Reed indicated that both the ANC's protest and the applicant's renewal request were dismissed for failure of both to appear at the Roll Call hearing. A motion for reinstatement was filed by the ANC. **Reed** further indicated that he is meeting with the owners in an effort to obtain a voluntary agreement and may likely recommend to the ANC that it support the reinstatement of the application.

Community Development Committee (Commissioner Benardo, Chair)

BZA Special Exception for 934 N Street, NW

BZA Application (No. 17770) seeks relief to build out two parking spaces at the rear of 934 N Street, NW (currently a vacant lot with a fence). Long time resident and property owner, **Giorgio Furiso** presented the CDC with elevations of the parking spaces and existing buildings. The parking would be used only by occupants of 926 N Street, NW for a monthly fee. CDC Chairman **Benardo** brought to the attention of the committee that some constituents are worried that other vacant lots in the neighborhood would be turned into parking lots. Benardo also suggested **Furiso** meet with the Blagden Alley Association since this alley is in the Blagden Alley neighborhood.

Upon motion by **Benardo**, seconded by **Dyer** and after further discussion, it was

RESOLVED, That the recommendations of the CDC as presented to this meeting be and are hereby approved; and it is,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That ANC 2F advise the BZA to grant the pending special exception request pending before the BZA as to 934 N Street, NW, the applicant having successfully demonstrated that granting the application will not be a substantial detriment to the public good; and that granting the application will not be inconsistent with the general intent and purpose of the Zoning Regulations and Map.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

14th Street Arts Overlay Working Group

Reed indicated that during the November ANC2F working retreat, a discussion took place of the desirability of ANC2F to form a working group to interact with the Office of Planning on promoting workable regulations to implement the 14th Street Arts Overlay regime.

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded by **Sikorski**, and after further discussion, it was

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F deems the implementation of the 14th Street Arts Overlay to the Historic District zoning regimes in the Logan Circle area to be of vital importance to preserving and protecting a community environment desired by the residents of this community; and to that end, an *ad hoc* committee be and is hereby created, to be called the Arts Overlay Zoning Committee, to exist for a period of one year (as may be extended in accordance with the Bylaws of the ANC) to interface with the appropriate city officials and to advise the ANC with regard to means of effective implementation; and it is,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That Commissioner Benardo shall chair the

committee and that its other members shall be Andrea Doughty, Commissioner Sikorski, Joel Heisey (subject to this acceptance to serve), and Jennifer Trock.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Residential Advisory Committee- Old Convention Center Site Redevelopment

Upon motion by **Dyer**, seconded by **Reed** and after further discussion, it was

RESOLVED, That CDC Chair Benardo be and is hereby empowered to appoint volunteer residents to serve on the Residential Advisory Committee of Old Convention Center Site Redevelopment.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

New Business

1236 11th Street, NW- MLK Latino Cooperative

MLK Latino Cooperative is seeking a renewed support letter from the ANC. This support letter is particularly important to the MLK Latino Cooperative, because it is required by their lenders. It was noted that ex-commissioner **Sandra Biasillo** was directly responsible for bringing this community endeavor to the ANC’s attention and obtaining ANC participation in obtaining funding for the project.

Upon motion by **Dyer**, seconded by **Sikorski** and after further discussion, it was

RESOLVED, That ANC2F remains committed to the successful completion of the DC One/ MLK Latino Cooperative, and that its contribution to the diversity of this community is welcomed and consistent with the policies of the ANC.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Treasurer’s Report (Jim Richardson, Treasurer)

Upon motion by **Dyer**, seconded by **Reed** and after further discussion, the following expenses were approved;

Cynthia Cota	\$938.70
Cynthia Cota	82.45 (office supplies- printer ink)
Verizon	65.72
DC Treasurer (Jan)	53.75

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Treasurer **Richardson** presented Quarterly Report 1 2008 (Oct/Nov/ Dec-2007) for approval;

Upon motion by **Dyer**, seconded by **Reed** the Quarterly Report #1 2008 (Oct/Nov/Dec 07) was approved

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Adjournment

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