

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F REGULAR MONTHLY PUBLIC
MEETING Wednesday, December 3, 2008 – 7:00 PM
WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL
10 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

Present: Charles Reed (2F01) (Chairman), Chris Dyer (2F03), Michael Benardo (2F06) Dustin Cole (2F05), Monica Schneider (2F02)

Absent: Jennifer Trock (2F04)

COMMUNITY FORUM

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

Commissioner Announcements

Dyer, whose last meeting as a commissioner stated that it had been a great pleasure to have served as SMD03 commissioner for the last four years.

Reed addressed the presentation at the November ANC meeting regarding the Whitman-Walker Clinic building on 14th Street, NW, just north of the ANC2F boundary. The site is in ANC2B and the developer, JBG is seeking relief from several zoning requirements, including the Arts Overlay limitation on restaurant usage (restricted to 25% of street frontage). ANC2B is opposing, at a minimum, the requested Arts Overlay relief. At the previous ANC2F public meeting, Allison Prince (counsel to the developer) and Patrick Burkhart (its architect) showed plans for the site. JBG says it plans to preserve the historic structure while constructing a seven-story building with ground level retail and six floors of condos above and next to the current structure. In addition to the relief it seeks from the Arts Overlay provision, JBG is seeking a variance and several special exceptions to allow increased lot occupancy on the second and third floors, a reduced rear setback on the seventh floor, additional height for mechanics, and 15 fewer parking spaces than zoning requires. Reed stated that ANC2F took no formal action because none was requested and the site is outside of the ANC's boundaries. The Board of Zoning Adjustment is scheduled to review the application in December.

PSA 307 Report – Lt. Hauser

Lt. Caron- Crime is down this month. Of the eleven reported burglaries this past month most occurred at the Mass House-1234 Mass Ave 13th. **Daniel Ball** of 14th and Q asked about the robberies on the north side of Dupont Circle. Lt. **Caron** has no more information at this time regarding the Dupont circle robberies. Lt. **Caron** stated that MPD is dedicating additional resources in the Logan Circle neighborhood to deal with the normal spike in crime that occurs around the holidays. She urged that residents look out for one another and travel in groups when possible; to report suspicious activity; and, if going out of town for the holidays, to tell neighbors to keep an eye on your homes. Also, remember to remove any items of value from your car at all times.

Mayor's Office Ward 2 Coordinators- Abby Petersen and Mark Bjorge

Helen Kramer inquired about the property located at 1418th 12 Street, NW between O and P Streets. **Kramer** believes the property is being converted into a pizza store with no permits posted. **Petersen** will check into the matter with DCRA.

Daniel Ball thanked the Mayor's Office and the ANC for the work on the dog park.

Petersen reiterated you may contact her regarding any city services.

Mark Bjorge and **Abby Petersen** can be reached at the Office of Community Relations and Services 202-442-9509 or at mark.bjorge@dc.gov or abby.petersen@dc.gov

Community Announcements

The Logan Circle Holiday House Tour will be held on Sunday, December 7, 2008 from 1-5pm. This year's tour will feature East Logan, with special emphasis on the rich history of residential and commercial alley life in Logan's own Blagden Alley and Naylor Court. The tour will also feature the Blagden Alley studio of world-renowned master printmaker David Adamson. Tickets will be sold for \$15 in advance at the Logan Circle Community Association Web site (www.LoganCircle.org), or \$20 the day of the event at 1324 Vermont Avenue, NW, and Azi's Café at 1336 9th Street, NW. The tour includes a Wassail reception hosted at the Long View Gallery, 1302 9th Street, NW from 3pm-5:30pm the day of the tour, and raffle prizes from local merchants.

DDOT

No report

- 10 Minute Recess -

BUSINESS MEETING

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by **Dyer**, seconded by **Benardo**, the agenda was revised as follows:

- Add under ABRA:
Woodward Beverages 731 15th Street, NW #079744
- Add Under New Business:
2009 ANC meeting dates

Upon motion by **Dyer** seconded by **Cole**, and after further discussion, the agenda was unanimously approved as revised, and a copy was directed to be posted on the ANC2F website

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Approval of ANC 2F Minutes of Meetings of November 5, 2008

Minutes of the meeting of November 5, 2008, were presented for approval. Reed noted the absences of the JBG presentation from the November meeting; the minutes shall remain open until approved at the January meeting and after the JBG presentation is inserted.

DDOT

Residents abutting the alley between Church and P between 14th and 15th Streets have suggested that the be made one-way only. Resident, **Dick Pinnell** who lives at 15th and P in the Hudson Apartment states that the building's parking garage opens into this alley, garbage trucks; delivery trucks all make it impossible to use the alley. **Reed** spoke to the condo owners at the meeting and advised them to get on the CDC agenda for January and contact DDOT to get the ball rolling. **Reed** reiterated the condo association should come to the CDC and/the ANC with a plan for the alley traffic.

ABRA

Reed indicated that the bill which would allow concurrent CR and B licenses has been withdrawn at this time but is likely to be introduced during the next session of the City Council..

Best In Liquors, 1400 block of P Street, NW. This licensee had a hearing regarding its requested exemption for single sale ban. ABRA said it needed more information from the business owner. **Reed** will call a meeting for the Ad Hoc committee shortly on ANC2F policy regarding the ban.

Vegas Lounge, 1400 block of P Street, NW. ANC2F protested its license renewal about a year ago. **Reed** stated that the ANC will move forward with ABRA the protest, since the parties have been unable to agree on a voluntary agreement.

International Lifestyles, 903 N Street, NW. This licensee has applied for a summer garden, which the ANC has opposed. The Roll Call Hearing is scheduled for December 22, 2008. **Mr. Cox**, a principal of the licensee argued that the complaints of neighboring residents are baseless. There is concern over noise issues because of nearby residential units. This establishment is in Commissioner **Benardo's** SMD and he will work with Mr. Cox.

Woodward Beverages, 731 15th Street NW, #079744. License renewal. No action taken.

Community Development Committee Matters

City Center DC Streetscape and Northwest Park

Hines Development presented the plans for the City Center DC streetscape and Northwest Park. Hines was represented by including Howard J. Riker, Vice President of Hines. Bounded by Eye Street, New York Avenue, 9th Street, and 11th Street, NW, the 10-acre site will be part of the developer's \$850 million mixed-use project, to be called City Center DC. Tenth Street will be reintroduced as a two way street and Eye Street will be re-opened between 9th and 10th Streets,

NW. The developer plans to integrate the project into the cityscape by using similar treatments as used elsewhere in the city. New bus shelters, bike racks, benches, outdoor restaurant seating and trees will be incorporated into the project. Tree boxes will have openings to catch run off of water from the streets. Stone and concrete pavers will be the material used on the sidewalks and walkways.

A new park will be situated at the intersection of 11th Street, New York, and Eye Streets, NW. The Park will include a significant water feature, low level public seating, lighting and park programming.

The Streetscape design was submitted to the D.C. Department of Transportation Downtown Streetscape Committee for Step 1 review and comment on October 20, 2009. The Permit Drawings for the district park are anticipated to be submitted to the D.C. Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs for review and permit in mid-December.

CDC member, Brian Vargas brought into question if this design included designated parking for scooters (because they are treated as motorcycles). Vargas made the point that scooters are a popular mode of city transportation and are easily stolen, hence, they need a locking mechanism. For more information and up to date progress visit www.citycenterdc.com

The CDC by unanimous vote (5-0) recommends approval of the plans

Marriott Marquis– Public Space Permit DDOT

Presentation to CDC by: Norm Jenkins, Senior Vice President for North American Lodging Development; Paul DeCourt and Bob Neil from the Marriott architectural team; and, Robert Gladstone, Chairman of Quadrangle Development, the developer and owner of the proposed hotel. The new hotel will serve as the convention center's long-awaited headquarters hotel. It will be a 1,150-room Marriott Marquis at the corner of Massachusetts Avenue and 9th Street, NW. It is scheduled to break ground next year for a 2012 opening. The hotel will incorporate the historic Plumber's Union Building by making it boutique hotel rooms and a restaurant. The Marriott will have two levels of underground parking, three street level restaurants, food vendors and a fitness center inside the hotel. A preliminary traffic study was conducted at the request of DDOT. The hotel will have a Silver Leeds Certification. Truck street traffic will be minimized by connecting to the underground loading docks of the Convention Center. All major deliveries will be made through this underground connection.

Sidewalks and street furniture will be the standard types used elsewhere in the city. Committee members voiced some concern over the public space in front of the Pepco building (not controlled by the hotel development team) hoping that it would be brought up to the same standard as the improvements being made around the hotel.

The CDC by unanimous vote (5-0) recommends approval of the plans

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

RESOLVED, That the ANC2F advise DDOT to grant the pending Public Space Streetscape Application for City Center DC, and that DCRA and DPR be similarly apprised of the ANC2F position on this matter; and, it is

FURTHER RESOLVED, That ANC2F advise DDOT to approve the applicant's request for accelerated hearing date of December 18, 2008.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

15th Street analysis Update and Final Short-term Alternative. Chris Ziemann, DDOT, presented an update at the CDC meeting of the status of the 15th Street analysis and short-term alternative traffic routing for 15th Street, NW between Massachusetts and Florida Avenues, NW. The project looks at the feasibility and impacts of reducing the number of automobile traffic lanes, installing bike traffic lanes, and incorporating two-way operations. DDOT reviewed the comments from the public meeting held in June and from community e-mails, and determined that there was no clear preference for changes.

Consequently, DDOT developed a fifth hybrid alternative. The fifth alternative is a compromise between the desire to maintain one-way, north-bound automobile traffic and the desire for more bicycle facilities. This hybrid alternative features three northbound automobile travel lanes, and bicycle lanes in both directions (contra-flow). Public comment period will remain open until December 19, 2008.

No Vote Required

Speed Camera Installation- Massachusetts Avenue and Rhode Island- 15th Street

Dyer reported that the "speedway" between Massachusetts and Rhode Island Avenue on 15th Street has been the one issue that he had not had much success as a commissioner in addressing. His constituents have consistently reported the difficulty in crossing 15th Street at N Street because most drivers conveniently ignore the pedestrian cross walk. **Dyer** feels that a speed camera might be a good step in slowing traffic down to the point that it increases pedestrian safety.

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F finds that the public interest and safety requires the installation of a speed camera at 15th and N Streets, NW, and advises DDOT and the MPD to install a speed camera at that location

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

New Business

Calendar of Public Meetings for 2009

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

RESOLVED, That dates for the regular monthly public meetings of ANC2F for 2009 be and are hereby set as follows dates:

January 7	July 1
February 4	August- No meeting
March 4	September 2
April 1	October 7
May 6	November 4
June 3	December 2,

with all such meetings to be held at 7:00 P.M. at Washington Plaza Hotel, Thomas Circle, NW, unless the ANC shall by appropriate action in compliance with the Bylaws change the time and place for such meetings.

Vote: (4-1), Dyer dissenting

Treasurer's Report (Dustin Cole, Treasurer)

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F hereby approves the Q-4 2008 Quarterly Report; as presented to the meeting.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

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

Cynthia Cota	\$938.70
Verizon	66.72
DC Treasurer	54.00

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Adjournment

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