

**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F REGULAR MONTHLY
PUBLIC MEETING**

Wednesday, March 3, 2010 – 7:00 PM
WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL
10 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

Present: Charles Reed (2F01) (Chairman), Mike Benardo (2F06) (Vice Chairman), Andrew Warth (2F02), Matt Raymond (2F04) (Treasurer), Dustin Cole (2F05)

Absent: Brian Vargas (2F03) (Secretary)

Chairman Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He noted that a quorum was present and that the meeting had been duly noticed, and he directed that a copy of the notice of the meeting be filed with the minutes.

COMMUNITY FORUM

Commissioner Announcements and Monthly Government Reports

Commissioner Raymond announced that The Department of Public Works (DPW) has announced that daytime mechanical street sweeping will resume in scheduled, signed residential neighborhoods on Monday, March 22, 2010. Alternate-side parking restrictions in these areas will go into effect as well. Parking tickets, which carry a \$30 fine, will be issued, beginning March 29, to vehicles parked during street sweeping hours in areas posted with “No Parking/Street Cleaning” signs.

Chairman Reed attended the Quincy Park Condominium appeal.

Executive Office of the Mayor

Francisco Fimbres, Outreach Specialist is available to answer questions or to listen to community concerns. Mr. Fimbres can be reached at 202-727-9223 (office), 202-664-6119 (cell) or Francisco.fimbres@dc.gov. Jeffery Marootian is the ANC liaison for DDOT.

Council Member Jack Evans

City Council Evans member introduced staff members Sherri Kimball, Director of Constituent Services and Jeff Coudriet, Committee Clerk. Ms. Kimball can be reached at skimbel@dccouncil.us, while Mr. Coudriet can be reached at jcoudriet@dccouncil.us.

Evans discussion included District finances and the budget, as well as snow removal, two very popular topics across Ward 2.

“We’ve not increased the budget this year,” Evans told residents. “But even when the budget is static, our expenses go up by \$500 million on things such as increases in pension plan payments, utilities, and cost of living.” The Council will spend the next few weeks reviewing

the FY 09 and FY 10 budgets in anticipation of the FY 11 budget, which will be presented to the Council by the Mayor in early April.

Evans then went on to address questions about the snow removal efforts by the city. “The Mayor and I were out on trucks, riding through parts of Ward 2 to see what streets might have been missed, or need more attention,” he said. “It was a very complicated process.” He applauded ANC 2F’s decision to appoint an ad-hoc committee to present a report of what worked, and what did not in Logan Circle, and encouraged them to make recommendations that will then be shared.

He also stated that the O Street Market is moving forward with a ground breaking quite possibly taking place in the fall of this year.

The Council’s Committee on Public Works and Transportation has recently announced as part of its 2009-2010 Agency Performance Oversight Hearings, an opportunity for residents to testify on Bill 18-596, the “Winter Sidewalk Safety Amendment Act of 2009.” Bill 18-596, introduced by Council members Cheh (Ward 3) and Wells (Ward 6), proposes to establish fines to enforce snow removal requirements and would require the Mayor to issue rules to implement this act. The proposed fine would be no less than \$25 for a person or entity who fails to remove snow and/or ice from sidewalks, and no less than \$250 for businesses.

Chairman Reed inquired about ANC2F applying for a National Endowment of the Arts grant (NEA) through the Office of Planning. The ANC would apply for NEA grant in support of the rebranding efforts of MidCity Business Association.

Chairman Reed referred to the fact that the ANC might wish to apply in its own name for a National Endowment of the Arts grant (NEA) which the Office of Planning brought to its attention and encouraged to seek. The ANC would use the funds to finance the “branding” effort endorsed by the ANC 2F Committee on the Arts Overlay Zoning (AOC). Reed pointed out, however, that DC law requires that the City Counsel act to approve such an application. The problem, Reed noted, was that such an act requires that Congress have 30 days review. This process would place the ANC out of time for the filing deadline. Evans indicated that the Council could invoke its emergency legislative powers which may avoid the delay. The NEA grant would be used to support the efforts of MidCity Business Association to “re-brand” our area, an effort supported by the recommendations of the AOC recently submitted to the DC Office of Planning.

PSA 307 Report – Lt. Vanessa Moore

Sergeant Bobeck announced that overall crime is down this month from this same month last year, with heavier declines in violent crime. He urged residents to remove all personal items from their cars as theft from autos continues to be a problem in the Logan Circle area. There has been an uptick in graffiti on 14th Street. Citizens should call if they see something suspicious. **Helen Kramer** asked why the two police officers parked at 12th and O Street why they did not respond to her request that they take action against a tour bus travelling on 12th street in violation of the well signed prohibition of bus use of that street in that vicinity. Bobeck indicated

that the two officers were on a stake out. In response to a question from **Andy Magil** about an aggressive panhandler in front of the 7-Eleven store at R.I. Avenue and 14th Street, Bobeck indicated that aggressive panhandling is illegal, and should be reported. Bobeck also liked the idea of using cell phone cameras to capture both incidents of aggressive panhandling and the identity of the panhandler.

Brian Bray, assistant attorney general is handling prostitution cases. Bray can be reached at brian.bray@dc.gov. Please feel free to email him with prostitution problems. Lt. Vanessa Moore can be reached at 202-553-9247 or by email at vanessa.moore@dc.gov.

DDOT

Christopher Ziemann, Ward 2 Representative, announced a District Department of Transportation (DDOT) Public Meeting in Innovative Bike Lane on Pennsylvania Avenue. To accommodate increased bicycling in the city, and to prepare for the expansion of the bike sharing program, DDOT is developing innovative new bike infrastructure in the greater downtown area. Join DDOT on Thursday, March 18, 2010 from 6:00-8:00 pm at the Heritage Center of the United States Navy Memorial located at 701 Pennsylvania Ave, NW. Ziemann can be reached at christopher.ziemann@dc.gov.

- 10 Minute Recess -

BUSINESS MEETING

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by **Raymond**, seconded by **Benardo** and after further discussion, the agenda was approved with the following amendments and a direction that a copy be filed with the minutes and posted on the ANC 2F website:

Add Under: New Business Status report for the Web Site Committee
Add Under: New Business Farmer's Market
Remove Under: CDC 1431 11th Street, NW
Remove Under: New business Claridge House- Trash/Rodent problem

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Approval of ANC 2F Minutes of Meeting of February 3, 2010

Minutes of the meeting of February 3, 2010, were presented for approval. Upon motion by **Warth**, seconded by **Reed**, and after further discussion, the minutes were approved with direction to the Executive Director to post the same on the ANC 2F website.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

ABRA

Thai Tanic-1326 14th Street Class C –Substantial Change

Licensee has filed an application with ABRA for a substantial change of operations in which it seeks (1) to extend operations to the second floor of the premises to add additional seating for 100 persons and (2) extend its operating hours to 11:00 am-2:00 am. **Suriyan Scorsat**, owner, was present and arrangements were to meet with Commissioner **Warth** and neighbors to work out a voluntary agreement.

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

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F protest the pending application on the grounds that the substantial change would breach the peace, order and quiet of the residential community surrounding the premises of the licensee and tend to reduce the property values thereof.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

New Business

Snow Removal Violations/Solutions

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

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F does hereby create an ad hoc Snow Emergency Committee to review problems observed during the recent snow crisis in Washington, DC, and to recommend actions and policy to ANC 2F for its residents and those of the City as a whole for improvements. The Committee shall report to the ANC monthly and to present a report no later than the June Regular Monthly meeting; and, it is, come up with a report of snow removal violations and solutions. The committee will submit a report with possible solutions and report to the ANC. Each commissioner, or a designee, will serve on this committee. The report will be presented by the June ANC meeting; and it is,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That **Amy Smith** does hereby appoint to chair such committee, and that the committee members shall be Ms. Smith, all Commissioners (who shall be responsible for providing information relevant to the work of the committee from their respective SMDS), and such other members of the community as Ms. Smith may, with the approval of the ANC recommend for membership.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Bill-18-596 Snow Removal (to be re-scheduled for inclusion on the ANC2F April 7, 2010 agenda)
Farmer's Market Committee

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F hereby create an ad hoc committee to study the creation of a farmer's market in the Logan Circle area; appoints **Sandra Biasillo** to chair such committee, with such additional members as she shall, with the approval of the ANC, place on such committee; and that such committee shall provide its recommendations to the ANC as soon as shall be convenient to the committee.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Web Site Committee Commissioner **Warth** provided a brief report on the status of the committee as to the proposed content, features; organization and design of the website.

Treasurer's Report (Matt Raymond, Treasurer)

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

Cynthia Cota.....	\$938.45
Verizon	an amount not to exceed 70.00
DC Treasurer.....	\$54.00

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:46 PM.