

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F
Minutes of Regular Monthly Public Meeting
Wednesday, July 7, 2010 – 7:00 PM
WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL
10 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

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

Absent: Matt Raymond (2F04) (Treasurer).

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.

He further announced that, absent objection, the first item for action would be a proposal to elect Samuel V. Goekjian as a Delegate, as provided for under Article IV of the Commission's bylaws (see www.ANC2F.org). .

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

RESOLVED, That, Samuel V. Goekjian, having been the sole person to have presented a valid nominating petition for the position of Delegate from SMD 2F-03 in response to the duly noticed election of such a position, in accordance with Article IV of the bylaws of this Commission, Samuel V. Goekjian be and is hereby elected as Delegate to represent the interests of residents of SMD 2F-03, to serve in such position with all the rights and obligations attached thereto under Article IV of the bylaws until a successor is elected and qualified.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

COMMUNITY FORUM

Commissioner Announcements and Monthly Government Reports

Commissioner Benardo announced the new Watha T. Daniel-Shaw Library opened Monday, August 2, 2010. The Library will host a Grand Opening Celebration on Saturday, August 28 from 10 am -- 4 pm. The new three-level library is approximately 22,000 square feet and features a flexible design to provide inviting spaces for all.

It includes:

- Separate reading areas for adults, teens and children
- Children's program room
- 40,000 books, DVDs, CDs and other library materials; designed for 80,000 items
- 32 public access computers with free Wi-Fi Internet access
- 8 Mac computers in the teen space
- Comfortable seating for 200 customers

- Large program room for up to 100 people
- Two 12-person conference rooms
- Vending area

Chairman Reed announced that Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton has requested to meet with the community for a roundtable discussion in the Logan Circle neighborhood. Reed stated that he would move that a joint special meeting of the ANC and the Logan Circle Community Association be held August 11 for such a discussion.

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.

PSA 307 Report – Lt. Vanessa Moore

Sergeant Terestre, reporting in lieu of Lt. Moore, announced that violent crime is up 7% this month. Property crimes decreased 55%, however, crimes against mopeds and cars are on the raise. Cell phone use while driving and lack of seatbelts will result in tickets being issued to keep residents safe. The summer curfew *Are You In* is youth midnight curfew in effect for youth under 18 years of age. More officers will be available to patrol Blagden Alley. Terestre also indicated that **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. Sergeant Terestre can be reached David.terestre@dc.gov 202-673-6923.

Community Announcements

Joyce Tsepas Ward 2 Planner for the Office of Planning introduced herself to the community. Ms. Tsepas is responsible for zoning and city wide planning (comprehensive planning) and neighborhood planning for ANC2F. Joyce Tsepas can be reached at 202-535-1556, joyce.tsepas@dc.gov.

Andrea Doherty (chair of the ANC 2F Arts Overlay Subcommittee) announced the proposal to amend the ARTS Overlay that would increase the percentage of frontage along U and 14th Streets NW that could be devoted to eating and drinking establishments from 25% to 50% was accepted by the Office of Planning. It further accepted the ANC 2F clarifying proposals that the this limit applies only to ground floor frontage; specified that the method of measurement of such limit would be block-face by block-face method; and requires that when the 50% limit is reached, any eating or drinking establishments request for relief would be tested by the standards required for a zoning variance (a further, *de minimus*, provision will be suggested where relief would result in only a small increase above the limit). Doherty also indicated that ANC2F coordinated four eligible (not-for-profit) neighborhood based organizations to apply for DC economic development grants, totaling \$200,000. These grants, which were in fact awarded, are separate aspects of the development of a “branding” for the 14th Street corridor

designed to aid small business development in the corridor. The organizations are: MidCity Residents Association, Cultural Tourism DC, Logan Circle Community Association, and the Constance Whitaker Maffin Memorial Fund.

DDOT Report

Chris Ziemann Ward 2 DDOT representative discussed the 14 Street Design Study and stated the design phase is 65% complete. Ziemann can be contacted christopher.Ziemann@dc.gov for information regarding the 14th Street Design Study. If you have additional questions, you may contact the Department of Transportation Customer Service Center at Office-DDOT@dc.gov.

Mayoral Straw Poll

The Logan Circle Community Association (LCCA) and the Ward 2 Democrats are hosting a Mayoral straw poll Wednesday, July 21st at the Washington Plaza Hotel, 10 Thomas Circle. All of the candidates who filed papers to run have been invited, including current Mayor Adrian Fenty and current Council Chair Vincent Gray.

Everyone is invited to attend, but only registered Democrats will be able to participate in the straw poll. The presentations will begin at 7:30, and voting will close by 9:15. (Times subject to change if needed)

Each candidate will be asked to speak on several topics. Following the presentation, registered Democrats will have the opportunity to vote. For more information, please contact Ward 2 Democrats President Pat Allen at 202-296-0720 or LCCA President Bob Maffin at 202-301-2125.

- 10 Minute Recess -

BUSINESS MEETING

Approval of Agenda

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

- Add Under DDOT: Modern Liquors s/b District Liquors
- Add Under DDOT: Support 14th Street Design
- Add Under Arts Overlay
- Add Under New Business: Central Union Mission/Real Estate Service
- Add Under ABRA: Donovan House
- Add Under New Business: Election of new Secretary

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Approval of ANC 2F Minutes of Meeting of May 5, 2010 and June 2, 2010

Minutes of the meeting of May 5, 2010 and June 2, 2010, were presented for approval. Upon motion by **Goekjian**, seconded by **Cole** and after further discussion, the minutes were approved with direction to the Executive Director to post the same on the ANC 2F website.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Election of Secretary

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

RESOLVED, That the vacancy in the office of Secretary created by the resignation of former Commissioner Brian Vargas be filled by **Andrew Warth**, to serve until his successor is elected and qualified.

Vote: (3-0) Commissioner Warth abstaining.

ABRA

1612 14th Street New Restaurant

Placed on the ANC September agenda

Studio Lounge 1400 I Street NW License Renewal

No action taken at this time

Thai Tanic 1326 14th Street, NW

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

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F, having determined that the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC Board) in rejecting the Voluntary Agreement between Thai Tanic and this Commission has failed to accord “great weight” to the recommendations and advice of this Commission in violation of D.C. Code §1-309.10, and has failed in other respects to comply with the laws of the District of Columbia; as a result of which this Commission explore and cause appropriate legal review of the Board’s actions, and it is,

FURTHER RESOVLED, That ANC2F refuse to withdraw the provisions that the ABC Board has asked to be removed, and to offer no further evidence at a protest hearing on this Commission’s pending protest in connection in this matter.

Vote (4-0) Unanimous

Donovan House

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

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F protest the liquor license based on peace order and quite of the residential community surrounding the premises of the licensee and tend to reduce the property values thereof involving the residents of the Thomas House and other nearby condos; and it is,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Commission finds that prior notice given to ANC 2F was not timely, thereby requiring that the ABC Board require re-notice of the pending application to renew the licensee's license.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

DDOT

Studio Theatre- Pole Banners

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F advise the DDOT Public Space Committee to approve the pending application for pole banners Studio Theatre for a year, conditioned upon the applicant's compliance with its representation that it would maintain such banners in a fit and clean condition. .

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Street Closure 800 Block of Vermont Ave, NW

Item to be placed on the ANC September 1, 2010 agenda.

DC Circulator Community Advisory Panel

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F appoint ANC 2F-06 Commissioner **Michael Benardo** as its representative to the DC Circulator Panel

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

District Liquors 9th and M Streets-Wall Mural

No ANC action required

1336 14th Street- Public Space Application- unenclosed sidewalk café

No ANC action required

1015 15th Street- Public Space Application- unenclosed sidewalk café

No ANC action required

1319 F Street- Public Space Application- unenclosed sidewalk café

No ANC action required

14th Street Design Study

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F advise DDOT that the completion of this project is a matter of utmost importance to this community and recommend that the agency move forward expeditiously.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Web Site Redevelopment Committee (Andrew Warth)

Warth reported that no progress was made in June, but that a test site will be online soon, and the new ANC 2F website should be ready for launch before the September meeting.

Arts Overlay Committee

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F recommend to the DC Office of Real Estate Services that it move expeditiously to enter into contract negotiations regarding a lease of the Gayle school to Central Union Mission; and that the continued operations of the Mission at R and 14th Streets, NW, is seriously impeding development deemed highly important to this community.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F congratulate Central Union Mission on their proposed move to lease

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

New Business

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F work jointly with LCCA toward the community roundtable meeting with Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton and authorize any money needed to secure a meeting place.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F recommend DCRA that 1333 1335 1337 11th street be designated vacant and blighted property

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Treasurer's Report (Dustin Cole in Matt Raymond's absence)

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

Cynthia Cota.....	\$938.45
DC Treasurer.....	\$54.00
Verizon.....	\$66.92
DOES.....	\$100.97
DOES.....	\$64.80
IRS.....	\$1,173.45
DC Treasurer.....	\$54.00

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Upon motion by **Cole** seconded by **Benardo** and after further discussion, the following expenses were approved for August because the ANC2F does not have a community meeting:

Cynthia Cota.....	\$938.45
DC Treasurer.....	\$54.00
Verizon.....	Not to exceed \$70.00

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned at 9:13 PM.