

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F
Minutes of Regular Monthly Public Meeting
Wednesday, September 1, 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), 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.

COMMUNITY FORUM

Commissioner Announcements and Monthly Government Reports

Commissioner Warth announced that he will not seek reelection for 2F02 commissioner; however, Josh Hubner and Emily Barton have filed to run.

Commissioner Benardo announced that he will seek reelection for as ANC 2F-06 commissioner. He also announced that “CityMarket at O” construction is to commence in September 2010 with the preservation and securing of the historic market structure. This will be succeeded by the closing of the Giant Food store in January 2011 and razing of the store and excavation beginning in February 2011. Giant will provide free home delivery service to the area until the store is in operation. The Giant will reopen 24 months after closing, with hotel and housing opening a year later. The project will be a 1 million-square foot urban infill with over 87,000 square feet of retail, 600+ residential units, and over 500 parking spaces. CityMarket at O is expected to revitalize the Shaw community.

He further announced that the second public public meeting on branding and marketing the arts district (NIF grant) will take place on September 7th from 6:00-8:00 PM at Warehouse Theater (645 New York Avenue NW). This second public dialogue will expand the dialogue about branding and marketing Logan Circle area Arts Overlay District. This meeting is co-hosted by Paul Ruppert, Producing Director, Warehouse Theater, and Alex Padro, Executive Director of the Shaw Main Streets.

Benardo also announced that DDOT will be holding a community planning meeting regarding the 14th Street NW from Thomas Circle to Florida streetscape project. Currently this project is not in the budget; however, ANC 2F is pressing to have it included.

Commissioner Raymond announced that he will not seek reelection for SMD 2F-04 commissioner.

Commissioner Cole announced that he will not seek reelection for SMD 2F-05 commissioner.

Chairman Reed announced that there doesn't seem to be a commissioner candidate for SMD05 and the ANC works best if all SMDs are represented.

He also stated that the Hotel Helix Voluntary Agreement was accepted by the ABC Board. He pointed out that the ABC Board has become very community unfriendly and is changing its policies without notifying the community.

He further announced that there has been a big upsurge with rodent problems in the city; residents on Kingman Street are especially having a rodent problem. The rodent control office is over worked and has limited authority. It is important that residents and businesses do their part by keeping trash in the appropriate containers to keep the rodent problem at bay.

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 – Sergeant Suber.

Sergeant Suber, reporting in lieu of Lt. Moore, announced that violent crime is up from this time last year. Particularly the robbery is up 133% from; six to fourteen robberies. The city is aware of the crime uptick and is working on lighting issues in the Logan Circle area. There was one murder this month in the Logan Circle area. It seems that the victim met his assailants in a bar and invited him back to his home. Gas station robberies are also on the raise; Sgt. Suber advised not to flash money at gas stations. The 3D Watch Commander phone number is 202-276-7462 and is answered 24 hours a day.

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 is the Ward 2 Planner for the Office of Planning. 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.

DDOT Report

Chris Ziemann announced that The 2005 District of Columbia Bicycle Master Plan called for the proportion of bicycle trips to increase from about 1% of all trips in 2000 to at least 3% in 2010 and 5% of all trips in the District of Columbia by 2015. Current bicycle mode share

is 2.3% (work trips). Reaching the 2010 and 2015 goals will be possible if the District continues developing a safe bicycle network. DDOT is installing Downtown Bike Lanes similar to the new lanes along Pennsylvania Avenue and Cycle Tracks along 15th Street. Additionally, **Ziemann** talked about the importance of Cycle Tracks in the District. Research has shown that Cycle Tracks can increase ridership by 18% to 20%, compared to 5% to 7% for traditional bike lanes. They can provide greater clarity about expected behavior on the part of both cyclists and motorists.

Ziemann stated that Friday, September 3rd will be his last day of employment with DDOT. ANC2F thanks Ziemann for his commitment to the Logan Circle area traffic issues and wished him the best of luck in his new position.

Charles Biggio continues to review the current District of Columbia laws surrounding condominium owner's rights. If you would like to help Biggio review the current laws and draft a suggested resolution to be sent on to City Council he can be contacted at 1440 N Street, NW #711.

Lacey Brown- Casey Trees Casey Trees is a Washington, DC-based non-profit established in 2001 committed to restoring, enhancing and protecting the tree canopy of the Nation's Capital. To fulfill this mission Casey Trees plants trees, engages thousands of volunteers of all ages in tree planting and care, provides year-round continuing education courses, monitors the city's tree canopy, develops interactive online tree tools and works with elected officials, developers, community groups to protect and care for existing trees and to encourage them to add new ones. To learn more about Casey Trees and the various Tree Planting programs and classes visit www.caseytrees.org.

Jo-Ann Neuhaus announced Arts on Foot Penn Quarter's 18th annual festival celebrating the arts on Saturday, September 11th from 11:00-6:00 PM rain or shine. For more information about the Arts on Foot event please contact Jo-Ann Neuhaus at www.joann@pennquarter.org.

- 10 Minute Recess -

BUSINESS MEETING

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by **Reed** seconded by **Benardo** 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 DCHSEMA-AIDS Walk; Best Buddies Challenge

Add Under New Business- 187-16 Bill; 1332 Corcoran Street Homeless Man living in tree box DHS; Thank you letter to Tim Barnes

Add Under CDC: 914 P Street NW and 916 P Street, NW

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Approval of ANC 2F Minutes of Meetings of July 7, 2010 and Special Meetings July 29 and August 11. Additional technical corrections to 2009-2010 meeting minutes.

Minutes of the meeting of July 7, 2010 and Special Meetings July 29, 2010 and August 11, 2010, were presented for approval. Additional **Reed** noted the need for technical corrections in the 2009-2010 minutes, to include a statement indicating that the meetings were called to order that a quorum was present that have been corrected to include the Chair calling the meeting to order and announcing the meeting had a quorum.

Upon motion by **Raymond**, seconded by **Warth** and after further discussion, the minutes were approved and corrected as indicated above, with direction to the Executive Director to post the same on the ANC 2F website.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

DCHSEMA/StreetClosures

Larry Evans presented a request for street closing for the AIDS Walk Washington, which will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2010 from 8:00 AM -11:00 AM. **Evans** stated that the request complies with ANC 2F published street closing policy and that he had made substantial progress in dealing with others entitled to notice and opportunity to comment. **Evans** can be reached at 202-797-3510. AIDS Walk Washington will coordinate with the area hotels, businesses and theaters regarding construction hours and microphone noise.

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

RESOLVED, That after review of the street closing application of AIDS Walk Washington, which will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2010 pending before the DC Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency (“DCHSEMA”) and presented to the ANC, ANC 2F advise HSEMA to grant such application.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Consideration of the AIDS Walk Washington was deferred until further notice.

Ira Brody presented a request for street closing for the Nation’s Triathlon, which will be held on Sunday, September 12, 2010 from 4:30 AM -3:00 PM. **Brody** stated that the request complies with ANC 2F published street closing policy and that he had made substantial progress in dealing with others entitled to notice and opportunity to comment. **Brody** can be reached at ira@wseminc.com.

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

RESOLVED, That after review of the street closing application of Nation’s Triathlon, which will be held on Sunday, September 12, 2010 pending before the DC Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency (“DCHSEMA”) and presented to the ANC, ANC 2F advise HSEMA to grant such application.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Julie Hanson presented a request for street closing for the Best Buddies Challenge, which will be held on Saturday, October 23, 2010 from 6:30 AM -10:30 PM. **Hanson** stated that the request complies with ANC 2F published street closing policy and that he had made substantial progress in dealing with others entitled to notice and opportunity to comment. **Hanson** can be reached at www.bestbuddies.org.

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

RESOLVED, That after review of the street closing application of Best Buddies Challenge, which will be held on Saturday, October 23, 2010 pending before the DC Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency (“DCHSEMA”) and presented to the ANC, ANC 2F advise HSEMA to grant such application.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

ABRA

Shelly’s Back Room 1331 F Street Substantial change Class C

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

RESOLVED, That, consistent with ANC 2F policy regarding liquor licensing matters for locations at which there have been no complaints and where no residential tenancies appear to be affected, ANC 2F decline to take action on the pending application of *Shelly’s Back Room 1331 F Street Substantial change Class C*

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Teakwood Restaurant, 1323 14th St. Class CR; Voluntary Agreement

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

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F, hereby ratify and confirm the Voluntary Agreement between this ANC and the Logan Circle Association, on the one hand, and *Teakwood Restaurant, 1323 14th St. Class C*, as the same was submitted to the ABC Board..

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

1612 14th Street New Restaurant
No Action needed at this time

DDOT

Street Closure 800 Block of Vermont Ave, NW

No action required

Crime and Public Safety Committee

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F appoint Brian Goodman as the Chair of the ANC2F Crime and Public Safety Committee

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Committee Development Committee—Mike Benardo, Chair

1525 14th Street, NW

Chairman Bernardo reported on the CDC consideration of this new construction project in the current parking lot between Posto Restaurant and the Great Wall Szechuan House. The presentation was made by Eric Colbert and Giorgio Furioso. The project succeeds the previously approved one which was abandoned as a result of economic conditions and the determination of the developer that the approved use, a boutique hotel, was no longer feasible. The current proposal is for mixed use commercial and retail, with the same height and density as the previously approved scheme. The proposed building is a total of 6 stories, whereas the previously approved scheme had 7 floors. The current plan is to have retail on floors one and two of the new building. Above that will office space. Plans include keeping the ground floor restaurant and third floor gallery in the existing building. The first below-grade level will be storage. Two additional below-grade levels will be parking which will be accessed by a car elevator. The total gross area of construction above grade is slightly above 55,000 square feet, including existing building. The project was approved 4-1 in committee.

Following further review by the developer and architect, upon motion by **Benardo**, seconded by **Cole**, and after further discussion, it was,

RESOLVED, That ANC2F advise HPRB to grant the pending application for concept and massing of *1525 14th Street, NW*

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Benardo reported the following unanimous recommendations of the CDC:

1335 R Street, NW—two dwelling unit condominium; new project: recommend approval by HPRB of conceptual design and massing.

1215 11th Street, NW Four- one bedroom condos with decks and two tandem parking spaces: recommend approval by HPRB of conceptual design and massing.

1432 Q Street, NW–Rear house addition: recommend approval by HPRB of conceptual design and massing.

914 P Street, NW: –Rear house addition –special exception: recommend approval of pending application for relief of lot occupancy, rear yard depth and closed court area requirements for an addition on a currently non-conforming single family row dwelling.

916 P Street, NW: Rear house addition with basement –Zoning variance: recommend approval.

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F accept the foregoing unanimous recommendations of the CDC, and advise the respective cognizant agencies of the District of Columbia government to grant the pending applications of the above projects.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Arts Overlay Committee

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F does hereby appoint Michael Benardo to be its representative on the DDOT Street Scape Committee

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

New Business

Bill 18-716

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F oppose Bill 18-716 and provide testimony to City Council opposing this bill if necessary.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

1332 Corcoran Street- Homeless man living in tree box DHS

No formal action at this ANC meeting however, Chairman Charles Reed will speak with Department of Human Services.

Tim Barnes Recognition

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

RESOLVED, That ANC2F recognize the long standing valuable assistance rendered to this ANC and to the Community by Tim Barnes in connection with the ANC web site and web postings.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Treasurer’s Report (Matt Raymond)

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

Cynthia Cota.....	\$938.45
DC Treasurer.....	\$54.00
Verizon.....	\$68.53

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

The third quarter report to the DC Auditor was presented for consideration. Upon motion by **Raymond** seconded by **Cole** and after further discussion, the 3rd Quarter Report was approved.

Vote: (5-0) Unanimous

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned at 9:50 PM.