

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F
Minutes of Regular Monthly Public Meeting
Wednesday, October 6, 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) Samuel V. Goekjian (2F03 Delegate)

Absent: Dustin Cole (2F05)

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 reported that some apartment dwellers are wondering when their building managers will be turning on the heat. October 15 is considered the standard date, but regardless of the date: the heat delivered to an apartment home must suffice to maintain all rooms at 68°F during the day and 65°F at night. Residents without adequate heat should inform their building managers; if complaints go unanswered, they should consider calling DCRA at 202-442-9557 to request a housing inspection. Noncompliant building owners can be fined up to \$1000.

Chairman Reed announced that Francisco Fimbres, Outreach Specialist Executive Office of the Mayor, who will be departing December 16, 2010, has solicited notice of any unfinished items with the DC government in Logan.

Reed further announced the DC Court of Appeals has handed down its opinion in the Quincy Park Condominium case upholding the BZA decision which the Condominium had appealed. The Court rejected the contentions of ANC2F that the BZA had not given “great weight” to its request for a further evidentiary hearing based on inadequate information supplied to the ANC2F in the zoning variance application. Moreover, the Court did not address the complaint of the ANC2F in its amicus brief that the BZA erroneously criticized the ANC for failure to attend the BZA hearing in the reliance upon the facts which had been presented to the ANC at its own hearing (facts, which turned out to be incorrect, although knowledge of such defect was produced after the BZA hearing). As a result of this opinion, the Court imposes on ANCs an obligation to attend hearings—even when there is no known dispute—or run the risk that if a discrepancy or problem arises, ANCs will have no basis for attacking it. This is an

extremely harsh requirement to impose on already overburdened ANCs and voluntary commissioners.

Chairman Reed welcomed a visiting group attending the meeting. These were a group of 22 Chinese urban planners from the city of Chongqing (Chung-Ching) and Andy Fang from the American Planning Association. The delegation was in DC for an urban planning training camp, and visited the meeting to see public participation in a local planning process.

Benardo announced that on Wednesday, September 29, 2010, the District of Columbia Department of Transportation (DDOT) held a public community meeting on the 14th Street, NW Streetscape Design Project. The 14th Street, NW Streetscape Design Project area covers from Thomas Circle north to Florida Avenue, NW. At the meeting, DDOT will present its intermediary design, which was developed after several public meetings in 2009. Public input on the intermediary design was requested. Sherri Kimbel, office of Council Member Jack Evans wanted the record to show that funding for the 14th Street Study is not in the Fiscal year 2011 budget.

Report from Office of Council Member Jack Evans

Sherri Kimbel invited everyone to join Council Member Jack Evans and his new bride Michelle for a combined wedding and birthday celebration on Wednesday, October 27th from 6:00 pm-8:30 pm at the Homer Building Atrium 601 13th Street, NW. Any questions may be addressed to 202-724-8058.

Democratic Mayoral Candidate Vince Gray will host a Ward 2 Town Hall Meeting with Jack Evans and *At-large Councilmembers* David Catania, Phil Mendelson, Michael Brown and Kwame Brown. The Town Hall Meeting will be held on October 14th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Schools Without Walls 2130 G Streets, NW.

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, reported that overall crime is up this month from this same month last year, with heavier declines in violent crime.

Suber also advised keeping keep track of IPods, cell phones, and things that can be taken easily from hand or pocket. Most of these crimes happen when a person is talking on the phone while walking.

Officers Shelby and Pate are out in the field in vehicle and on foot to provide a presence to help stop crime. If people are approaching you on the sidewalk don't hesitate to react. Please

be a good neighbor and help keep Logan Circle safe by reporting crime. Citizens should talk to Officers Shelby and Pate to let them know what is going on in the neighborhood.

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.

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.

ARTS Overlay

The Office of Planning will recommend to the BZA the rezoning for commercial corridors along 14th Street. The Building Zoning Commission hearing will be October 25 and this hearing will consider general recommendations for conceptual changes to the zoning regulations regarding mixed use zones. ANC2F will support these changes to the current zoning laws

Three Town Hall meetings were held regarding the Arts District. Each meeting was very successful and had over 200 participants. Key Topics of the program included:

1. What do you think are the unique/special characteristics of this district?
2. What does "ART" and "ARTS DISTRICT" mean?
3. How do you think the district should be named?
4. Do the proposed boundaries capture the intensity of the marketable arts assets in this district?

Jenna Turocy is looking for community partners for the Prevention Center for Wards 1 and 2 in their effort to inform DC government representatives what is going on in our neighborhoods regarding underage drinking. Turocy can be reached at jenna.turocy@gmail.com for more information.

Charles Biggio is continuing his research regarding the DC condominium laws and will give a full report to ANC2F at a later date.

BUSINESS MEETING

Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by **Warth** 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 DCHSEMA- Stop the Silence
Add Under Community Development – Letter to BZA
Add Under Crime and Public Safety Report

Upon motion by **Reed**, seconded by **Goekjian** 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: (4-0) Unanimous

DCHSEMA/StreetClosures

Dr. Pamela Pine presented a request for street closing for the **Stop the Silence Race**, which will be held on Saturday, April 22, 2011 from 7:00 AM -11:30 AM. **Pine** 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. **Pine** can be reached at 240-351-7740.

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

RESOLVED, That after review of the application of **Stop the Silence Race** for street closing for the race to be held on Saturday, April 22, 2011, which application is pending before the DC Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency (“DCHSEMA”), ANC2F advise HSEMA to grant such application.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

ABRA

1612 14th Street, NW- New Restaurant Jeff Black Owner

Jeff Black, who plans to open a sea food restaurant at the above address, gave a description of his plans, and indicated that he intends to be a good neighbor.

Chairman Reed indicated that 43 protests from the community have been filed against the application for this restaurant. Reed also indicated he would propose that the ANC also protest in order to assure a cooperative agreement is negotiated to protect the rights of nearby neighborhood residents.

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

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F protest the pending application of Black's 14th Street, LLC for premises at *1612 14th Street, NW* 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, and, it is,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That this any of its Commissioners are authorized (with right of substitution) to represent the ANC at any proceedings in the protest, and it is,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon acceptance of a cooperative agreement between the ANC and protestants, ANC2C shall withdraw its pending protest.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

DDOT

Kingman Street Alley, NW

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

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F, advise DDOT commence as soon as possible the repair of Kingman Place and its related alley running between P and Q z

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Community Development Committee

The Building Zoning Commission hearing will be October 25, 2010 and this hearing will consider general recommendations for conceptual changes to the zoning regulations regarding mixed use zones.

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

RESOLVED, That ANC 2F, advise BZA to adopt the recommendations from the Office of Planning

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Crime and Public Safety Committee

The Crime and Public Safety Committee is looking for community members to serve on the committee. If you are interested please contact Bryan Goodman at bgoodman32@hotmail.com.

Web Site Development

Commissioner **Warth** stated that the new ANC 2F website has been launched. He expressed thanks to webmaster Tim Barnes, as well as Brian Vargas and Katie Pearce, who offered advice for improving the website design.

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.....	\$65.38
DOES.....	\$64.80
Internal Revenue Service.....	\$1,173.45

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was duly adjourned at 8:44 PM.