

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2F
Minutes of Regular Monthly Public Meeting
Wednesday, November 7, 2012 – 7:00 PM
WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL
10 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

Present: Nick Barron (2F02-Secretary), Samuel V. Goekjian (2F03-Treasurer), Matt Raymond (2F04-Vice-Chairman), Matt Connolly (2F05), Mike Benardo (2F06-Chairman)
Absent: Charles Reed (2F01)

Chairman Benardo 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

Mike Benardo congratulated winners of yesterday evening's elections. Jim Lamare 2F05 and Peter Lawless 2F01 introduced themselves to the community.

Report from the Executive Office of the Mayor

No one was present. If you have any questions, James Bulger, from the Office of the Mayor, can be reached at jamesbulger@dc.gov or via cell at 202-340-7229.

Sheri Kimbel, Office of Jack Evans, City Councilmember, Ward 2

Sheri Kimbel, Director of Constituent Services, congratulated winning candidates and announced that Jack Evans will continue to represent Ward 2. PEPCO sent a letter requesting that they put together a community advisory group. If you are interest in participating you may contact the office and sign up. If you have any questions please e-mail her at skimbel@dccouncil.us .

PSA 307 Report – Sergeant Terestre

Sergeant Terestre from PSA 307 reviewed crime statistics for the prior month in Police Service Area (PSA) 307, covering a large portion of the ANC 2F area. **Sergeant Terestre** reported that PSA 307 has put together a burglary task force and collaborated with the adjoining PSA 305 and formed a special tactic unit and has resulted in an arrest. Sergeant Terestre offered several tips regarding burglary prevention including alarms, neighborhood watches, diligent locking of house. He reported that street robberies, theft from autos, and general theft has leveled off, however, they anticipate that it will climb with the holiday season.

MPD is currently doing operations and stings to help reduce prostitution in DC. MPD has made many arrests and received e-mails noting a reduction in the activity. If you have noticed

evidence of prostitution in your area, please call 911 to get it documented or send an e-mail to david.terestre@dc.gov with any details regarding location, license plates, etc.

Sergeant Terestre then introduced **Mr. James Younger** and **Mr. Chris Bruckmann** from the US Attorney's Office and offered to answer questions regarding prostitution, the laws regarding the crime, and prosecution of the offense in the District of Columbia. They shared that the prosecution of prostitutes and the "Johns" does have an impact. The underlying issue to prostitution is often drug addiction, alcohol abuse, and/or even mental health problems. Currently, the maximum penalty for prostitution is 90 days. Multiple convictions may result in longer sentencing. Historically, drug addiction and prostitution were considered "victimless" crimes. However, the reality is that these crimes draw in other types of crimes into the community-such as drug dealing and violence. They encouraged people to communicate with local law enforcement to help reduce prostitution. They then took questions and comments from the community.

To see updated information on things happening in the individual PSAs individuals may go to www.mpddc.gov and sign on to link to yahoo groups and you can receive e-mails everyday about incidents.

Community Announcements

No community announcements.

- 10 Minute Recess –
BUSINESS MEETING

Approval of Agenda

ADD under DCHSEMA 5K Jingle All the Way

ADD under ABRA-Bar di Bari, Thally, and The Park at 14th, A and D (Spork)

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

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Approval of ANC 2F Minutes of Meeting of October 3, 2012

Minutes of the meeting of October 3, 2012 were presented for approval. Upon motion by **Benardo** seconded by **Connolly** and after further discussion, the minutes were approved with some minor non substantive changes with direction to the Executive Director to post the same on the ANC 2F website after the changes have been made.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Education Committee (Evelyn Boyd Simmons, Chair)

Evelyn Boyd Simmons was not present to give a report; however, she communicated that DCPS has proposed that Garrison be closed and consolidated with Seaton Elementary School. The Garrison PTA together with the Logan Circle and Shaw neighborhoods has resolved to save our community school.

The Education committee believes that one of the things that most sets Garrison apart is that key community stakeholders understand the importance of having a public school at the heart of a growing and changing community. They have asked ANC2F and ANC1B to send letters of support for keeping Garrison open. They have also received support from Jack Evans.

Crime and Public Safety Committee (Christopher Linn, Chair)

Christopher Linn, MPD’s crime mapping tool is still down after being upgraded. He will make reports available as soon as the tools are back online. He reports that he has also been working with Dupont Circle to draft Ask Matt or Mike to e-mail you a copy of the report. If you are interested, please contact him at chris@chrislinn.org

DCHSEMA/Street Closures

Jingle All the Way 8K Run

Kathy Dalby, from Pacers running store, presented a request for street closing for the Jingle All the Way planned for Sunday, December 9, 2012. The race begins at 8:30 a.m. with rolling street closures and with a plan to be finished by 11:30 a.m. **Dalby** stated that the requests comply with ANC 2F published street closing policy and that she has made substantial progress in dealing with others entitled to notice and opportunity to comment.

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

RESOLVED, That after review of the street closing application of the 8K Jingle All the Way Run to be held on Sunday, November 9, 2012 pending before the DC Homeland Security Emergency Management Agency (“DCHSEMA”) and presented to the ANC, ANC 2F advise DCHSEMA to grant such application.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

ABRA

1435 P Street, NW-Number Nine Voluntary Agreement Modification

The applicant is requesting a modification to existing Voluntary Agreement to reflect the new uses of the establishment.

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

RESOLVED, ANC2F protest the application on the grounds that it will disturb the peace, quiet, and order of surrounding neighborhood, but to appoint a commissioner to move to enter into and adopt a modified VA as indicated and that it send a letter to ABC requesting they accept the Voluntary Agreement at once as they enter into agreement protest will be withdrawn.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

1316 9th Street, NW-Thally Retailers Class “C” Restaurant

Steven O’Brien, representative of Thally, reported that they are seeking a Class “C” license and indicated that the bistro would focus on food. They presented last month, and have been in extensive communication with members of the commission to establish a VA. However, there has been a late development and therefore the existing draft is not able to be signed, and the hearing date is the 19th of November. He expressed hope that the commission could empower any one of the commissioners to represent the ANC is signing a final draft that is no less advantageous to the community than the existing draft.

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

RESOLVED, ANC2F adopt a VA which is no less advantageous to the community than the existing draft presented to the commission this evening, empower any one of the commissioners to act on the commission’s behalf, and that it send a letter to ABC requesting they accept the Voluntary Agreement and on acceptance of the VA by ABRA the protest is withdrawn.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Bar Bari

Steven O’Brien, Mr. O’Brien, representing Bar Bari seeking support for an application for a Class “C” license. Mr. O’Brien noted that they recognized that given the timeline and protest deadline that the commission will have to protest the application until we can enter into a suitable Voluntary Agreement.

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

RESOLVED, ANC2F protest the application on the grounds that it will disturb the peace, quiet, and order of surrounding neighborhood, but to appoint a commissioner to negotiate a VA to present to full ANC Commission for approval.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

920 14th Street, NW, The Park at 14th

Owner from The Park at 14th presented a request for an updated Voluntary Agreement which permits operating on holidays as authorized by DC law.

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

RESOLVED, ANC2F modify the existing Voluntary Agreement to reflect these updated hours and forward to ABRA once the other signatory has agreed to the language.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

“Spork,” LLC 1413 9th Street, NW-Andrew Kline

Andrew Kline, licensing attorney for the applicant, Spork, gave a presentation on a pending application. The application is for a tavern license at 1314 9th Street NW with 56 seats. Mr. Kline gave a detailed accounting of events of October 10th ending with a note that the current Voluntary Agreement presented to his client from the ANC has a substantial difference from the Voluntary Agreement presented to them by the party of 5 which initially protested the application. According to Mr. Kline, the hours in the proposed VA with the neighbors which his client negotiated has a last call provision with no hour restrictions, the agreement received this afternoon showed hours which are restrictive and therefore disadvantageous to his client and less desirable. The proposed hours are more limiting than what they had originally wanted.

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

RESOLVED, ANC2F sign Voluntary Agreement and that upon acceptance by the ABC Board, our ANC protest will be withdrawn.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Community Development Committee (Matt Raymond, Chair)

1617 14th Street, NW Zoning Relief

Raymond shared developments from the six items that were considered at the September and October CDC meeting. This item was tabled to next month’s meeting in order to allow for

additional communication between the developer and the community. **Mr. Raymond** indicated that he has received reports that the developers and the neighbors have been able to meet, work together on shared issues, and have had productive meetings.

David Shelby 1332 Corcoran Street, NW expressed concerns about the introduction of renters to a mostly owner-owned and 35 small apartment with 10 parking spaces. He noted that DC law requires them to have 21 off-street parking spaces. Mr. Shelby wanted to go on record that he objected to a variance for parking. The CDC committee unanimously approved support for the application.

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

RESOLVED, ANC2F send a letter to BZA recommending approval of requested variances for 1617 14th Street, NW.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

1728 14th Street NW

Raymond shared that the CDC heard presentations on zoning variances for 1728 Street, NW for parking variances. The CDC committee unanimously approved support for the application. **Chris Collins** with Holland and Knight was present. **Chairman Benardo** asked him to speak to the application. Mr. Collins shared that they are using portions of an existing historic building and are using three different options. Each alternative includes retail/soft goods spaces in addition to office space on several floors. The site is only 60 feet wide and therefore it is not physically possible for them to excavate. HPRB will not allow a larger building therefore they cannot get more space from height.

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

RESOLVED, ANC2F send a letter to BZA recommending approval of requested variances for 1728 14th Street, NW for all three scenarios.

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

1018 13th Street, NW-Renovation of Engine 16-David Foust, Deputy Fire Chief Facilities Management Office, DC Fire and EMS Department

Primary goals of the renovations are the enlargement of the doors in the historic building.

1232-1234 10th Street, NW-HPRB Presentation Suzanne Reatig Architecture

Raymond shared that Meghan Mitchell, Suzanne Reatig Architecture Architects, gave a presentation to the CDC on an infill project on the west side of the 1200 block of 10th Street,

NW. The project has been approved by HPRB and they have a building permit. They are seeking HPRB support for concept and massing re-approval. Original permits date back to 2000, 2004, and 2008 was the last renewal of permit. The proposed project includes 2 condos/2 townhouses in each building. Ms. Mitchell reports that the façade will be a “warm” brick. The building will line up with the adjacent building and the four foot bays will project slightly. Rooftop structures which provide access to rooftop terrace will be setback. Their goal is to get this on the November agenda for HPRB. CDC supports concept and massing and has requested that Reatig Architecture share its plans for design with the CDC as soon as possible.

Amy Reatig from Suzanne Reatig Architecture gave a brief presentation on the proposed project and showed images to the community. The CDC recommended to full ANC that it send a letter of support to HPRB advising it of the ANC’s support of concept and massing only for 1232-1234 10th Street, NW noting that there are concerns for design railing and window configurations.

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

RESOLVED, send a letter of support to HPRB advising it of the ANC’s support of concept and massing only for 1232-1234 10th Street, NW noting that there are concerns for design railing and window configurations

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

National Museum of African American History and Culture-DDOT Presentation, Ann Trowbridge, AIA, Associate Director for Planning, Smithsonian Institution

Raymond reported that Ann Trowbridge, Associate Director for Planning for the Smithsonian Institution, gave a presentation and along with her colleague, Jane Passman, Senior Facilities Planner for the African American History Museum which is currently under construction on the National Mall. The design for the project includes water features, walkways, plantings, and curbs which complement, contrast, and match current streetscaping and landscaping. A bus stop has been moved slightly to make way for loading dock. They will have handicapped curb ramps, bike racks near the loading dock, Smithsonian Institution standard box signage, and the streetlights will return after construction to their same place. CDC recommended to full ANC that it send a letter of support to DDOT advising it of the ANC’s support of pending public space permit.

Upon motion by **Raymond** seconded by **Goekjian**,

RESOLVED, that the ANC send a letter of support to DDOT advising it of the ANC’s support of pending public space permit.

(4-0) Unanimous

Treasurer’s Report (Sam Goekjian)

Upon motion by **Goekjian**, seconded by **Raymond** and after further discussion, it was, **RESOLVED**, that the following expenses be and are hereby adopted:

Verizon.....\$71.12
Jennifer Dusek (#1171).....\$683.20

Vote: (4-0) Unanimous

Update on the status of deductions by the DC Audit. Hoping

Adjournment

There being no further business, and upon motion by **Raymond**, seconded by **Barron**, the meeting was duly adjourned at 9:20 PM.