

ANC 2F | Regular Monthly Public Meeting

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 2, 2013

6:30 P.M.

WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL
10 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

Attendance

PRESENT

Peter Lallas (2F01)
Walt Cain (2F02)
Chris Linn (2F03)
John Fanning (2F04)
Jim Lamare (2F05)
Greg Melcher (2F06)
Matt Raymond (2F07)
Matt Connolly (2F08)

GUESTS AND PRESENTERS

Police Chief Cathy Lanier
Commander Jacob Kishter, 3rd District
Jack Evans, Councilmember, Ward 2
Lieutenant Jeff Carroll, PSA 307
Freddy Bulger, Executive Office of the Mayor
Reyna Alorro, DMPED
Jamie Henson, DDOT
Mark and Anne Barnes, Park Place
Tony Opare, Ghana Café

Meeting **called to order** by Commissioner Raymond at **6:36 p.m.** with quorum.

Community Forum

Community Discussion on Recent Gun Violence Councilmember Jack Evans, Ward 2

Councilmember Jack Evans convened a special session dedicated to discussion about the recent rash of gun-related violence in parts of ANC 2F and shared opening remarks. With assistance from Third District Commander Jacob Kishter and Lieutenant Jeff Carroll of PSA 307, Police Chief Cathy Lanier led a discussion on MPD's efforts to date in investigating these crimes and the department's plan for preventing future crimes.

Attendee questions and concerns covered a range of topics including prostitution, public drunkenness, gambling, loitering, homelessness, youth gangs and criminals, daytime robberies, theft of mobile devices, auto vandalism and break-ins, and the perceived lack of follow-up by MPD detectives investigating certain crimes.

Lanier promised to work with Commander Kishter to increase mountain bike and Segway patrols in the Third District; encouraged attendees to reach out to the Detective Captain about incidents of poor follow-through; and offered to return to future meetings to provide updates and address community concerns.

Community Reports

Office of Jack Evans, Councilmember, Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans

Following his participation in the community discussion on gun violence, Councilmember Evans entertained questions and concerns from attendees. Attendee issues included pedestrian safety around the proposed Spy Museum in Carnegie Library; the stalled DDOT rollout of the Visitor Parking Program; homelessness in the Logan Circle area; the need for better timing and

synchronization of traffic lights in ANC 2F (specifically on N St, NW between 14th and 15th Streets); the K Street trolley; and pedestrian crossing signs at 15th St, NW and N St, NW ignored by motorists.

Evans encouraged the Commissioners to take the lead in developing a Visitor Parking Program for ANC 2F and promised he would move the program forward with DDOT.

Metropolitan Police Department, PSA 307

Lieutenant Jeff Carroll

Lieutenant Carroll presented the monthly crime report. Crime statistics remain low for PSA 307 and both violent crime and property crime are down 30% over this time last year.

Report from Executive Office of the Mayor

James “Freddy” Bulger, Ward 2 Liaison

Freddy Bulger announced an upcoming community meeting on mental health in the District hosted by Mayor Gray on Saturday, October 19 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Washington Convention Center. The meeting is intended to solicit community input for solutions to mental health issues in the District.

Special Announcement from DMPED re: Franklin School

Reyna Alorro

Reyna Alorro, employee of the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) and project manager of the revitalization of the historic Franklin School, announced an upcoming presentation by the four development teams selected by DMPED for consideration. Teams led by Abdo Development, Douglas Development, ICE-DC, and Lowe Enterprises will present their proposals to the community on October 30 at 5:30 p.m. at Thomson Elementary School.

Special Announcement from DDOT re: North-South Corridor Project

Jamie Henson

Jamie Henson, a planner with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), encouraged the public to attend a series of upcoming meetings soliciting community feedback for the development of a North-South corridor project. The project involves a study to improve transit from Buzzard Point in Southwest D.C. to Takoma and Silver Spring in Northwest D.C. The meeting dates and times are available on DDOT’s web site.

Commissioner Announcements

1. Commissioner Raymond noted that the ABC Board rejected the petition for a liquor license moratorium on the U Street corridor.
2. Raymond reminded attendees that there would be water main work on 1100 block of M St, NW on October 7 from 10am – 6pm during which time the water will be shut off.
3. Commissioner Linn noted the upcoming Fall Crime Outreach and Awareness event on October 19 in front of the Whole Foods on P St, NW.
4. Commissioner Fanning noted the upcoming ANC 2F Sanitation, Education, and Enforcement event on October 17, 7pm at the Washington Plaza hotel.

Community Announcements

1. The 3rd annual Little Goblins parade will take place on October 26. The parade starts at 3pm in Stead Park (1625 P St, NW) and ends in Logan Circle.

2. The Washington Marriott Marquis Jobs Training Program is currently accepting applications from District residents interested in being trained, prepared, and referred for jobs at the Washington Marriott Marquis, opening May 2014.
3. Sherri Kimbel of Jack Evans' office reminded community residents that during the federal government shutdown trash would not be collected from federal parks, including Logan, Scott, and Thomas Circles.

BUSINESS MEETING

Commissioner Raymond noted there was quorum to conduct business.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Connolly moved to approve the draft agenda with the following proposed modifications: addition of "partnership with Little Goblins Parade" to New Business (Connolly); removal of "1628 11th St, NW" from New Business, since it's duplicative of the same named item under the CDC Report (Cain); removal of "1209-1213 Blagden Alley" and "1333 14th St, NW" from New Business, since they are duplicative of the same named items under the ABRA Report (Fanning); and relocation of "1336 14th St, NW (Ghana Café)" from New Business to Old Business (Raymond). The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Raymond directed that a copy of the amended agenda be filed with the minutes.

Vote: 8-0 (unanimous)

Approval of Minutes for September 9, 2013 Regular Monthly Public Meeting

Commissioner Connolly moved to approve the minutes; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 8-0 (unanimous)

Committee Reports

ABRA Policy Committee (APC)

Commissioner John Fanning, Chair

920 14th St, NW (Park at 14th)

Commissioner Fanning explained that the APC's unanimous vote (5-0) at its September 25 meeting to recommend against termination of 920 14th St, NW's (Park at 14th) Settlement Agreement was a procedural matter due to the owners' failure to attend the meeting. Fanning then yielded the floor to licensees Mark and Anne Barnes, who explained that they did not feel they should have to be in a Settlement Agreement with the ANC given a six-year track record without an ABRA violation. Fanning also yielded the floor to Patrick Brown, Attorney with Greenstein DeLorme & Luchs representing the owner of 1400 K St, NW (an adjacent property to 920 14th St, NW), who appealed to the Commission to deny the Barnes' petition. Fanning moved to recommit the issue to the October 23 APC meeting for reconsideration; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote 8-0 (unanimous)

1333 14th St, NW (Glass House Coffee)

At its September 25 meeting, the APC voted unanimously (5-0) to recommend that the Commission support Glass House Coffee's license application. Commissioner Linn moved to protest the application as a procedural matter, with the understanding that Glass House Coffee and the ANC will work out an amenable Settlement Agreement prior to the hearing date; the motion was

seconded and unanimously approved by the Commission.

Vote 8-0 (unanimous)

1209-1213 10th Street, NW / Blagden Alley (the American)

Fanning yielded the floor to Commissioner Melcher, who has been assisting in the negotiation of a Settlement Agreement with the American. Melcher recounted the APC's unanimous vote (5-0) to recommend that the Commission support the American's request for operation of hours on the condition that the owners of the American and the ANC reach an agreement for the hours of operation and some cosmetic changes. Melcher then detailed the provisions of the draft Settlement Agreement. Several residents whose M Street homes back onto Blagden Alley spoke and shared their opposition to the operating hours of the American, based on concern related to noise from the restaurant patrons. Because the American's participation in a Settlement Agreement is completely voluntary, there was no motion to be made on the issue.

Community Development Committee (CDC)

Commissioner Walt Cain, Chair

1101 Rhode Island Ave, NW

Commissioner Cain spoke to the large turnout at the September 25 CDC meeting related to this development as well as the neighbors' concerns related to the requested variances. The Committee took no vote or action on the item, other than asking Commissioner Fanning to facilitate the interaction between the community and the developer (CAS/Riegler).

1628 11th Street, NW

At its September 25 meeting, the CDC voted unanimously (9-0) to recommend that the Commission support the developer's request for a parking variance, a side yard variance, an area variance, and a special exception for the roof structure.

1601 14th Street, NW (Le Diplomate)

At its September 25 meeting, the CDC voted unanimously (9-0) to recommend that the Commission support Le Diplomate's DDOT Public Space Committee request for a temporary/seasonal enclosure of its sidewalk café.

The Committee adopted the CDC recommendations for 1628 11th Street, NW and 1601 14th Street, NW by unanimous consent.

Crime and Public Safety Committee (CPSC)

Commissioner Chris Linn, Chair

Commissioner Linn promoted the October 19 Fall Crime Awareness and Prevention event and stressed that despite recent crimes, the ANC is moving in the overall right direction in regards to crime statistics and trends.

Education Committee

Commissioner Matt Connolly and Evelyn Boyd Simmons, Co-Chairs

Commissioner Connolly summarized the September 21, 2013 Education Committee meeting, which among other topics included the Heritage Trail and a presentation by area middle school principals called "Schools Without Walls." Connolly announced the next Committee meeting would be October 26. Connolly shared that Garrison Elementary is trying to raise the other half of the funds it needs to complete its modernization project.

Evelyn Boyd Simmons expounded upon the challenges facing Garrison Elementary vis-à-vis its modernization project. Simmons then announced an upcoming meeting on October 17 at which Chancellor Henderson would hold a state of the schools system-wide address at Cardozo High School.

Old Business

1336 14th Street, NW (Ghana Café)

Tony Opare, Owner

Request for support of entertainment endorsement

Commissioner Linn shared that the Commission is currently working on renegotiating the existing Settlement Agreement with Ghana Café. Linn shared that Tony Opare, owner of Ghana Café, applied to ABRA for the entertainment endorsement. Opare held the floor and explained his desire for an entertainment endorsement and detailed the restrictions of the current Settlement Agreement. Marc Marino, resident of the 1400 block of Rhode Island Avenue, NW claimed Ghana Café has been in violation of the current Settlement Agreement and said he has filed formal complaints with ABRA.

Linn moved that the Commission formally protest the endorsement (as a procedural matter) and empower other SMD Commissioners to renegotiate the applicant's Settlement Agreement; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous; Lallas not present)

New Business

Appointment of David Feinstein to CDC

Commissioner Chris Linn

Commissioner Linn appointed Mr. Feinstein to the Community Development Committee as the representative from ANC 2F-03.

Partnership for 3rd Annual Little Goblins Parade

Commissioner Matt Connolly

Commissioner Connolly noted Evelyn Boyd Simmons' request that the ANC support the 3rd Annual Little Goblins Parade and moved that the Commission partner with the parade; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous; Lallas not present)

Treasurer's Report

Approval of Expenses

Commissioner Connolly, Acting Treasurer, presented the following expenditures:

1. A check in the amount of \$28.80, payable to the District Department of Employment Services, for Q3 2013 Employer Quarterly Contribution and wage report;
2. A check in the amount of \$244.80, payable to the U.S. Treasury, for Q3 2013 Employer Quarterly Federal Tax Return;
3. A check in the amount of \$717.60, payable to Executive Director Adam Beebe, for September 2013 monthly wages.

Total expenses: \$991.20

Connolly moved for simultaneous approval of all expenses, totaling \$991.20; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous; Lallas not present)

Commissioner Connolly moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded and approved by the Commission. Meeting adjourned at **9:33 p.m.**