

ANC 2F | Regular Monthly Public Meeting

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 4, 2015

7:00 P.M.

WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL
10 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

Attendance

PRESENT

Kate Gordon (2F01)
Karin Berry (2F02)
Pepin Tuma (2F03)
John Fanning (2F04)
Jim Lamare (2F05)
Kevin Sylvester (2F07)
Kevin Deeley (2F08)

ABSENT

Charlie Bengel (2F06)

GUESTS AND PRESENTERS

Sherri Kimbel, Councilmember Evans' Office
Sgt. David Terestre, MPD, PSA 307
Ron Dennis, Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church
Eve Pelonis

Meeting **called to order** by ANC 2F Chair, Commissioner John Fanning, at **7:03 p.m.**

Commissioner Announcements

1. Commissioner Kevin Deeley provided an update about the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development's (DMPED) request for qualifications related to the redevelopment of the Franklin School. DMPED has pushed back the solicitation due date to May 4 so that two additional tours of the property may be conducted.
2. Commissioner John Fanning shared that El Sauce restaurant at 1227 11th St, NW lost its alcohol license and was closed. El Sauce had been a source of community concern and complaints because of repeated noise and disturbance issues.
3. Commissioner Pepin Tuma shared that new signs were installed in Logan Circle, including signs along the innermost fence prohibiting pets in the statue circle.

Community Forum

Report from Councilmember Jack Evans' Office

Sherri Kimbel

Sherri Kimbel of Councilmember Jack Evans' office shared four announcements: 1) tomorrow will be a snow emergency day; 2) street sweeping will commence next week; 3) Evans' office continues to contact DDOT about pothole repair in Ward 2; 4) and Commander Kishter was recently named MPD Commander of the Year.

Report from Executive office of the Mayor

Commissioner John Fanning

Commissioner Fanning shared three updates from the Executive Office of the Mayor: 1) a one-page "Facts on Marijuana in DC" document released by the Bowser administration; 2) Bowser named Gregory Dean, former Fire Chief for Seattle, as the new Chief for the DC Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department; 3) Ward Core teams consisting of representatives from various DC government agencies recently began touring neighborhoods to identify issues and service needs.

Metropolitan Police Department PSA 307 Update

Sgt. David Terestre

Sgt. Terestre provided the monthly crime report. In lieu of providing statistics, Terestre noted that total violent crime has remained the same, but thefts are higher than normal

Discussion of PEPCO merger with Exelon

Commissioner Tuma

Commissioner Tuma initiated discussion on the pending \$6.8 billion Exelon acquisition of PEPCO. Tuma noted that New Jersey and Virginia had approved the merger, and alluded to concerns about the merger in Maryland and the District. Tuma provided an opportunity for open community comment on the merger, which was mixed. Tuma shared that March 18 would be the end of the public comment period to Exelon, and that the public comment period to the D.C. Public Service Commission would end sometime in April.

Community Announcements

1. Ron Dennis of Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church at 1306-1308 Vermont Ave, NW asked the Commission for a letter supporting the church’s application for a DC Preservation League “Brick and Mortar” matching grant to cover the cost of repointing the historic building. The Commission referred the matter to the CDC for consideration at its March meeting.

BUSINESS MEETING

Fanning noted there was quorum to conduct the business portion of the meeting (seven Commissioners present out of the required five), and instructed that a copy of the meeting minutes be filed with the meeting notice.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Gordon moved to approve the meeting agenda without modification; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Approval of Minutes for February 4, 2015 Regular Monthly Public Meeting

Commissioner Gordon moved to approve the February 4, 2015 meeting minutes without modification; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Committee Reports

ABRA Policy Committee (APC)

Commissioner Kate Gordon, Chair

Commissioner Gordon shared the Committee report from the February 2015 APC meeting, which included the Committee’s recommendation that the full ANC enter into a Settlement Agreement (SA) with TG Cigars (1188 9th St, NW), and to protest the new ABRA license request for Mercadito (901 Massachusetts Ave, NW) until such time that the Applicant reaches a SA with ANC 2F. Gordon moved for and received unanimous adoption of the Committee report.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous consent)

As a procedural measure, Gordon moved to protest the ABRA license application for Chao Ku (1414 9th St, NW) since the petition date for the application was before the next full ANC meeting. Gordon explained that the intent of her motion was for the Commission to preserve its standing on the matter should the Commission not reach a Settlement Agreement with the Applicant. The

motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

As a procedural measure, Gordon then moved to protest the ABRA license application for The Dabney (1216-1226 9th St, NW), since the petition date for the application was before the next full ANC meeting. Gordon explained that the intent of her motion was for the Commission to preserve its standing on the matter should the Commission not reach a Settlement Agreement with the Applicant. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Community Development Committee (CDC)

Commissioner Kevin Deeley, Chair

Commissioner Deeley shared the Committee report from the February 25, 2015 CDC meeting, which included the Committee's recommendations that the full ANC: 1) support the HPRB concept, design, and massing approval for 920 N St, NW (Blagden Alley) with the provision that the Developer work with HPO to select a different brick color; 2) support the DDOT public space application to maintain an existing curb cut at 1427-1429 Rhode Island Ave, NW; 3) support the DDOT public space application for a sidewalk café at 1333 14th St, NW (Slipstream Café), and; 4) support the BZA variance requests (lot occupancy, minimum side yard setback, and non-conforming structure) needed to allow for a third story addition to the residence at 1413 Q St, NW. The Committee report was adopted by unanimous consent.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous consent)

As a separate business item, Deeley invited the Applicant for 1337 11th St, NW to present updated plans to the Commission related to the DDOT public space application for construction at 1337 11th St, NW. Deeley explained that the CDC voted against the Applicant's initial request and instead supported a public space application for a reduced area. Subsequent to the CDC's vote, the Applicant presented a counterproposal via email on March 2 an amount of green space comparable to the CDC's recommendation, but in a slightly different configuration in order to comply with fire code. Deeley felt the proposal was in the spirit of the CDC's recommendation, and as such moved that the ANC support the DDOT public space application as presented by Dale; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Crime and Public Safety Committee (CPSC)

Commissioner Charlie Bengel, Chair

No Committee report.

Education Committee

Commissioner Pepin Tuma, Chair

Commissioner Tuma shared that the Ed Committee had recently joined with ANC 2B to meet with the Dept. of General Services and the Deputy Mayor of Education about the fate of Garrison Elementary re-modernization, and learned that a final decision was still pending. Tuma also shared that a request had been extended to the Deputy Mayor of Education to meet with the Garrison Elementary PTO about the issue.

Old Business

[none]

New Business

Request for Resolution asking DCRA to deny rooming house permit for 1517 12th St, NW

Eve Pelonis

Community member Eve Pelonis addressed the Commission with her concerns about potentially illegal renting at 1517 12th St, NW. Pelonis detailed a series of actions taken by the owner to list and lease individual rooms in the row home, possibly in violation of the permit(s) obtained by the owner. Pelonis' concerns, which were echoed by at least one neighbor, included lack of a Certificate of Occupancy, building permits, and a business license; noncompliance with stop work orders; and the integrity of the house and the neighborhood. Pelonis requested that the Commission pass a resolution asking DCRA to deny a rooming house permit if the owner asks for one in the future.

Commissioner Gordon expressed her opposition to the ANC preemptively opposing a permit application—in part because of the precedent such an action would set. Gordon moved that the Commission send a letter to DCRA requesting that the agency give “special attention” to the rooming situation and potential permitting/license violations at 1517 12th St, NW, and any pending or forthcoming applications, given the neighbor concerns that had been expressed; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Treasurer's Report

Approval of Expenditures

Commissioner Berry presented the following expenditures for approval:

1. Check #1256 in the amount of \$940.39, payable to Executive Director Adam Beebe, for February 2015 salary;
2. Check #1257 in the amount of \$29.00, payable to Adam Beebe, as reimbursement for the annual subscription fee to the www.ToDoist.com task management service;
3. Check #1258 in an amount not to exceed \$225, payable to Digi Quick Print, for business cards for the Commissioners and Executive Director (actual amount was \$209.35).

Total expenses: not to exceed \$1,194.39 (actual amount was \$1,178.74)

Commissioner Berry moved for approval of all expenses not to exceed \$1,194.39 (actual amount was \$1,178.74); the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Commissioner Gordon moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission. Meeting adjourned at **9:14 p.m.**