

# ANC 2F | Regular Monthly Public Meeting

## MINUTES

WEDNESDAY  
APRIL 1, 2015

7:00 P.M.

WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL  
10 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

## Attendance

### **PRESENT**

Kate Gordon (2F01)  
Pepin Tuma (2F03)  
John Fanning (2F04)  
Jim Lamare (2F05)  
Charlie Bengel (2F06)  
Kevin Sylvester (2F07)  
Kevin Deeley (2F08)

### **ABSENT**

Karin Berry (2F02)

### **GUESTS AND PRESENTERS**

Sherri Kimbel, Councilmember Evans' Office  
Cheryl Morse & Eric Sears, DC Office of the  
People's Council  
Mark Battle, Pepco  
Robert Robertson  
Eli Hoffman, DCPS  
Vanessa Thally, Office of the Attorney General

Meeting **called to order** by ANC 2F Chair, Commissioner John Fanning, at **7:06 p.m.**

## Commissioner Announcements

1. Commissioner Bengel shared that MPD made an arrest in the homicide of David Messerschmitt, who was murdered in the Donovan House Hotel on February 10.
2. Commissioner Tuma provided an update on the future of Garrison elementary. Tuma shared his excitement that the Deputy Mayor for Education, Jennie Niles committed to a \$42 million modernization of Garrison, with an intended completion date of August 2017. Tuma has invited a representative from the DC Department of General Services to future ANC 2F meetings to talk to residents and provide updates of the modernization timeline and its progress. Tuma underscored the importance of ongoing community involvement in shaping a long-term plan for how Garrison Elementary and its fit into the neighborhood and the greater DCPS feeder system.

## Community Forum

### **Report from Councilmember Jack Evans' Office**

Sherri Kimbel

Sherri Kimbel of Councilmember Jack Evans' office shared two announcements: 1) two of the four escalators at the Mt. Vernon Square Metro station will be closed for repairs starting April 20; and 2) on April 2 there will be a Ward 2 town hall meeting with D.C. Water CEO General George S. Hawkins at Francis-Stevens Education Campus (Auditorium).

### **Report from Executive office of the Mayor**

None

### **Metropolitan Police Department PSA 307 Update**

None

C. Morse & E. Sears, DC Office of the People's Council  
Mark Battle, VP, Pepco DC Region

**Presentations on Exelon/Pepco Merger**

Robert Robertson, Intervening party representative

Cheryl Morse and Attorney Eric Sears from the DC Office of the People's Council; Mark Battle, VP of PEPCO for the DC Region; and Robert Robertson, representative of an intervening party in the Exelon/Pepco merger, each presented their views on the proposed \$6.8 billion merger. Sears detailed the DC Office of the People's Counsel's reasons for opposing the merger. Battle shared commitments made by Exelon to address each of the concerns detailed by Sears. Robertson spoke specifically to concerns related to the merger's impact on consumers' ability to access electricity through renewable energy options. Community views on the merger were mixed, and the Commission acknowledged the complexity of determining the merger pros and cons for consumers.

**D.C. Public Schools Community Action Team for Wards 2 and 3**

Eli Hoffman, DCPS

Eli Hoffman, Ward 2/3 Representative for the DC Public Schools Community Action Team, shared that Round 1 of the My SchoolDC Lottery results were now available at [www.myschooldc.org](http://www.myschooldc.org). Hoffman also encouraged community members to become mentors for the DC Public Schools' Empowering Males of Color initiative.

## Community Announcements

1. Vanessa Thally, Chief of the Neighborhood and Victim Services Section of the DC Office of the Attorney General (OAG), shared updates on OAG's strategic goals to grow and strengthen its office. OAG hopes to accomplish this goal through proposed legislation that will grant its office greater independence, and allow OAG to keep a small fraction of the money the office brings in through settlements and claims.

## 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 March 4, 2015 Regular Monthly Public Meeting**

Commissioner Gordon moved to approve the March 4, 2015 meeting minutes with one modification: removal of mention of the National Park Service from Commissioner Tuma's announcement about the signs in Logan Circle. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

**Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)**

## Committee Reports

### **ABRA Policy Committee (APC)**

Commissioner Kate Gordon, Chair

#### *New Class "C" license request for Chao Ku (1414 9th St, NW)*

Commissioner Gordon moved that the ANC adopt the APC's recommendation to enter into a Settlement Agreement with Chao Ku; the motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Commission.

**Vote: 7-0 (unanimous consent)**

#### *New Class "CR" license request for The Dabney (1216-1226 9th St, NW)*

Commissioner Gordon moved that the ANC adopt the APC's recommendation to enter into a Settlement Agreement with The Dabney, and thereby withdraw the Commission's previously filed protest of the application. Commissioner Bengel expressed his support for the application. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Commission.

**Vote: 7-0 (unanimous consent)**

#### *Discussion of SA Amendment for Lost & Found (1240 9th St, NW)*

Gordon summarized the Committee's non-binding, informal conversation with owner of Lost & Found, highlighting the Committee's concerns about modifying the establishment's Settlement Agreement to allow for sidewalk café service in a portion of Blagden Alley immediately outside the back garage door of the bar.

**No action taken**

#### *License renewal for Continental Wine & Liquor (1100 Vermont Ave, NW)*

Upon discussion with the owner of the establishment, who was present to address the Commission's questions, Gordon recommended that the Commission not protest the license renewal. The Commission unanimously agreed and thus took no action to protest.

**No action taken**

### **Community Development Committee (CDC)**

Commissioner Kevin Deeley, Chair

Commissioner Deeley shared the Committee report from the February 2015 CDC meeting, which included the Committee's recommendations that the full ANC: 1) write a letter to the D.C. Preservation League in support of Mount Olivet Lutheran Church's (1306-1308 Vermont Ave, NW) application for a \$50,000 matching grant to repoint the bricks on the historic exterior of the church, and 2) request that HPRB not approve the concept and massing for new construction at 1001 O St, NW. The Commission adopted the CDC report by unanimous consent.

**Vote: 7-0 (unanimous consent)**

Separately, Deeley summarized the Committee's non-binding, informal conversation with the owner of Lost & Found (1240 9th St, NW – 2F06) about the same issue mentioned in the APC Committee report. Deeley shared that the Committee was concerned about the precedent that would be set if such a use were allowed in the alley and that, subsequent to the Committee meeting, informal reports indicate that the DDOT Public Space Committee would be very unlikely to permit sidewalk café use in a public alley. The CDC agreed that a holistic plan for public space use in Blagden Alley and Naylor Court should first be undertaken in conjunction with DDOT and the Blagden Alley Naylor Court Association.

**No action taken**

### **Crime and Public Safety Committee (CPSC)**

Commissioner Charlie Bengel, Chair

Commissioner Bengel shared the Committee's priorities for the year: prostitution, public drunkenness, and theft from autos. The next CPSC meeting will be in April, date TBD. Bengel also shared that he would be conducting a nighttime walking tour with MPD in order to identify lighting and other safety issues in SMD 2F06.

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**Education Committee**

Commissioner Pepin Tuma, Chair

Commissioner Tuma announced Garrison Elementary's May 1-8 online fundraising auction to help pay for school field trips, cultural events, Teacher Appreciation Week, and other special programs for the students. Tuma recognized local businesses contributing to the auction and encouraged others to join.

**Old Business**

[none]

**New Business**

[none]

**Treasurer's Report****Approval of Expenditures**

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Commissioner Berry presented the following expenditures for approval:

1. Check #1259 in the amount of \$940.39, payable to Executive Director Adam Beebe, for March 2015 salary;
2. Check #1260 in the amount of \$57.96, payable to Adam Beebe, as reimbursement for the four packs of printer paper ordered on Amazon.com;
3. Check #1261 in an amount of \$64.80, payable to D.C. DOES, for 2015 Q1 UC-30 Employers quarterly contribution;
4. Check #1262 in the amount of \$889.23, payable to the U.S. Treasury, for 2015 Q1 IRS Form 941 quarterly federal tax return.

**Total expenses:** \$1,952.38

Commissioner Tuma, acting in Commissioner Berry's absence, moved for approval of all expenses in the amount of \$1,952.38; 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 **8:45 p.m.**