

# ANC 2F | Community Development Committee Meeting

## MINUTES

WEDNESDAY  
MARCH 25, 2015

7:00 P.M.

NATIONAL CITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
5 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

### Attendance

#### PRESENT

Commissioner Deeley (2F08)  
Dave Feinstein  
Joel Heisey  
Helen Kramer  
Commissioner Lamare (2F05)  
Jim Loucks  
Jim Luecht  
Ron Rubin  
Commissioner Sylvester (2F07)

#### ABSENT

Louis Cipro  
Joyce Cowan  
Leah Frelinghuysen  
John Long  
Greg Melcher

#### GUESTS AND PRESENTERS

Brian Leonard, Owner, Lost & Found  
Ron Dennis, Director of Communications  
Mount Olivet Church  
Megan Mitchell, Suzanne Reatig  
Architecture

Committee meeting **called to order** by CDC Chair, Commissioner Kevin Deeley, at **7:00 p.m.**

#### Approval of Meeting Agenda

Helen Kramer moved to adopt the draft agenda without modification; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Committee.

**Vote: 9-0 (unanimous)**

#### Approval of February 25, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Deeley moved to adopt the February 25, 2015 meeting minutes without modification; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Committee.

**Vote: 9-0 (unanimous)**

### Old Business

[none]

### New Business

**1306-1308 Vermont Ave, NW (Mount Olivet Lutheran Church)** Ron Dennis,  
Director of Communications

*Request for letter of support for DC Preservation League matching grant application*

Ron Dennis, Director of Communications for Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, asked the Committee to write a letter of support related to the church's application for a \$50,000 matching grant from the D.C. Preservation league. The church is making the grant request as part of the Bricks and Mortar Initiative, which would provide funds for exterior brick repointing of the historic building.

Committee Member Helen Kramer stated that Mount Olivet has always been a valued member of

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the Logan Circle community, and that there was no question of the Committee's unqualified support for the church's application for a matching grant. Commissioner Deeley moved that APC recommend that the full ANC write a letter of support to the D.C. Preservation League for Mount Olivet Lutheran Church's matching grant application for brick repointing funds; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Committee.

**Vote: 9-0 (unanimous; Cowan absent)**

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**1240 9th St, NW (Lost & Found)**

Brian Leonard, Owner, Lost & Found

*Informal discussion about potential DDOT public space application for sidewalk cafe*

Brian Leonard, Owner of Lost & Found, solicited the Committee's informal feedback about a potential DDOT public space sidewalk café application for a 7' x 12' area in Blagden Alley immediately outside the establishment's rear roll-up garage-style door. Leonard shared that he had been in contact with the DDOT Public Space Committee, but had not yet submitted an application.

After much discussion, the Committee agreed that ANC 2F should first develop a policy/guidelines for any potential use of public space in Blagden Alley and Naylor Court—in conjunction with the Blagden Alley Naylor Court Association and in coordination with the DC Public Space Committee—before setting a precedent with any one public space application. Community concerns about the idea consisted of pedestrian safety, parking and through traffic disruptions, emergency vehicle access, and noise disturbances, though one community member spoke in favor of the idea.

**No action taken**

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**1001 O St, NW**

Megan Mitchell, Suzane Reatig Architecture

*HPRB concept and massing*

Megan Mitchell, Architect at Suzane Reatig Architecture, presented the proposed concept and massing for a new, three-story, two-unit townhouse on the vacant lot at 1001 O St, NW. Mitchell spoke to the concept and massing for the project, which would have a 20'x48' footprint and occupy 60% of the lot. Mitchell also answered Committee questions about preliminary design components.

Community members expressed concern that prior projects constructed in the neighborhood have deviated significantly from the design that the ANC approved. Examples were presented to the committee. Mitchell responded that decisions on final design elements and materials are made during construction. Mitchell also stated that she was not aware that anything other than the ANC's concept and massing approval was binding once construction permits were issued.

The Committee determined that the scaling and massing of the project elements were both inconsistent with historic preservation guidelines and discordant with the residential context of the block. The modern design was also found to be inconsistent with the established architecture of the immediate 10th Street corridor neighborhood. The Committee also determined that the Applicant's outreach to surrounding neighbors was unsatisfactory.

Committee Member Joel Heisey moved that the APC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to HPRB recommending that the Board not approve the concept and massing for the 1001 St, NW project as presented due to objections to the lack of scaling, the massing of elements, and to the purported bay window, which in fact was an extension of the side wall. Commissioner Deeley made a friendly amendment to the motion including as grounds for the lack of support insufficient outreach to neighbors and requesting that the HPRB withhold final design approval until the project has returned to the CDC and ANC with more specifics. The amended motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Committee.

**Vote: 9-0 (unanimous)**

## Open Forum

The Committee briefly discussed two topics but did not take action on either:

1. An ATM machine likely in violation of public space regulations in front of the now-closed El Sauce restaurant (1227 11th St, NW);
2. The 1225 10th St, NW project currently under construction—the Applicant for which never returned to ANC 2F for final design approval, as requested by the CDC in its support of the project's concept and massing.

Helen Kramer moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded and unanimously approved by the Committee. Meeting adjourned at **8:12 p.m.**