

ANC 2F | Community Development Committee Meeting

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY
MAY 24, 2017

7:00 P.M.

WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL
10 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

Attendance

PRESENT

Commissioner Deeley (2F08)
Dave Feinstein
Joel Heisey
Helen Kramer
John Long
Jim Loucks
Sarah Marcus
Jenny Rickard
Commissioner Rubin* (2F05)
Commissioner Sylvester (2F07)

ABSENT

Lou Cipro
Janice Ferebee
Greg Melcher
Philip Miatkowski

GUESTS AND PRESENTERS

Ann Friedman, Planet Word
Patty Isacson Sabee, Planet Word
Will Taze, Taze Warren Architects
Jenna Jacobson, Rock Creek Property Group
Cary Kadlecek, Goulston & Storrs
Jane Nelson, Nelson Architects
Angie Fetherston
Chris Brisco, Restaurant Consultants
Kerri Shone, LCCA

**denotes Committee member(s) not present for all votes*

Committee meeting **called to order** by CDC Chair Commissioner Kevin Deeley at **7:04 p.m.**

Approval of Meeting Agenda

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

Vote: 9-0 (unanimous; Rubin not present)

Approval of March 22, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Deeley moved to adopt the draft March 22, 2017 meeting minutes without modification; the motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Committee.

Vote: 9-0 (unanimous; Rubin not present)

Approval of April 26, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Deeley moved to adopt the draft April 26, 2017 meeting minutes with the correction of noting Committee member Jenny Rickard's attendance; the motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Committee.

Vote: 9-0 (unanimous; Rubin not present)

Old Business

Planet Word at the historic Franklin School (2F08)

Ann Friedman
Patty Isacson Sabee

Request for support of disposition and surplus of Franklin School

Commissioner Deeley summarized Planet Word's presentation at the April CDC meeting and

reminded the Committee of its request that the applicant return with detailed conceptual design plans and publicly available financial information about the proposed operating model and long term viability of the museum. Ann Friedman shared the conceptual design plans and financial information with the Committee, and introduced the museum's Executive Director, Patty Isacson Sabee. Sabee answered Committee member questions about the location of mechanical equipment, revenue projections, revenue benchmarks with other museums, and the proposed one-level building addition.

Commissioner Deeley moved that the CDC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to the City Council expressing concern about the process that ultimately led to selection of the Planet Word museum, but recommending enthusiastic support for the project. Process concerns included conflicting, seemingly pretextual reasons given for withdrawal of the previous disposition legislation for an award to the Institute for Contemporary Expression; the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development presenting different projects during earlier public consideration, with Planet Word publicly emerging as an option only later during nonpublic proceedings; and the opacity of DMPED declining several applications on the basis of disputed, nonpublic information. The motion included a recommendation that developer Dantes Partners no longer be included in the project, given the negative public appearance of a development team that is led by a reported contributor and fundraiser for Mayor Bowser's political efforts being selected at the end of a controversial process. Commissioner Rubin made a friendly amendment that the two letters (one for support of Planet Word and a second expressing concern about the selection process) be separated. The amended motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Committee.

Vote: 10-0 (unanimous)

1205 10th St, NW (2F06)

Will Taze, Taze Warren Architects

HPRB concept/new 3-story bay and mansard

Will Taze of Taze Warren Architects reminded the Committee of his presentation at last month's CDC meeting, after which he shared a modified concept for the projects that did not include a mansard roof. The Committee shared its mixed reactions to the new concept, with some noting that the design appeared consistent with the historical district and others finding a "lack of dimension typical of row houses in the neighborhood" and "much less personality" than the previous concept. Commissioner Sylvester moved that the CDC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to HPRB recommending approval of a concept more in line with the concept presented by Taze at the April CDC meeting, and reiterating the five design suggestions made by the CDC at that time; the motion was seconded but did not pass.

Vote: 4-6

Joel Heisey moved that the CDC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to HPRB in support of the application and recommending approval of the project. Sylvester made a friendly amendment requesting that the front yard be fenced in with a historically appropriate fence at the sidewalk and alley lines in order to enclose the yard. The amended motion was seconded and adopted by the Committee.

Vote: 6-3-1

New Business

Jenna Jacobson, Rock Creek Property Group
Cary Kadlecek, Goulston & Storrs
Jane Nelson, Nelson Architects

5 Thomas Circle, NW (2F03)

BZA special exceptions (MU use and side yard requirements) for addition

Jenna Jacobson of Rock Creek Property Group, Cary Kadlecek of Goulston & Storrs, and Jane Nelson of Nelson Architects requested the Committee's support for two special exceptions that would allow for construction of an addition onto the National City Christian Church. Kadlecek explained the two areas of special exception: general office use and side yard width. Nelson explained the peculiarities of this site and its side and rear yard designations. Dave Feinstein moved that the CDC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to BZA supporting the special exceptions for MU use (office use) and side yard; the motion was seconded and adopted by the Committee.

Vote: 9-1

1352 R St, NW (2F01)

Angie Fetherston

DDOT public space application for new unenclosed sidewalk café

Angie Fetherston, one of the owners of the Drink Company (including Columbia Room), detailed plans and vision for a new food and beverage amenity in the rear of Shinola's existing space. The Committee asked questions about the company's plans for seeking a liquor license and plans for placement of tables. Jenny Rickard moved that the CDC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to the DDOT Public Space Committee in support of the application. John Long made a friendly amendment requesting that the Applicant reach out to adjoining neighbors so that they are aware of the upcoming ANC meeting and have an opportunity to voice and support or opposition. The amended motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Committee.

Vote: 10-0 (unanimous)

1010 Vermont Ave, NW / Modern Market (2F05)

Chris Brisco, Restaurant Consultants

DDOT public space application for new unenclosed sidewalk café

Chris Brisco, representative for the applicant, requested the Committee's support for a public space application that would allow for a sidewalk café with five tables and twenty patio seats. Brisco detailed sidewalk café operating hours and assured the Committee all fixtures and furniture would be moveable. Ron Rubin moved that the CDC recommend that the ANC send a letter to the DDOT Public Space Committee in support of the public space application; the motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Committee.

Vote: 10-0 (unanimous)

Discussion of proposed solutions to improve worsening traffic issues in Logan Circle

Kerri Shone, LCCA Board Member, shared her and her neighbors' concerns about worsening traffic problems in neighborhood, noting increased incidents of red light camera running, speeding cars, accidents, and run-ins with bicyclists. Shone shared a number of suggestions for improving the situation, including red light cameras, speeding cameras, clearer street markings, additional "no turn on red" signs and examining pedestrian crosswalk and light timing patterns. Helen Kramer noted that studies of this nature had already been conducted and that signs have been posted. Kramer shared her view that the only changes that could improve the situation are traffic and red light cameras. The Committee agreed the next best step was for Commissioner Deeley to confer with Chairman Fanning before the ANC would take further action.

No action taken

Meeting adjourned at **8:57 p.m.**