ANC 2F | Regular Monthly Public Meeting

MINUTES
WEDNESDAY 7:00 P.M.
JUNE 1, 2016 10 THOMAS CIRCLE, NW

Attendance

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

ABSENT

GUESTS AND PRESENTERS
Sgt. David Terestre, PSA 307
Sherri Kimbel, Councilmember Evans’ office
Eva Lewis, Ward 2 Liaison
Zach Weinstein, DC Fair Elections Coalition
Tina Hobson, The Residences at Thomas Circle

*denotes Commissioner not present for all votes

Meeting called to order by ANC 2F Chairman, Commissioner John Fanning, at 7:05 p.m.

Commissioner Announcements

1. Commissioner Bengel congratulated Commissioner Fanning for being selected as a D.C. Delegate for Hillary Clinton. Fanning noted that voting for the presidential primary would take place on June 14;
2. Commissioner Tuma shared information about historic homeowner grants available through the Historic Preservation Office;
3. Commissioner Fanning reminded the community about the upcoming Capital Pride Parade on Saturday, June 11;
4. Fanning also shared congratulatory remarks for Alex Padro, founder of Shaw Main Streets, for the organization’s selection as the 2016 Great American Main Street Award (GAMSA) winner.

Community Forum

Report from MPD PSA 307

Sgt. David Terestre

Sgt. David Terestre of PSA 307 shared the monthly crime report, which compared crime statistics in May 2015 to May 2016. Total crime is up from 56 incidents last year to 74 incidents this year. Specifically, violent crime is up slightly primarily due to “snatch and grab” robberies of cell phones, and property crime is up significantly because of theft from auto. Community members and Commissioners asked questions about the garage break-in at the Iowa Condominiums; the return of prostitutes to the neighborhood; and bicyclists riding on sidewalks. Commissioner Bengel congratulated Terestre and his colleagues for recently using CPR to save a man’s life.

Report from Councilmember Jack Evans’ office

Sherri Kimbel

Sherri Kimbel from Councilmember Jack Evans’ office shared five updates: 1) Evans will participate in the Capital Pride Parade with LCCA; 2) the LCCA Memorial Day event in Logan Circle was a great success; 3) the 10th Street Park is holding a yard sale this Saturday, June 4; 4) WMATA
SafeTrack work begins this weekend; 5) the Council’s vote on the budget is imminent.

Report from Executive Office of the Mayor

Eva Lewis, Ward 2 Liaison for the Mayor’s Office, provided six updates: 1) a flyer version of the Mayor’s newsletter; 2) information about the upcoming D.C. Housing and Home Show; 3) SeniorFest will take place June 23; 4) DPR is launching a Funky Fitness First Fridays program; 5) the District will be providing free meals to school aged District children from June 20 – August 19; 6) city pools are now open.

Presentation on Citizens Fair Elections Act

Zach Weinstein, DC Fair Elections Coalition

Zach Weinstein of the DC Fair Elections Coalition gave a presentation about the Citizens Fair Elections Act, which Weinstein explained was an effort to “limit the influence of big money in D.C. elections.” Weinstein asked the Commission to adopt a resolution in support of the Citizens Fair Election Act introduced by six D.C. Councilmembers in December 2015. The Act would provide public matching funds to candidates who elect not to accept donations over $100. Weinstein addressed Commissioner and community questions about the history of this effort; the budgetary impact of the Act; and details about the distribution of matching funds. The Commission decided it would postpone vote on a resolution to the July meeting.

Green Roof Installation

Tina Hobson, The Residences at Thomas Circle

Tina Hobson, resident of The Residences at Thomas Circle, gave a presentation on an effort organized by residents to install a green roof on the building. Hobson requested Commission and community support in advocating for installation of the green roof with the building owners. Hobson also discussed ways the residents group envisioned using the roof for community benefit. Commissioner Fanning agreed to continue the conversation and Sherri Kimbel of Councilmember Jack Evans’ office offered to ask Evans to write a letter to the building owners.

Community Announcements

1. Ian Mishalove, co-owner of Yoga Flow, announced the studio’s plans to paint a mural on the side of the building facing the alleyway. Mishalove requested community support for the project;

2. Anne LaRouche, resident of Solo Piazza, spoke about her role as a volunteer for the “New Columbia” D.C. statehood initiative, and encouraged community members to learn more at statehood.dc.gov.

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 Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Tuma moved to approve the meeting agenda with the following modification: postponement of the Old Business item related to ANC modernization legislation to the July meeting. Tuma’s motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)
Approval of Minutes for May 4, 2016 Regular Monthly Public Meeting

Commissioner Tuma moved to approve the May 4, 2016 draft meeting minutes with two corrections to the CDC report. Tuma’s motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Committee Reports

ABRA Policy Committee (APC)
Commissioner Kevin Sylvester, Chair

Committee Report

Commissioner Kevin Sylvester first shared that the APC decided to take no action on six “uncontested” license renewals in ANC 2F, for which there was no community comment or opposition.

Sylvester then individually presented the APC recommendations included in the Committee Report from the APC’s April 2016 meeting. Sylvester first moved that the ANC protest the license renewal for Piassa Ethiopian at 1336 9th St, NW until such time that ANC 2F negotiates a Settlement Agreement with the Applicant; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Sylvester next moved that the ANC support the stipulated license request for Vieux Carre at 1413 K St, NW, and the stipulated license request for TG Cigars at 1118 9th St, NW; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Lastly, Sylvester provided updates on the ongoing Settlement Agreement negotiations with Drafting Table, The Studio Theatre, and Mason & Rook/Radiator.

Community Development Committee (CDC)
Commissioner Kevin Deeley, Chair

Committee Report

Commissioner Kevin Deeley presented the individual recommendations from the CDC’s May 2016 meeting. Deeley first moved that the ANC support the historic landmark designation for the Denrike Building at 1010 Vermont Ave, NW; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Deeley then moved that the ANC support the historic landmark designation for the Fifteenth Street Financial District; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Deeley then moved that the ANC support the public space application for paving and landscaping at 1302 Rhode Island Ave, NW; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Deeley then moved that the ANC support the historic concept, massing, and design for garage construction at 1322 Vermont Ave, NW, with two requested design modifications: replacement of the upper porcelain panels with brick and the inclusion of faux windows. After discussion among the Commission, Commissioner Tuma proposed a friendly amendment to strike the recommendation about faux windows. The amended motion—including only a design modification request for replacement of the porcelain panels with brick—was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)
Finally, Deeley moved that the ANC support the historic concept, massing, and design for the conversion of an existing building to a two-unit dwelling at 1307 Riggs St, NW with the following requested design modifications: 1) the header heights of the basement window should not be lowered; 2) the basement door should be retained or, at a minimum, an apparent door should be included though it may be blocked; and 3) the main entranceway should more closely resemble its original appearance as seen at 1311-1315 Riggs Street, NW. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Crime and Public Safety Committee (CPSC) Commissioner Charlie Bengel, Chair
Commissioner Bengel forwent the CPSC update to provide time for the Treasurer’s Report.

Education Committee Commissioner Pepin Tuma, Chair
Commissioner Tuma forwent the Ed Committee update to provide time for the Treasurer’s Report.

Old Business

[none]

New Business

Election of ANC 2F Treasurer
Commissioner Fanning moved that the Commission appoint Commissioner Charlie Bengel to fill the Treasurer officer position left vacant by Commissioner Karin Berry’s departure; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Treasurer’s Report

Approval of Expenditures
Newly appointed Treasurer Bengel presented the following expenditures for approval:

1. Check #1291 in the amount of $1,150.00, payable to Executive Director Adam Beebe, for May 2016 salary.
2. Check #1292 in the amount of $95.74, payable to Executive Director Adam Beebe, as reimbursement for office supplies (printer paper, printer ink, etc.)

Total expenses: $1,245.74

Bengel’s motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission.

Vote: 7-0 (unanimous)

Commissioner Fanning moved to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously by the Commission. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.