ANC 2F | Community Development Committee Meeting

MINUTES
WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 27, 2017
7:00 P.M.
WASHINGTON PLAZA HOTEL
10 THOMAS CIRLCE, NW

Attendance

PRESENT
Commissioner Deeley (2F08)
Garrett Berntsen*
Lou Cipro
Dave Feinstein
Joel Heisey
Helen Kramer
John Long
Jim Loucks
Sarah Marcus
Greg Melcher*
Jenny Rickard
Commissioner Rubin (2F05)

ABSENT
Philip Miatkowski
Commissioner Sylvester (2F07)

GUESTS AND PRESENTERS
James Foster, Arcadia Design
Gretchen Pfaehler, Beyer Blinder Belle
Gabriela Maglione, business owner
Tony Lee, FormDesign
Fabian Fernandez, FormDesign
Name
Shawn Weingast, 11th Property Group

*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
Commissioner Deeley moved to adopt the draft agenda with one modification: changing the order of business items and considering 1714-1716 14th St, NW before 1310 Vermont Ave NW. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously the Committee.

Vote: 10-0 (unanimous; Berntsen, Melcher not present)

Approval of August 23, 2017 Meeting Minutes
Commissioner Deeley moved to adopt the draft August 23, 2017 meeting minutes without modification; the motion was seconded and adopted by the Committee.

Vote: 7-0-3 (Berntsen, Melcher not present)

Old Business

1310 Vermont Ave NW (2F03) James Foster, Arcadia Design
HPRB concept, massing, and design for addition to existing building
Note: this business item was considered after the 1714-1716 14th St, NW “New Business” item but is recorded correctly under the “Old Business” section.

James Foster, architect for the applicant, requested the Committee’s support for the proposed concept, massing, and design to remove an existing driveway and curb cut in order to build a new structure in between two existing dwellings, and physically attached to 1310 Vermont Ave, NW. The
Committee asked questions about parking requirements; impact to the existing carriage house; specific design elements including materials; and community outreach. Three community members and Commissioner Alex Graham of 2F03 spoke to their opposition to the project, mainly on the grounds that they felt the proposed design was incongruent with the architectural fabric of the neighborhood.

Dave Feinstein moved that the CDC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to HPRB opposing the proposed concept, massing, and design of the project, requesting that the applicant return to the CDC after addressing concerns raised by HPO and with revised plans that address the rear elevation, concern of the use of gray brick, and the Committee’s desire for greater demonstrated outreach to the community. Feinstein accepted John Long’s friendly amendment requesting that the front façade be modified to comport more with the existing architecture of the neighborhood (including lowering of the bay). Feinstein also accepted Commissioner Deeley’s friendly amendment requesting that the applicant reduce the degree of interior alterations in order to reduce the final number of units. Feinstein also accepted Sarah Marcus’ friendly amendment requesting that the HPRB take into consideration the interior alterations’ affect on the historic character of the structure. The motion was seconded and adopted by the Committee.

Vote: 7-4 (Berntsen not present)

New Business

Historic Franklin School / Planet Word Museum (2F08) Gretchen Pfaehler, Beyer Blinder Belle

HPRB concept, design, and massing for modifications

Commissioner Deeley summarized the Committee’s previous consideration of the surplus and disposition application for this property. Deeley then invited Gretchen Pfaehler, architect for the project, to present the Applicant’s proposed concept, design, and massing for interior modifications of the Franklin School for the Planet Word museum. Pfaehler detailed the concept for the museum’s space, noting the Applicant’s commitment to preservation of natural light, the integrity of the inner spaces, and restoration of many building materials to their original condition. The Committee asked questions about the circumstances under which some original building materials had been removed; whether or not project was a recipient of federal funding; the reason for a Section 106 review; the location of utility equipment; and the proportion of total space that would be utilized.

Commissioner Deeley moved that the CDC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to HPRB recommending approval of the proposed concept, massing and design and interior renovation of the Franklin School, with a specific request to minimize the visibility of all utility/mechanical equipment on the roof; the motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Committee.

Vote: 11-0 (unanimous; Berntsen not present)

1408 9th Street, NW (2F06) Gabriela Maglione, business owner

BZA special exception to permit dog grooming business on the ground floor

Gabriela Maglione, owner of a planned dog grooming business, requested the Committee’s support for a zoning special exception to allow for her dog grooming business to occupy the ground floor at 1408 9th St, NW. ZYZ detailed the nature of her business, spoke to her extensive outreach to neighbors, presented letters of support from immediate neighbors, and answered the Committee’s questions about trash management. Maglione assured the Committee no dogs would ever be
boarded on site. Committee member Greg Melcher of 2F06 spoke to his support for the application.

Melcher moved that the CDC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to the BZA in support of the applicant request for a special exception to allow for a dog grooming business at the specified address. Melcher accepted Deeley’s friendly amendment that a maximum of eight dogs be on site once, that all trash be kept inside the building, and that no dog ever be boarded on site. The motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Committee.

Vote: 11-0 (unanimous; Berntsen not present)

1000 Vermont Ave, NW (2F05)  
Tony Lee & Fabian Fernandez, FormDesign

DDOT public space application for new sidewalk café

Tony Lee and Fabian Fernandez of FormDesign (architects for the project) requested the Committee’s support for a DDOT public space application to allow for a sidewalk café in front of the Gregory Coffee cafe. Lee and Hernandez detailed the seating scheduled and shared that the landlord was supportive of the application. Commissioner Rubin moved that the CDC send a letter to the DDOT Public Space Committee in support of the application as presented by the Applicant; the motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Committee.

Vote: 11-0 (unanimous; Berntsen not present)

1437 11th St, NW (2F04)  
Applicant not present

DDOT public space application for new sidewalk café

Commissioner Deeley moved that the CDC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to the DDOT Public Space Committee opposing the DDOT public space application due to the Applicant’s failure to appear before CDC and participate in ANC 2F’s community engagement and project review process; the motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Committee.

Vote: 11-0 (unanimous; Berntsen not present)

1714-1716 14th St, NW (2F01)  
Shawn Weingast, 11th Property Group  
James Foster, Arcadia Design

HPRB concept, design, and massing for addition

Shaw Weingast of 11th Property Group requested the Committee’s support for the proposed concept, design and massing of an addition to an existing mixed-used building in order to create six rental units. Jim Foster, architect for the project, presented the design and concept details. The Committee asked questions about the extension of the bay into public space; the extent to which certain exterior details would be preserved; the sizing of the bays; and whether or not the front façade historically would have been flat. Jenny Rickard moved that the CDC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to HPRB recommending approval of the proposed concept, design, and massing as presented by the Applicant; motion was seconded and adopted by the Committee.

Vote: 8-3-1

1020 7th St, NW (2F06)  
Applicant not present

DDOT public space application for new unenclosed sidewalk café

Commissioner Deeley moved that the CDC recommend that the full ANC send a letter to the DDOT Public Space Committee opposing the DDOT public space application due to the Applicant’s failure to appear before CDC and participate in ANC 2F’s community engagement and project review process; the motion was seconded and adopted unanimously by the Committee.

Vote: 12-0 (unanimous)

Meeting adjourned at 9:28 p.m.