



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

“Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C.”

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 17th, 2018; 7:00 p.m.
West End Library, Main Meeting Room – 2301 L Street NW

Call to Order

Chair William Kennedy Smith (04) called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Commissioners Patrick Kennedy (01), Marco Guzman (03), Philip Schrefer (05), Florence Harmon (06), Detrick Campbell (07), and James Harnett (08) were present.

Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Smith made a motion to adopt the ANC’s meeting agenda. Commissioner Harmon seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Adoption of Past Meeting Minutes

Chair Smith made a motion to adopt the ANC’s regular September 2018 meeting minutes by unanimous consent. Without any objection the minutes were adopted.

Regulatory Agenda

TBD – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 1118-1134 23rd Street NW

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to protest West End DC, LLC’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1118-1134 23rd Street NW based on adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. Chair Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A protests West End DC, LLC’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 1118-1134 23rd Street NW based on adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood.

ANC 2A further designates all commissioners, as well as Peter Sacco, the Commission’s Executive Director, to appear before the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board for any hearings regarding this matter.

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application for a Special Exception From the Rear Yard Requirements to Construct a Rear Addition to an Existing, Attached Principal Dwelling Unit at 2507 I Street NW

Commissioner Guzman made a motion to support the Board of Zoning Adjustment application for 2507 I Street NW. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A supports the Board of Zoning Adjustment application for a special exception from the rear yard requirements to construct a rear addition to an existing, attached principal dwelling unit at 2507 I Street NW.

Presentation by Amha Selassie, Director of the State Health Planning and Development Agency, Regarding DC's Certificate of Need (CON) Process

Amha Selassie, the Director of the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA), gave a presentation regarding DC's certificate of need (CON) process and answered questions from commissioners and meeting attendees.

Presentations by Kimberly Russo, Chief Executive Officer of GW Hospital, and Eric Goulet, Committee Director and Senior Counsel for the DC Council's Committee on Health, Regarding DC Council Bill B22-0959 – the "East End Health Equity Act of 2018"

Kimberly Russo, the Chief Executive Officer of GW Hospital, and Eric Goulet, the Committee Director and Senior Counsel for the DC Council's Committee on Health, engaged in a discussion with commissioners and meeting attendees regarding the background, merits, and implications of DC Council Bill B22-0959 – the "East End Health Equity Act of 2018."

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding DC Council Bill B22-0959 – the "East End Health Equity Act of 2018"

Chair Smith moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, decades of failed long-term healthcare policy planning and misguided short-term crisis management have led to a "healthcare desert" in Wards 7 and 8,

WHEREAS, DC Council Bill B22-0959 – the "East End Health Equity Act of 2018" was introduced on September 18th, 2018,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A fully supports the bill's stated goal, which is to expedite a "comprehensive integrated health care system that equitably serves all residents of the District of Columbia,"

WHEREAS, the effect of the legislation is "To exempt certain health care projects of the District of Columbia and District Hospital Partners, LP, doing business as George Washington University Hospital (GWU Hospital) from the Certificate of Need Process,"

WHEREAS, lines 39, 40, and 41 of the legislation specifically list as an exempted project "The construction, equipment acquisition, and operation by GWU Hospital of a new bed tower on or adjacent to the existing GWU Hospital campus, which shall increase the licensed bed capacity of GWU Hospital by 270 beds" in the Ward 2 Foggy Bottom hospital,

WHEREAS, the real delivery needs in Wards 7 and 8 are in the area of community-based primary healthcare and, as of this date, the for-profit District Hospital Partners, LP does not deliver, and has no contract to deliver, any health services in Wards 7 and 8,

WHEREAS, current healthcare reimbursement schemes reward tertiary and quaternary in-patient care, like that provided via in-patient services at District Hospital Partners, LP's for-profit Foggy Bottom hospital, over the primary care delivery needed in Wards 7 and 8 and, from a public health perspective, such inpatient care provides a poor return on investment and drives healthcare inflation,

WHEREAS, there are more than ample supply of tertiary and quaternary care beds in the District of Columbia to meet the referral needs of Wards 7 and 8 and patients in those Wards deserve the right to choose, from the full array of providers, the one that best meets their needs in terms of both clinical excellence and convenience of access,

WHEREAS, all new hospital construction in the District of Columbia is legally mandated to complete the Certificate of Need (CON) process as an important step in avoiding the unnecessary duplication of infrastructure that contributes to healthcare inflation, a leading cause of personal and corporate bankruptcy, and no project of this size and scope has ever been exempted in this manner before,

WHEREAS, the bill provides no indication as to how a new 270-bed expansion of tertiary and quaternary in-patient beds in Ward 2 will meet the needs of residents in Wards 7 and 8,

WHEREAS, the 6-month CON process mandated by DC law might help to answer the question of whether new in-patient hospital construction in Ward 2 is really helpful to healthcare delivery in Wards 7 and 8 and needed in the District of Columbia as a whole,

WHEREAS, on many occasions since initial construction, and most recently less than one year ago, leadership of the for-profit District Hospital Partners, LP has represented to the Ward 2 community that no expansion of that hospital was either planned or needed,

WHEREAS, the for-profit District Hospital Partners, LP provided virtually no notification and engaged in no consultation with the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA), the George Washington University, ANC 2A, community organizations, or community members prior to the introduction of DC Council Bill B22-0959,

WHEREAS, given the early stages of this proposed Ward 2 hospital construction project, eliminating a successful, six-month CON process will have a negligible impact on construction timelines, and

WHEREAS, any discussion of the community impact of new hospital construction in Foggy Bottom, which would be considerable, last for decades and run counter to a number of zoning ordinances and community agreements, must be predicated on a clear and verifiable understanding, as established through the CON process, of the precise manner in which it contributes to improving health outcomes in Wards 7 and 8.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports compliance with the Certificate of Need Process, legally mandated by the District of Columbia, for any hospital construction on, or adjacent to, the for-profit District Hospital Partners, LP 's Foggy Bottom hospital.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A opposes DC Council Bill B22-0959 – the "East End Health Equity Act of 2018" on the basis that it has not established a clear connection between its stated aim of expediting a “comprehensive integrated health care system that equitably serves all residents of the District of Columbia” and the specific exemption it provides for the for-profit District Hospital Partners, LP from the Certificate of Need Process relative to a 270-bed hospital construction project in Ward 2.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A expresses its strong concern and disapproval over the bill's approach, and the precedent it sets, in allowing this for-profit entity to circumvent a legally mandated processes that would establish and demonstrate need as a prerequisite for a meaningful discussion and consideration of the inevitable community impact associated with new hospital construction in the ANC.

Board of Zoning Adjustment Application by CBS Broadcasting Inc. for a Special Exception from the Roof-Mounted Antenna Requirements Locate Three 3.7 Meter VSAT Antennas on the Roof of the Building at 2050 M Street NW

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to support CBS Broadcasting Inc.'s Board of Zoning Adjustment application for 2050 M Street NW. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A supports CBS Broadcasting Inc.'s Board of Zoning Adjustment application for a special exception from the roof-mounted antenna requirements to locate three 3.7 meter VSAT antennas on the roof of the building at 2050 M Street NW.

Public Space Application by Duke's Grocery for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 8 Tables and 24 Seats at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Commissioner Harnett made a motion to support Duke's Grocery public space application for 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A supports Duke's Grocery's public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk café at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

Public Space Application by Flower Child for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 20 Tables, 40 Seats, and 8 Umbrellas at 2112 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Commissioner Campbell made a motion to support Flower Child's public space application for 2112 Pennsylvania Avenue NW. Commissioner Harnett seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A supports Flower Child's public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk café at 2112 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

Public Space Application by North Italia for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 9 Tables, 36 Seats, and 5 Umbrellas at 2112 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Commissioner Campbell made a motion to support North Italia’s public space application for 2112 Pennsylvania Avenue NW. Commissioner Harnett seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A supports North Italia’s public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk café at 2112 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

Community Forum

Announcements and Public Comments

Sara Maddux, a local resident, gave an overview of ANC 2A and the DC Government’s efforts to address homelessness in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Campbell gave an overview of the DC Government regulations that require businesses with 20 or more employees to offer commuter transit benefits to their employees.

Commissioner Campbell said that Mayor Bowser will be signing the “Office and Commission of Nightlife Establishment Act of 2017” tomorrow.

Administrative Matters

Second Review of the ANC’s Proposed FY 2019 Budget

Chair Smith made a motion to approve the ANC’s proposed FY 2019 budget upon second review. Commissioner Guzman seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Consideration of Transportation Consulting Contracts for Washington Circle and Rock Creek Parkway / Virginia Avenue NW

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to approve additional expenditures up to \$4,000 to hire a traffic consultant to study pedestrian conditions on Washington Circle. Commissioner Harnett seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Chair Smith made a motion to approve additional expenditures up to \$2,000 to hire a consultant regarding the proposal to establish a waterfront park along the Potomac River in Foggy Bottom. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Adjournment

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 10:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. J. Schrefer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being more prominent.

Philip Schrefer
Secretary, ANC 2A05