



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 17th, 2018; 7:00 p.m.

West End Library, Main Meeting Room – 2301 L Street NW

Call to Order

Chair Patrick Kennedy (01) called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Commissioners Rebecca Coder (02), Marco Guzman (03), William Kennedy Smith (04), Philip Schrefer (05), and Detrick Campbell (07) were present. Commissioner Florence Harmon (06) arrived at 7:17 pm.

Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Kennedy made a motion to adopt the meeting agenda. Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Adoption of Past Meeting Minutes

Chair Kennedy made a motion to adopt the ANC’s regular November 2017 meeting minutes. Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Election of 2018 Commission Officers

Chair Kennedy made a motion to elect Commissioner Smith as the ANC’s Chair for 2018. Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Commissioner Smith made a motion to elect Commissioner Kennedy as the ANC’s Vice Chair for 2018. Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Chair Kennedy made a motion to elect Commissioner Schrefer as the ANC’s Secretary for 2018. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Commissioner Smith made a motion to elect Commissioner Guzman as the ANC’s Treasurer for 2018. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Community Forum

Report from the Metropolitan Police Department’s PSA 207

Captain Kelvin Cusick, a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department’s (MPD) Second District, was present. He gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood. He encouraged local residents to not keep any valuables in their cars in order to deter thefts from cars.

Barbara Kahlow, a local resident, asked what MPD is doing to address the homeless encampments in the neighborhood. Captain Cusick said that MPD has been working with its partner agencies in the DC Government to reach out to homeless individuals and to encourage them to seek shelter during the cold weather.

Report from the Office of Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans

Sarina Loy, a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' Office, was present. She gave an overview of the DC Council's upcoming agency oversight hearings. She also gave an overview of the upcoming DC Council hearing on DC Council Resolution PR22-0235 – the "Sense of the Council in Support of a Ward 2 College Basketball Championship Resolution of 2017."

Ms. Kahlow asked when the DC Council's oversight hearing for the Office of Planning will be. Ms. Loy said that she will look up the hearing information and will send the information to Ms. Kahlow.

Report from the Ward 2 Education Network

Daniel Olin Cook, a representative for the Ward 2 Education Network, was present. He said that the My School DC lottery is currently open for the 2018-2019 school year. He said that the lottery results will be released on March 30th.

Mr. Olin Cook said that the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens' final open house for the current enrollment period will be on Friday, February 9th. He also gave an overview of the recent Stevens School Community Working Group meeting.

Report from the West End Library

Kevin Osborne, the Branch Manager for the West End Library, was present. He welcomed meeting attendees to the new library building. He gave an overview of the usage statistics for the new library since it opened. He said that the library has experienced a significant increase in usage, as well as a significant increase in the amount of people signing up for library cards, since the new library opened.

Commissioner Coder thanked the community for its support of the new library as the library went through the planning and development process. She gave an overview of some of the key features of the new library, including the coffee shop and the ANC's ability to use a meeting space that stays open past the library's closing time.

Mr. Osborne said that the next meeting of the West End Library Friends will be on Saturday, January 20th. He also encouraged local residents to donate any Legos that they have to the library's children's area.

Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution recognizing Chair Kennedy's contributions as Chair of the ANC. Commissioner Coder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, ANC 2A01 Commissioner Patrick Kennedy has served with distinction as Chairman of ANC 2A for the last four years, demonstrating exemplary leadership skills in coordinating views of colleagues and constituents,

WHEREAS, Chairman Kennedy's tenure as ANC 2A Chairman has involved countless hours of uncompensated volunteer service in furthering community goals and protecting community interests,

WHEREAS, Chairman Kennedy has defended the interests of the Foggy Bottom and West End communities in numerous ways, including, but not limited to, diligently addressing public safety concerns, neighborhood issues, and community interests through the organization of ANC and community meetings, lobbying District of Columbia Government staff and elected officials for staffing and resources to further community interests, and personally addressing many other concerns raised by Foggy Bottom and West End representatives, and

WHEREAS, Chairman Kennedy is an exemplary public servant who served with distinction throughout his tenure as Chairman of ANC 2A with principled opinions and a keen sense of the Foggy Bottom and West End neighborhood residential perspective.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, in recognition of Patrick Kennedy's service to ANC 2A as its Chairman, the commission hereby extends to him its grateful appreciation and best wishes for the years to come.

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution recognizing former Commissioner Zhurbinskiy's contributions to the ANC. Commissioner Coder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Commissioner Eve Zhurbinskiy served with distinction as ANC 2A08 Commissioner for the last two years, and also served as Treasurer of ANC 2A for the last two years,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Zhurbinskiy's tenure as an ANC 2A Commissioner has involved countless hours of uncompensated volunteer service in furthering community goals and protecting community interests,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Zhurbinskiy has passionately defended the interests of the Foggy Bottom and West End communities in numerous ways, including through advocacy on behalf of the communities' most vulnerable citizens and by addressing public safety concerns and other neighborhood issues, and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Zhurbinskiy is an exemplary public servant who served with distinction throughout her tenure on ANC 2A with principled opinions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, in recognition of Eve Zhurbinskiy's service to ANC 2A, the commission hereby extends to her its grateful appreciation and best wishes for the years to come.

Announcements and Public Comments

Kimberly Manning, a representative for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave an overview of DDOT's upcoming community meeting on the proposed extension of the DC Streetcar to Georgetown. She said that the meeting will be on Tuesday, January 23rd from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in room 108 of GW's Fungler Hall, 2201 G Street NW.

Peter Sacco, the ANC's Executive Director, said that the Foggy Bottom Association's (FBA) January meeting will be on Tuesday, January 30th at 7:00 pm at the West End Library, 2301 L Street NW. He said that the meeting will feature speakers from the Department of Health, the Mayor's Office of the Clean City, and the Department of Public Works.

Report from the Executive Office of the Mayor

Richard Livingstone, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), was present. He encouraged local residents to sign-up for Mayor Bowser's weekly newsletter. He also gave an overview of the Mayor's recently-published Third Annual Accountability Report.

Mr. Livingstone said that Mayor Bowser will be hosting a series of budget engagement forums in February in advance of the release of the Mayor's proposed FY 2019 budget. He added that the Mayor's 2018 State of the District Address will take place on Thursday, March 15th at the Duke Ellington School of the Arts, 3500 R Street NW.

Ms. Kahlow asked about the implementation of the homeless encampment protocol during winter months. Mr. Livingstone said that the DC Government does not carry out encampment cleanups during winter months, however he said that the DC Government does carry out trash removal efforts within the encampments.

Commissioner Schrefer asked for Mr. Livingstone's help in encouraging DDOT to fix the gaps in the fence on the median of the 2300 and 2400 block of Virginia Avenue NW. Mr. Livingstone said that DDOT is currently working on a solution to fix the fence gaps.

Regulatory Agenda

Updates Regarding the Stevens School Development Project at 1050 21st Street NW

Commissioner Harmon said that the former Humane Society of the United States building at the intersection of 21st Street and L Street NW has been demolished. She said that the project team has been meeting with nearby residents to discuss the project's impacts, and that the project team is in the process of developing a community list-serv. She added that she is advocating for the signing of a construction management agreement with the project team.

Commissioner Harmon said that her constituents are concerned about the project's effects on the narrow alley adjacent to the project site. She said that the alley already experiences traffic congestion. She added that DDOT has required the project team to locate the garage entrance for the new building off of the alley and not off of the street.

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to authorize expenditures up to \$1,000 to retain an attorney to assist the ANC with the examination of the permitting and zoning process for the project, and to authorize expenditures up to \$1,000 to retain a traffic engineer to assist the ANC with the examination of the project's effects on the adjacent alley. Chair Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Discussion Regarding Concerns Related to Food Truck Parking on L Street NW

Commissioner Harmon gave an overview of the community's concerns regarding food truck parking on L Street NW in the West End. She said that she has found that many of the food truck vendors choose to pay any parking tickets that they receive in order to ensure that they have a good parking spot.

Commissioner Coder said that she also has concerns regarding food truck parking on 25th Street NW, which is a very narrow street.

Ben Case, a Program Analyst for the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), was present. He acknowledged that DCRA has witnessed many of the same food truck issues that the ANC has brought up. He said that DCRA recently created a system where food trucks receive specific stickers from the agency. He said that the stickers help identify the food trucks when they receive parking tickets.

Mr. Case said that he is willing to perform spot checks when specific complaints are sent to him. He said that DCRA will also work with its partner agencies to try and address community concerns. He added that DCRA does not have a quota or cap on the amount of food trucks that can operate in DC. He said that the agency is currently focused on making sure that food trucks maintain the minimum requirements that they need in order to operate as a food truck per DC regulations.

Commissioner Harmon asked how the ANC could assist DCRA in advocating for a legislative solution that would enable DCRA to address the community's concerns. Mr. Case suggested that he could follow-up with the commissioners after the meeting to have a more in-depth discussion regarding possible common-sense solutions.

Commissioner Smith asked if DCRA had a process for tying infractions against certain food trucks to the respective food trucks' operating licenses. Mr. Case said that it is very difficult for DCRA to revoke a license, even for cause. Commissioner Smith said that legislation may be needed in order to simplify DCRA's process for revoking a license for cause.

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Presentation by Dr. Sabine O'Hara, Dean of the University of the District of Columbia's College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences, Regarding UDC's Urban Agriculture Program

Commissioner Smith said that the University of the District of Columbia's (UDC) College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) has a goal of establishing an urban farm in every ward of the city. He said that the open area near the intersection of Virginia Avenue and 27th Street NW could serve as a potential location for an urban farm in Ward 2.

Dr. Sabine O'Hara, Dean of CAUSES, was present. She said that UDC is the only urban land-grant university in the country. She gave an overview of the national land-grant system. She said that the urban environment that UDC serves is a specific niche for the university. She gave an overview of UDC's land-grant centers, which include a center focused on urban agriculture and a center focused on nutrition and health. She added that CAUSES also has an architecture center, which she said is unique for a land-grant university.

Dr. O'Hara said that CAUSES's urban farm program is the program that the college has received the most attention for. She said that the college often discusses the commercial viability of urban agriculture in areas where land is very expensive. She said that the teams at CAUSES' urban farms often look at the entire value chain of food, including studying the use of technologically-advanced agriculture, food distribution, and the design of low-impact farming.

Dr. O'Hara said that CAUSES currently has four urban farms across the city. She gave an overview of the facilities at each farm. She said that CAUSES would be pleased to work with the Foggy Bottom and West End community to examine where an urban farm could be located in Ward 2.

Commissioner Smith made a motion for the ANC to form an exploratory group made up of key neighborhood stakeholders that would enter into a dialogue with UDC in order to form recommendations regarding the creation of an urban farm in Ward 2. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Discussion Regarding Services for Homeless Individuals During Winter Months

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

ANC 2A requests that the Department of Human Services provide to the ANC the prerequisites and additional factors involved in the opening of a warming center for homeless individuals in DC, specifically with regards to the process for opening a warming center in the Foggy Bottom and West End neighborhood.

Presentation Regarding the GW Hillel Development Project at 2300 H Street NW

Adena Kirstein, the Executive Director of GW Hillel, was present. She said that the GW Hillel team has spent the last six months re-examining its proposed development project. She said that GW Hillel wants to build a new home for GW's large Jewish student population as soon as possible, while also being good neighbors in the community.

Peter Chew, a representative for the project team, was also present. He gave a visual presentation regarding the updated plans for the project. He said that the new plans propose a reduction in the floor area ratio (FAR) and an increase in the size of the rear yard over the previous project plans. He added that the building is still proposed to be four stories tall with a penthouse, and that GW Hillel is still seeking to maintain the zoning relief that was previously granted for parking.

Mr. Chew said that the entrance of the new building will be on H Street NW. He said that the third and fourth stories of the new building will continue to be leased by GW, and that GW Hillel is still planning on having an outdoor seating area on the rooftop.

Mr. Chew said that GW Hillel has had positive conversations with the West End Citizens Association (WECA) and St. Mary's Church regarding the revised project plans. He said that GW Hillel is currently examining the proposed construction management agreement (CMA) that was given to them. He said that he believes that GW Hillel will be able to come to an amicable agreement regarding the CMA with WECA and St. Mary's Church.

Windon Ringer, a representative for St. Mary's Church, was present. He said that the church is looking forward to signing a CMA.

Ms. Kahlow said that GW Hillel has expressed interest in including key stipulations in the proposed CMA that were missing from the previous CMA proposed by GW Hillel.

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Presentation by the Office of the State Superintendent of Education Regarding Zoning Commission Case No. 17-20 – Text Amendments Regarding the Daytime Care Use Category to Address the Need to Establish and Expand Child Development Centers

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

ANC 2A supports the Zoning Commission application by the Office of Planning (Case No. 17-20) for text amendments to the Daytime Use category of the Zoning Regulations. These amendments will help address the needs of establishing and expanding child development centers across the District.

Discussion Regarding a Request for Traffic Mitigation Strategies for 24th Street and 25th Street NW

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

WHEREAS, ANC 2A has received multiple complaints from residents and local businesses regarding mainly peak-hour traffic concerns for 24th Street and 25th Street NW between N Street and Pennsylvania Avenue in the West End neighborhood,

WHEREAS, concerns include the size of the streets and their ability to handle two-way traffic, especially from trucks making deliveries to hotels and businesses such as Trader Joe's, other large format transportation including hotel buses and school buses, and the increase in overall traffic from rideshare services such as Uber,

WHEREAS, recently significant construction projects have been completed which fully build out the West End, including the new West End Library mixed-use development at the intersection of 24th Street and L Street NW, the West End Fire Station mixed-use development at the intersection of 23rd Street and M Street NW, and the 2501 M residential conversion project at the intersection of 25th Street and M Street NW. In addition, the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens is now at capacity of approximately 500 students, while previously the school was at half capacity of approximately 200 students, and

WHEREAS, given all of these contributing factors, the time is appropriate for the District Department of Transportation to work with the ANC on both short- and long- term traffic mitigation activities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A respectfully requests that the District Department of Transportation take action and suggest solutions to address the worsening traffic situation on 24th Street and 25th Street NW in the West End neighborhood.

Public Space Application by FRESHFARM for the Renewal of the Organization's Public Space Permit in Order to Stage the 2018 Foggy Bottom Farmers Market

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

ANC 2A supports the renewal of the public space permit for FRESHFARM Markets for the 2018 Foggy Bottom Farmers Market on the I Street Pedestrian Mall between 23rd Street and 24th Street NW, including support for the use of parking spaces on the 800-889 block of 24th Street NW.

Special Event Application for the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon on Saturday, March 10th

Chair Kennedy made a motion to raise no objection to the special event application for the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon on March 10, 2018 based on the relocation of the music staging area currently proposed to be located near the intersection of Rock Creek Parkway and Virginia Avenue NW.

Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

At its regular meeting on January 17, 2018, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A (“ANC 2A” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With seven of seven commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (7-0-0), after a motion made by Commissioner Kennedy and seconded by Commissioner Smith, to raise no objection to the special event application for the Rock ‘n’ Roll Marathon on March 10, 2018 based on the relocation of the music staging area currently proposed to be located near the intersection of Rock Creek Parkway and Virginia Avenue NW.

Presentation Regarding DC Council Resolution PR22-0188 – the “Sense of the Council Urging Reassessment of Relationship with Wells Fargo Resolution of 2017”

Commissioner Harmon and Commissioner Coder recused themselves from discussion on this matter.

Benjamin Douglas, a representative for the DC Reinvest Coalition, was present. He gave an overview of DC Council Resolution PR22-0188 – the “Sense of the Council Urging Reassessment of Relationship with Wells Fargo Resolution of 2017,” which is currently being considered by the DC Council.

Mr. Douglas gave an overview of the DC Reinvest Coalition, which he said is a coalition of organizations from all eight wards of the city. He said that the coalition’s current efforts are focusing on advocating for the DC Government to reinvest its current investments with Wells Fargo. He gave an overview of Wells Fargo’s history of controversial business and investment practices. He said that he is asking for the ANC to support the current Sense of the Council resolution currently being considered by the DC Council.

Chair Kennedy said that he has concerns regarding whether the ANC should take a position on this matter given the fact that the ANC does not have expertise with DC Government investment practices. He said that he is not convinced that Wells Fargo is the sole bad actor in the financial services sector.

Commissioner Smith said that he has confidence that the executive branch of the DC Government can make responsible investment decisions on behalf of the city. He said that he believes that the legislative branch should not be involved in investment decisions.

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding DC Council Resolution PR22-0235 – the “Sense of the Council in Support of a Ward 2 College Basketball Championship Resolution of 2017”

Commissioner Campbell recused himself from discussion on this matter.

Chair Kennedy made a motion to support DC Council Resolution PR22-0235 – the “Sense of the Council in Support of a Ward 2 College Basketball Championship Resolution of 2017.” Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-0-0).

Consideration of a Resolution Requesting that the Zoning Administrator Notify ANC's of Published Decisions

The Commission postponed discussion regarding this matter until a future ANC meeting.

Administrative Agenda

Approval of the ANC's Participation in the 2018 ANC Security Fund

Commissioner Guzman made a motion to approve the ANC's participation in the 2018 ANC Security Fund and the respective \$25 expenditure to participate. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which was approved by unanimous consent.

Approval of the ANC's 2018 Meeting Schedule

Chair Kennedy made a motion to approve the ANC's proposed meeting schedule for 2018. Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The meeting schedule is as follows:

- Regular January Meeting: Wednesday, January 17th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Regular February Meeting: Wednesday, February 21st, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Regular March Meeting: Wednesday, March 21st, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Regular April Meeting: Wednesday, April 18th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Regular May Meeting: Wednesday, May 16th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Regular June Meeting: Wednesday, June 20th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Regular July Meeting: Wednesday, July 18th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Regular September Meeting: Thursday, September 20th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Regular October Meeting: Wednesday, October 17th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Regular November Meeting: Wednesday, November 28th, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Approval of the Purchase of New Wireless Microphones

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve expenditures up to \$600 for the purchase of new wireless microphones for the ANC. Commissioner Coder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Adjournment

Chair Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 10:37 pm.

Special Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 17th, 2018; 10:37 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 10:37 pm. Commissioners Patrick Kennedy (01), Rebecca Coder (02), Marco Guzman (03), Philip Schrefer (05), Florence Harmon (06), and Detrick Campbell (07) were present.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the Addition of New ANC Officers as Signatories for the ANC's Checking Account

Chair Smith made a motion to add the ANC's new Chairperson, William Kennedy Smith; the ANC's new Vice Chairperson, Patrick Kennedy; the ANC's new Secretary, Philip Schrefer; and the ANC's new Treasurer, Marco Guzman, as the authorized signatories on the bank signature card for the ANC's checking account with Bank of America, and to remove the previous signatories from the bank signature card. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Adjournment

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 10:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Philip Schrefer
Secretary, ANC 2A05