



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 20th, 2016; 7:00 p.m.
GWU Fonger Hall, Room 108 – 2201 G Street NW

Call to Order

Chair Patrick Kennedy (01) called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Commissioners John Williams (03), Philip Schrefer (05), and Eve Zhurbinskiy (08) were present. Commissioner Florence Harmon (06) arrived at 7:26 pm and Commissioner Rebecca Coder (02) arrived at 7:39 pm.

Chair Kennedy made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-0).

Election of 2016 Commission Officers

Chairperson

Commissioner Williams made a motion to nominate Chair Kennedy as Chairperson. Chair Kennedy accepted the nomination. Commissioner Zhurbinskiy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-0).

Vice Chairperson

Chair Kennedy made a motion to nominate Commissioner Smith as Vice Chairperson. Chair Kennedy said that Commissioner Smith had previously indicated that he would accept the nomination. Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-0).

Secretary

Chair Kennedy made a motion to nominate Commissioner Schrefer as Secretary. Commissioner Schrefer accepted the nomination. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-0).

Treasurer

Chair Kennedy made a motion to nominate Commissioner Zhurbinskiy as Treasurer. Commissioner Zhurbinskiy accepted the nomination. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-0).

Community Forum

Report from PSA 207

Captain David Sledge from the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District was present. He gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Commissioner Schrefer said that he had worked with Catherine Pitcher, a local resident, to create a report that looked at long-range crime trends in the neighborhood. Commissioner Schrefer distributed copies of the report to Captain Sledge and to the public.

Commissioner Schrefer made a motion to have the Commission periodically compile a report of annual crime data for the Foggy Bottom and West End neighborhoods in order to better understand trends in crime. Commissioner Zhurbinskiy seconded the notion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-0).

Barbara Kahlow, a local resident, said that she has long argued for the commission to look at annual crime data. She said that MPD should be supporting the work that Commissioner Schrefer was doing.

Sara Maddux, a local resident, said that MPD needed to talk to the bicyclists about the need for bikers to observe traffic laws. Captain Sledge said that he could invite someone from the Washington Area Bicyclist Association to come to a future ANC meeting.

Special Event Application for the Marine Corps Marathon on October 30th, 2016

Mark Williams, Operations Coordinator for the Marine Corps Marathon, was present. He distributed packets with course maps to the commissioners. He gave an overview of the race course and the times that racers would be passing through the neighborhood.

Chair Kennedy made a motion to support the special event application for the marathon. Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 4-0).

Report from the Executive Office of the Mayor

Eva Lewis, a ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) was present. She said that the Mayor had just released her first year accountability report. She encouraged attendees to read the report online. She also talked about the preparations that the DC government was making for the upcoming snowstorm. She encouraged attendees to sign up for the DC Resident Snow Team.

Commissioner Williams asked if the DC government would be clearing the sidewalks on the bridges that link Georgetown and Foggy Bottom. Ms. Lewis said that she would check on it.

Marina Streznewski, the President of the Foggy Bottom Association, encouraged attendees to also get involved in the Foggy Bottom Snow Team.

Report from the Office of Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans

Adam Gutbezahl, a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' office, was present. He said that the Department of Public Works (DPW) and the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) were jointly responsible for shoveling the sidewalks on the bridges connecting Georgetown and Foggy Bottom. He also said that the DC Council was about to start its agency performance oversight season. He encouraged attendees to sign up to testify during the performance oversight hearings.

Mr. Gutbezahl talked about recent legislation that set up a fine structure for residents that do not shovel the sidewalk outside of their homes at least eight hours after the end of the snowfall.

Report from the Ward 2 Education Network

Chris Sondreal, ANC 2A's representative to the Ward 2 Education Network, was present. He gave an overview of the network's recent meeting on enrollment and the DC common lottery. He said that the next network meeting would be on January 30th.

Mr. Sondreal provided updates on the opening of the cafeteria kitchen at the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens and the ongoing work to start construction on the school's planned teaching kitchen.

Announcements and Public Comments

Chair Kennedy thanked Ms. Kahlow for the work that the West End Citizens Association (WECA) did on negotiating a settlement agreement with Abdo Development for the Abdotel's liquor license. Ms. Kahlow gave an overview of the updated hours and allowances for entertainment and music that the WECA board was able to negotiate with Abdo Development.

Ms. Streznewski said that the Foggy Bottom Association (FBA) is hosting a neighborhood-watch training on January 26th. She also said that DPW had recently confirmed that there are more rats in the city.

Community Agenda

Presentation by Sarah Fashbaugh from the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) Regarding the 2016 ABRA License Renewal Process

Sarah Fashbaugh, Community Resource Officer for the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA), was present. She provided information on ABRA's community concern hotline. She said that ABRA now has 21 investigators who are investigating community issues at individual establishments.

Ms. Fashbaugh said that ABRA has more than 1,500 establishments up for renewal this year and a significant portion of these establishments are in ANC 2A. She passed out a list of the establishments in ANC 2A that are up for renewal. She added that restaurants, hotels, caterers, social clubs, multipurpose facilities, and marine vessels are all up for renewal this year.

Ms. Fashbaugh said that ANCs, community associations, groups of five or more abutting property owners, and MPD all have the ability to protest the renewals of individual establishments. She added that only establishments that have settlement agreements that are more than four years old can petition to change or end their settlement agreements.

Presentation by DC Water Regarding Projects in the Neighborhood

Emanuel Briggs, the Manager of Community Outreach for DC Water, was present. He distributed handouts on DC Water's current and upcoming projects in the neighborhood.

Mr. Briggs talked about the first major DC Water project currently taking place in the neighborhood, the cleaning and re-lining of sewers at multiple sites in the neighborhood. He gave an overview of the scope, work schedule, and the locations of the project.

Commissioner Coder thanked Mr. Briggs for ensuring that the project would not include overnight work hours.

Commissioner Williams said that he had received comments from his constituents about DC Water's unresponsiveness to community concerns regarding their work in the Foggy Bottom Historic District.

Jill Crissman, a local resident, said that shortly after DC Water had completed recent work in the Foggy Bottom Historic District four years ago, some of the underground sewer connections started leaking. She said that this caused a public walkway in the historic district to sink and created mold problems in some nearby residents' homes. She added that this leakage could also be related to the proliferation of rats in the neighborhood. She said that her neighbors encountered difficulties in receiving a response from DC Water about their concerns. Mr. Briggs said that residents should not call 311 for DC Water issues, and instead should call DC Water's command center.

Mr. Briggs also gave an overview of a second DC Water project that is about to begin in the neighborhood. He said that DC Water would be cleaning and re-lining a relief sewer near the Kennedy Center, and that this process would include the removal of a large amount of debris from the sewer. He said that his team has been coordinating with the Kennedy Center regarding the project.

Mr. Briggs said that there would be a large number of trucks coming in and out of the staging area for the project at the intersection of Rock Creek Parkway and Virginia Avenue NW. He said that most of this traffic would be happening between 9 pm and 5 am to allow for uninterrupted traffic patterns during the day. He added that, as part of the project, there would be intermittent closures of Rock Creek Parkway throughout the duration of the project.

Chair Kennedy asked if there was going to be any hazardous materials removed from the site as part of the project. DC Water's project manager for the project, who was present, said that there would not be any hazardous materials removed from the site.

Ms. Maddux warned DC Water about the possibility of their trucks getting stuck under the K Street NW bridge over Rock Creek Parkway.

Presentation by Power DC Regarding the Proposed Pepco-Exelon Merger

Robert Robinson, a representative for the Grid 2.0 Working Group and Power DC, was present. He gave an overview of the history of the DC Public Service Commission's review process for the Pepco-Exelon merger. He said that 27 out of the 40 ANCs in DC had opposed the merger. He added that the DC Public Service Commission would most likely issue a ruling on the application in the next six weeks.

Mr. Robinson said that DC is getting less and less affordable on all fronts, including the cost of electricity. He said that one incredible energy resource that DC has is the large number of flat roofs in the city, which are perfect for installing solar panels on. He talked about the history of DC's legislation regarding renewable energy credits.

Mr. Robinson said that his group, the Grid 2.0 Working Group, became concerned with the proposed Pepco-Exelon merger because it would go against their efforts to make solar energy accessible and affordable in DC. He said that Pepco also has significant reliability problems, especially when it comes to getting the power back on after weather events. He added that his group had found that many ANCs across the city are very concerned with the state of utilities in DC.

Chair Kennedy asked Mr. Robinson what the ANC could do to help. Mr. Robinson said that the ANC could voice its concerns to its councilmember regarding the future of energy policy in DC. He also talked about the need for the DC Public Service Commission to create a formal merger policy.

Regulatory Agenda

Application by "Watergate Liquors LLC" (dba Watergate Vintners & Spirits) for a New Retailer's Class "A" Liquor Store License

The owners of Watergate Vintners & Spirits were present. They passed out a packet on their plans for the store. They gave an overview of the hours that were included in the liquor license application, adding that the extra two hours of operation in the morning were included to allow for store deliveries to take place.

Multiple commissioners voiced their appreciation for the owners' efforts to open up a new liquor store in the Watergate's shopping plaza, which they said needed more businesses to open.

The commission took no action on this matter.

Special Event Application for the Rock 'n' Roll DC Marathon on March 12th, 2016

Diane Romo Thomas, the Director of Community Relations for the Greater Washington Sports Alliance, the organizer for the Rock 'n' Roll DC Marathon, was present. She said that 2016 marked the marathon's 11th year. She said that the marathon would start at 7:30 am and that racers should be clear of the neighborhood by 10:00 am. She added that the marathon would be adding traffic control officers in the neighborhood to ensure that local residents would have vehicular access to their buildings. She said she would ensure that there would be no live entertainment placed in the residential portion of the neighborhood.

Chair Kennedy made a motion to raise no objection to the special event application for the marathon. Commissioner Coder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0).

Administrative Agenda

Updating the ANC's Bank Account Bank Signature Card at Bank of America

Chair Kennedy made a motion to add the ANC's new Chairperson, Chair Patrick Kennedy, the ANC's new Secretary, Commissioner Philip Schrefer, and the ANC's new Treasurer, Commissioner Eve Zhurbinskiy, as the authorized signatories on the bank signature card for the ANC's bank account with Bank of America, and to remove the previous signatories from the bank signature card. Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0).

Adoption of Past Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to adopt the regular December 2015 meeting minutes, subject to minor technical edits. Commissioner Coder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0).

Approval of the 2016 Commission Meeting Calendar

Commissioner Coder made a motion to adopt the 2016 ANC meeting calendar that was distributed to the commissioners. Commissioner Harmon seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0).

Vote to be Part of the ANC Security Fund

Chair Kennedy made a motion for the ANC to participate in the ANC Security Fund. Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0).

Approval of \$420 for the Renewal of the Commission's PO box at the UPS Store

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to authorize the ANC to spend \$420 to renew the ANC's PO box at the UPS Store. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0).

Consideration of Switching to Electronic Notifications from the Office of Zoning

The ANC decided that it will continue to receive paper notifications from the Office of Zoning.

Adjournment

Chair Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. Schrefer".

Philip Schrefer
Secretary, ANC 2A05



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February 1, 2016

Ms. Tanya Mitchell
Mayor's Special Event Task Force Group
Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency
2720 Martin Luther King Junior Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20032
tanya.mitchell@dc.gov

RE: Special event application for the Marine Corps Marathon on October 30, 2016

Dear Ms. Mitchell,

At its regular meeting on January 20, 2016, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A ("ANC 2A" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With four of seven commissioners present, a quorum at a duly noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (**4-0-0**), after a motion made by Commissioner Kennedy and seconded by Commissioner Schrefer, to support the special event application for the Marine Corps Marathon on October 30, 2016.

Commissioners William Kennedy Smith (2A04@anc.dc.gov) and Patrick Kennedy (2A01@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Patrick Kennedy
Chairperson

CC: Mark Williams, Marine Corps Marathon



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Ms. Tanya Mitchell
Mayor's Special Event Task Force Group
Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency
2720 Martin Luther King Junior Avenue, S.E.
Washington, DC 20032
tanya.mitchell@dc.gov

RE: Special event application for Rock 'n' Roll DC Marathon on March 12, 2016

Dear Ms. Mitchell,

At its regular meeting on January 20, 2016, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A ("ANC 2A" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With six of seven commissioners present, a quorum at a duly noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (6-0-0), after a motion made by Commissioner Kennedy and seconded by Commissioner Coder, to raise no objection to the special event application for the Rock 'n' Roll DC Marathon on March 12, 2016.

Commissioners William Kennedy Smith (2A04@anc.dc.gov) and Patrick Kennedy (2A01@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Patrick Kennedy
Chairperson

CC: Diane Romo Thomas, Rock 'n' Roll DC Marathon