



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 20th, 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 7:03 pm. Commissioners Patrick Kennedy (01), Marco Guzman (03), Philip Schrefer (05), Detrick Campbell (07), and James Harnett (08) were present. Commissioner Florence Harmon (06) arrived at 7:27 pm.

Adoption of the Agenda

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

Adoption of Past Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Kennedy made a motion to adopt the ANC’s regular May 2018 meeting minutes with allowance for technical and grammatical edits. Chair Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Community Forum

Report from the Metropolitan Police Department’s PSA 207

Lt. Darren Haskis, a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department’s (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Report from the Executive Office of the Mayor

Romney Makle, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), gave an update from the Executive Office of the Mayor.

Report from the Office of Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans

Sarina Loy, a representative for Councilmember Jack Evans’ Office, gave an update from the Councilmember’s Office.

Report from the West End Library

Kevin Osborne, the Branch Manager for the West End Library, gave an update from the library.

Report from the Department of Public Works

Inspector Sonya Street, Ward 2’s Lead Solid Waste Inspector for the Department of Public Works (DPW), gave an update from the agency.

Commissioner Updates

Commissioner Harmon and Chair Smith gave Commissioner updates.

Announcements and Public Comments

Marina Streznewski, the President of the Foggy Bottom Association (FBA), gave an update from the organization.

General Agenda

Discussion Regarding a DC Council Proposal to Ban the Riding of Bicycles on Sidewalks in Ward 2 Outside of the Central Business District

The Commissioners engaged in a discussion regarding whether the DC Council should take action to ban the riding of bicycles on sidewalks in Ward 2 outside of the Central Business District.

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Presentation Regarding the Georgetown BID's Rock Creek Parkway Access Study

Commissioner Harmon recused herself from voting on this matter.

Chair Smith made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Harnett seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, roadway connections to and from Rock Creek parkway in the area between K Street and Virginia Avenue NW have contributed to traffic congestion and have been a source of concern and focus for the Georgetown and Foggy Bottom/West End neighborhoods and their respective ANCs,

WHEREAS, transportation planners from the Georgetown BID, working with the transportation consulting firm Kittelson & Associates, have identified a number of potential alterations to traffic flow that might diminish area traffic congestion, particularly on K Street NW, and wish to work with the District Department of Transportation to conduct a live study of the impact of these alterations,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A and ANC 2E have been instrumental in obtaining funding for a follow-on study to the 2003 Kennedy Center Access Improvements Environmental Assessment to examine the possibility of improving the connection between Rock Creek Parkway and the Potomac River Freeway, in this same area, so as to improve traffic flow and permit the development of a pedestrian park along the Potomac River waterfront to connect Georgetown to the National Mall,

WHEREAS, the study area for these two projects overlaps and it is the intention of the neighboring ANCs to foster a climate of cooperation and the development of integrated solutions to area transportation challenges, and

WHEREAS, Kittelson & Associates has examined the scope of the two projects listed above and has indicated that it sees no conflict in the projects' successive implementation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports the conduct of a traffic study along the lines proposed by the Georgetown BID with the proviso that particular attention should be paid not only to the impact on vehicular traffic, but also to the impact on pedestrian and bicycle traffic flow in the study area, and that the traffic flow study, and any successor activities, should not be included in the Scope of Work for updating the 2003 Kennedy Center Access Improvements Environmental Assessment and the creation of a waterfront park in Foggy Bottom.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A allocates \$2,000 with which to retain the services of a suitable transportation consulting firm to coordinate with the Georgetown BID and to develop a set of materials that communicate a vision, and lay out a process, based on the traffic solutions engineered in the 2003 Kennedy Center Access Improvements Environmental Assessment and the funding provided in DC's FY 2019 budget, for the establishment of a waterfront park along the Potomac River in Foggy Bottom.

Presentation Regarding Proposed Lighting Improvements to Murrow Park at the Intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue, 19th Street, and H Street NW

Commissioner Harmon recused herself from voting on this matter.

Commissioner Harnett made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A recognizes and applauds Duilio Passariello's work to recognize Edward R. Murrow. The ANC further applauds Mr. Passariello's vision for a unified park space and hopes that the Commission can be helpful in the achievement of that vision.

ANC 2A encourages Mr. Passariello to work with the Golden Triangle BID, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and the World Bank on developing a long-term maintenance plan for Murrow Park, especially given the technical complexity of the proposed installation. The ANC also supports further refinement of the proposal to create a public plaque indicating the location of the park and explaining the installation.

Regulatory Agenda

North Italia – Application for a New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License at 2112 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Flower Child – Application for a New Retailer's Class "D" Restaurant License at 2112 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Hillel at The George Washington University's Application for a Modification of Significance to ZC Order No. 06-11L, Which Included Variance and Special Exception Relief to the Penthouse Setback Requirements at 2300 H Street NW

Commissioner Schreffer made a motion to support Hillel at The George Washington University's Zoning Commission application for 2300 H 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 Hillel at The George Washington University's Zoning Commission (ZC) application for a modification of significance to ZC Order No. 06-11L, which included variance and special exception relief to the penthouse setback requirements at 2300 H Street NW.

Public Space Application by the George Washington University for the Installation of New Mid-Block Crosswalks on the 2100 Block of H Street NW

Commissioner Harnett made a motion to support the George Washington University's public space application to install new mid-block crosswalks on the 2100 block of H Street NW. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A supports the George Washington University's public space application for the installation of new mid-block crosswalks on the 2100 block of H Street NW.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Proposed Pedestrian Safety Improvements for H Street NW

The Commission tabled this matter until a future ANC meeting.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposal for Commissioner Rebecca Coder to be an Honoree on the West End Library's Wall of Honor

Commissioner Smith made a motion 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, the West End Library was in Commissioner Rebecca Coder's single-member district and she steadfastly supported its redevelopment,

WHEREAS, as Chair of ANC 2A, Commissioner Coder testified at crucial regulatory hearings for the library redevelopment, including those before the DC Council,

WHEREAS, as Chair of the ANC, Commissioner Coder provided the crucial grassroots foundation of community support for the West End Library project and maintained that support through a long and complicated regulatory process and concurrent legal challenges,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Coder was involved in numerous community development projects including the redevelopment of the West End Fire Station and the establishment of Duke Ellington Park,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Coder was involved in many other efforts that benefited our community, including serving as a Founding Board Member of the Foggy Bottom West End Village, which assists community members to age in place, and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Coder was a model public servant and neighbor who Mayor Muriel Bowser once described as “a generous, caring and thoughtful woman who was always willing to help out in the community in any way possible.”

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A recommends that Commissioner Rebecca Coder be recognized on the Wall of Honor in the West End Library.

Presentation by the Friends of Francis Field Regarding the Development of a New Master Landscape Plan for Francis Field

Garry Griffith, the President of the Friends of Francis Field, gave a visual presentation regarding the organization’s new master landscape plan for Francis Field.

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Over-Permitting and Under-Maintenance of Francis Field

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

ANC 2A wishes to inform the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) of the complaints of community residents and to request a limitation on the size and frequency of “social sports” teams on Francis Field, a DPR facility located in the increasingly-residential West End neighborhood.

A review of permits by DPR from March 19th to June 16th of 2018 shows 305.5 hours of permitted time on the field. Many of these permits have been issued to “social sports” groups which regularly have 75 to 125 players on the field at one time, playing team sports in multiple areas and playing music on boomboxes. Several of these groups have 4-hour and 5-hour time blocks. Additionally, some groups that have shorter time blocks vastly overstay their permitted times.

Community members sent a letter to DPR’s Permits Office on May 21st, 2018, requesting a meeting regarding these issues, and a meeting was granted and held on May 31st on the field. DPR was represented by Seth Shapiro of DPR’s Permits Office, Katie Rehwaldt of DPR’s Partnerships Office, and Peter Nohrden of DPR’s Capital Projects Office.

The requests that were made at the time of the meeting, which ANC 2A wishes to endorse and support with this letter, were that DPR:

1. notify permit holders that amplified music is prohibited unless specifically allowed on the written permit,
2. limit groups to fewer than 50 participants, unless they have the documented support of ANC 2A, and
3. conduct a review of the appropriate uses and related maintenance for Francis Field, now that it is more closely surrounded by residential rather than office properties.

During the last decade, DC's Office of Planning and Office of Zoning have encouraged the residential expansion of the West End neighborhood and the Francis Field area. Last year alone, 59 new residences were constructed adjacent to Francis Field, bringing the number of adjacent residences to 414. Ten years ago, in June of 2008, there were only 73 such residences. As DPR is aware, DC's current Comprehensive Plan states that recreational facilities must change as neighborhoods change, and that "the community must be involved in key planning and design decisions."

ANC 2A thus respectfully requests that DPR take action regarding these requests.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Proposed Installation of a Memento Honoring Commissioner Rebecca Coder at Francis Field

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

WHEREAS, Rebecca Coder, in 2007, was a founder of the Friends of Francis Field and served as its first president,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Coder, in 2008, led the Friends of Francis Field in developing a new landscape architectural plan for Francis Field that was privately funded, professionally designed, and approved by the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (CFA), and which included the removal and replacement of fencing and the installation of benches, trash receptacles, a drinking fountain, mature trees, and landscaping plantings,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Coder was elected to Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A in 2008 and shepherded the implementation of the Francis Field landscape plan through the Board of Zoning Adjustment,

WHEREAS, the landscape plan improvements were fully implemented in 2010, changing the architectural fabric of the field to one appropriate for the surrounding residential area, which was also in a state of change,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Coder continued to serve on Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A and supported the 2010 efforts of West End dog owners to create an official dog park on Francis Field,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Coder was a key supporter of the partnership agreement reached between DPR and the Friends of Francis Field in 2013 for the improvement of the central playing field with private funds,

WHEREAS, Francis Field's Dog Park was constructed on the field and opened in the fall of 2015,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Coder was instrumental in devising and supporting the 2017 partnership agreement with DPR to plant 43 trees on Francis Field, plant grass on the playing field area, and conduct an experimental irrigation system that brought the field back to a living and green state, and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Coder continued to support the improvement of Francis Field as a community asset up to her death on May 1, 2018.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, in recognition of Rebecca Coder's contributions over a period of more than ten years to her neighbors and the users of Francis Field, ANC 2A supports the placement of an appropriate memento of appreciation on Francis Field, the design of which shall be approved by ANC 2A, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts.

Presentation Regarding Proposed Changes to the Course for the Army Ten-Miler on Sunday, October 7th

George Banker, the Operations Manager for the Army Ten-Miler, gave an overview of the recently-amended course route for the event.

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Adjournment

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 10:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Philip Schrefer
Secretary, ANC 2A05