



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 16th, 2021; 7:00 p.m.

Online via Zoom

Call to Order

Chair Jeri Epstein (06) called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Commissioners Yannik Omictin (01), Joel Causey (02), Trupti Patel (03), Donna Barbisch (04), Evelyn Hudson (05), Adam Friend (07), and Margaret McDonald (08) were present.

Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Omictin made a motion to adopt the ANC’s meeting agenda. Commissioner Hudson seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Adoption of Past Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Friend made a motion to adopt the ANC’s meeting minutes. Commissioner Causey seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Introduction of the ANC’s New Interns

Commissioner Barbisch introduced the ANC’s new interns: Zachary Marks, Sam Haynie, Lauren Gleave, and Jace Jordan. Each of the interns introduced themselves to meeting attendees.

Community Forum

Report from the Metropolitan Police Department’s PSA 207

Lieutenant Bredet Williams, 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

Joe Florio, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), gave updates from the Mayor’s Office.

Report from the Office of Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto

Barry Weise, the Legislative Director for Councilmember Brooke Pinto’s Office, gave updates from the councilmember’s office.

Commissioner Updates

Chair Epstein and Commissioners Omictin, Causey, Patel, Barbisch, Friend, and McDonald gave commissioner updates.

Announcements and Public Comments

John George, the President of the Foggy Bottom Association (FBA), gave announcements and public comments.

General Agenda

Discussion Regarding Operational Concerns for Georgetown Inn West End / Casta's Rum Bar at 1121 New Hampshire Avenue NW

The commissioners and meeting attendees engaged in a discussion regarding operational concerns for Georgetown Inn West End / Casta's Rum Bar at 1121 New Hampshire Avenue NW.

Discussion Regarding a Multi-Agency Problem Related to Traffic Safety, Speeding, Reckless Driving, and Intentional Noise from Revving Engines, Which is Disturbing the Peace Along I-66, the E Street Expressway, the Underpass Around Juarez Circle, and New Hampshire Avenue NW Up to 19th Street NW

The commissioners and meeting attendees engaged in a discussion regarding a multi-agency problem related to traffic safety, speeding, reckless driving, and intentional noise from revving engines, which is disturbing the peace along I-66, the E Street Expressway, the underpass around Juarez Circle, and New Hampshire Avenue NW up to 19th Street NW.

Matters Before the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding a Public Art Building Communities (PABC) Grant Application for the Installation of Duke Ellington Artwork in Duke Ellington Park at the Intersection of New Hampshire Avenue, M Street, and 21st Street NW

Commissioner Causey made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Omicini seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Edward "Duke" Ellington's birth in the West End neighborhood of Washington, DC has been established by his official District of Columbia birth certificate, which shows that he was delivered by a midwife on April 29, 1899 at a house at 2129 Ward Place NW, which is adjacent to Duke Ellington Park at 1205 New Hampshire Avenue NW, located in the boundaries of ANC 2A in the West End neighborhood,

WHEREAS, on February 17, 2010, ANC 2A unanimously approved a resolution to the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) requesting the renaming of the unnamed triangular park at the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue, M Street, and 21st Street NW – which is the nearest public park to Duke Ellington's birthplace on Ward Place NW – as "Duke Ellington Park" to honor his achievements as a major figure in American music – as a composer, instrumentalist and band leader,

WHEREAS, in an effort to preserve the African American history of the neighborhood and its prominent residents, ANC 2A successfully lobbied DPR to rename the park as “Duke Ellington Park,” which the DC Council designated as Duke Ellington Park: Section 2 of D.C. Law 18-244 pursuant to section 401 of the Street and Alley Closing and Acquisition Procedures Act of 1982, effective March 10, 1983 (D.C. Law 4-201; D. C. Official Code § 9-204.01)

<https://code.dccouncil.us/dc/council/code/titles/9/chapters/2/subchapters/IV/>,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A and the residents of both the West End and Foggy Bottom neighborhoods have continued to recognize and honor Duke Ellington with annual birthday concerts in “Duke Ellington Park” in his honor,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A now seeks to erect a prominent art memorial to Duke Ellington in Duke Ellington Park to educate the community and visitors to the important African American history in this neighborhood, which would be situated in the park at the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and M Street NW with an expansive sightline down M Street NW,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A successfully secured Planned Unit Development (PUD) community amenity funds totaling \$30,000 from Boston Properties to support creation of this appropriate art memorial to Duke Ellington but needs additional funds for the memorial, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2A is a creation of DC legislation with a quasi-governmental role and is thus prohibited from applying for a Public Art Building Communities (PABC) grant from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities (DCCAHA) and thus sought the support of the Foggy Bottom Association (FBA) for this grant application, which FBA has enthusiastically supported.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports FBA’s DCCAHA PABC application for funding to create a fitting artwork memorial to recognize and honor West End native Duke Ellington in Duke Ellington Park., located at 1205 New Hampshire Avenue NW at the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue, M Street, and 21st Street NW, and asks that DCCAHA fully fund FBA’s application.

Matters Before the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration

Capo Deli – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern License at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Space #7

Commissioner McDonald made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Friend seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A supports Capo Deli’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern license at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Space #7.

West End Market – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License at 2424 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Matters Before the Public Space Committee

Public Space Application by the Embassy of Spain for the Installation of a Figure of Bernardo de Galvez at 2375 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Chair Epstein made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Causey seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A supports the Embassy of Spain’s public space application for the installation of a figure of Bernardo de Galvez at 2375 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

Matters Before the Mayor’s Special Events Task Group

Special Event Application for the Marine Corps Marathon on Sunday, October 31st, 2021

Chair Epstein made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Causey seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A supports the special event application for the Marine Corps Marathon on Sunday, October 31st, 2021.

Matters Before the DC Council

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Funding for Mobile Shower Units for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness

Commissioner Omicini made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Patel seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, proper sanitation is a human right and regardless of one’s housing status, a person should have access to clean, safe facilities to clean themselves and their clothes,

WHEREAS, one of the largest encampments in the city lies within ANC 2A and residents of this encampment have limited access to showers, as the nearest facilities are in Georgetown or downtown, and laundry, as the nearest laundromat is in Logan Circle,

WHEREAS, several cities, including San Francisco, Los Angeles, Baltimore, and San Antonio, have buses or trailers equipped with showers operating on a daily basis,

WHEREAS, in many of these cities, nonprofit organizations have built, managed, and staffed the facilities themselves, with city support for utility hookups, parking permits, and synergy with homeless services,

WHEREAS, in San Antonio, Councilmembers used their own discretionary project funds to purchase a shower trailer for \$60,000 and monthly costs associated with staffing and maintenance were absorbed by the city executive,

WHEREAS, Generosity Shower, the service provider operating shower buses in Baltimore, employs unhoused individuals to maintain and manage their facilities,

WHEREAS, in Portland, Harbor of Hope, the nonprofit shower bus operator, converted two buses to shower and laundry buses respectively, with two showers, a dog wash, a sink, four washers and dryers, and two chairs for haircuts at a total cost of \$400,000,

WHEREAS, Los Angeles County released a request for proposal (RFP) for mobile shower facilities in 2019 with \$750,000 in allocated annual funding, and

WHEREAS, in every major city where a mobile service providing showers operates, the service has become an invaluable asset to cities' strategies to fight homelessness.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A calls upon the DC Council to allocate at least \$400,000 to the Department of Human Services (DHS) to fund a pilot program, in the form of a public-private partnership, to bring trucks or trailers equipped with showers and laundry services to DC.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges DHS to incorporate shower and laundry buses into their outreach to unsheltered unhoused persons, using the buses to bring unserved individuals in contact with DHS supportive services and affiliates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that service providers and unhoused individuals be engaged in the co-creation of the RFP for this service.

Administrative Matters

Approval of Community Members for the ANC's Humanitarian Services Grant Committee

Commissioner Causey made a motion to approve Marina Streznewski, Celina Chelala, and Christopher Brick as community members for the ANC's Humanitarian Services Grant Committee. Commissioner Omictin seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Adjournment

Chair Epstein adjourned the meeting at 10:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yannik Omictin', written in a cursive style.

Yannik Omictin
Secretary, ANC 2A01