

**FOGGY BOTTOM AND WEST END**  
**ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 2A**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 16, 2010**  
**SCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS, 2130 G St., N.W.**

**Call to Order**

Chair Rebecca Coder called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM. Commissioners Irizarry, Malinen, Lehrman, Corson and Ms. Coder introduced themselves. A quorum being present, the Commission adopted the meeting agenda.

**General Agenda**

Ms. Coder introduced Professor Iris Miller, director of the Urban Institute of the Catholic University of America (CUA), who along with her associate, David Hathcart, presented a fuller version of the proposed Foggy Bottom Heritage Park than had been possible to entertain when Prof. Miller addressed the April 21 ANC meeting. The presentation concentrated on proposed improvements in the parkland now isolated from the neighborhood's western border by highway approaches. The proposed features include turning 27<sup>th</sup> St., N.W., into a boulevard with pedestrian and bicycle access, a new entrance to the Foggy Bottom Metro station with associated real estate redevelopment, the creation of a "garden bridge" reuniting the park fragments bordering 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> streets by covering the highway off-ramp linking the Potomac Expressway with the Whitehurst Freeway and L St., N.W.; identifying and interpreting the site of the colonial Robert Peters house near the intersection of 27<sup>th</sup> St., with K St., N.W.; using mosaics and trellises to mask the Metro and freeway features located in the parklands; creating a cultural center in the space now occupied by the parking lot and boat storage area west of the Rock Creek Parkway; and using landscape features to restore Juarez Circle and its statuary to prominence. The team also presented proposals for improving the Georgetown waterfront and adding pedestrian features to the Whitehurst Freeway.

Discussion following the presentation focused on the feasibility and costs of the various elements and next steps to be taken to bring these proposals to fruition. The commission decided informally to consider the proposal and to resume discussion of them at a later meeting.

Sherri Kimbel of Councilmember Jack Evans' office reported on delays in removing the stadium lights at Francis Field but stated that the removal would be underway by Saturday, June 19.

## **Public Safety Report**

Officers Servis and Clemens of the Metropolitan Police 2<sup>nd</sup> District reported on crime trends in PSA 207, encompassing Foggy Bottom and the West End. Auto thefts have declined in the neighborhoods, but burglaries are up, especially in dormitory buildings at George Washington University. The officers stated that some burglaries could have been prevented by closing apartment building doors left open during the student move-out period.

## **Special Events**

Jim Doumus of Sister Cities International presented information on the Race & Festival for World Peace, sponsored by his organization and scheduled for October 23, 2010. The Commission reviewed the planned route and locations in the Foggy Bottom and West End neighborhoods and found no objection to the granting of a permit for this event. The chair was directed to inform the appropriate authorities of this conclusion. (See appendix 1).

## **Informational Presentations**

Kris Hart, owner of Foggy Bottom Grocery, doing business as FoBoGro, presented information on plans for renovating access to his store. Discussion focused on the safety issues addressed by the proposed improvements and the brick wall that currently separates the patio area of the entrance from the sidewalk. Commissioners expressed their preference for a design that removes this wall but found an alternative design that retains the wall also acceptable. The commission voted unanimously to support this project with a letter to the Commission of Fine Arts. (See Appendix 1.)

Commissioner Coder reported on a hearing underway by the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED) on declaring surplus property the city-owned facilities that figure in the West End redevelopment project to be undertaken by EastBanc. She reported that one feature emphasized by the Commission – dedicating tax revenues generated by the new privately-owned buildings to the support of the new public facilities to be created – was part of the draft proposal put forward by DMPED, but stressed that vigilance will be needed to make sure this provision is retained in the legislation actually adopted. Commissioner Malinen stressed the value of long-term leasing for the public property being surplused rather than a direct sale to the developer.

## **Regulatory Agenda**

ABRA liquor license renewals were received on behalf of the following: Arts Club of Washington, Hudson, One Fish Two Fish, Renaissance M Street Hotel, RIS, Thai Coast, Thai Kitchen, Tonic at Quigley's, Yee Hwa, Restaurant Associates of NY (No Trade Name; premises at 600 19<sup>th</sup> St. NW, 1818 H St NW, 701 18<sup>th</sup> St. NW, 221 Pennsylvania Ave., NW) , 600 Restaurant at the Watergate, Founding Farmers, GWU Marvin Center,

**ABRA renewals (con't)**

Commissioners made no objection to these renewals, provided (in the case of the 600 Restaurant at the Watergate) that hours remained the same and that any voluntary agreements previously negotiated were also included in the renewed license.

**Administration and Commissioner/Committee Reports**

Commissioner Coder moved adoption of the May 19 and May 24 meeting minutes. The motion passed by a vote of 5-0 in both cases.

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned at 9:22 PM.

**Appendix 1**

**LETTER OF NO OBJECTION TO SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL RACE &  
FESTIVAL FOR WORLD PEACE**

June 21, 2010

Milicent D. Williams, Chair  
Mayor's Special Events Task Group  
Homeland Security & Emergency Management Agency  
2720 Martin Luther King Avenue, S.E.  
Washington DC 20032

Dear Ms. Williams:

At its regular monthly meeting, duly noticed and with quorum present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A heard a presentation of plans for the Sister Cities International Race & Festival for World Peace, scheduled for October 23, 2010. The Commission reviewed the planned route and locations in the Foggy Bottom and West End neighborhoods and found no hazard to the neighborhoods' peace and convenience. We therefore have no objection to the granting of a permit for this event.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Coder  
Chair

**LETTER TO COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS IN SUPPORT OF FOGGY BOTTOM  
GROCERY ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS**

June 21, 2010

Sarah Batcheler, AIA  
Architect  
US Commission of Fine Arts  
401 F St., N.W., Suite 312  
Washington DC 20001

REF: 10-805 (Foggy Bottom Grocery, 2140 F St, NW)

Dear Ms. Batcheler:

At its regularly monthly meeting, duly noticed and with a quorum present, commissioners of ANC 2A heard a presentation by Mr. Kris Hart, owner of Foggy Bottom Grocery, doing business as FoBoGro, on plans for renovating access to his store. The commission voted unanimously to support this project.

While either of the designs presented would meet the desired safety objectives, commissioners expressed a preference for the original design dated May 19, 2010 and filed with the CFA on June 4 over the revised design dated June 11, 2010 and filed with the CFA on June 14. Discussion focused on the fact that the May 19 design created more of an inviting retail presence, especially given the wood structure's historical uniqueness compared to other structures along the block.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input. Should you have any questions, please contact me directly at (202) 253-2612 or 2A02@anc.dc.gov.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Coder  
Chair

