



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 19th, 2020; 7:00 p.m.

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

Call to Order (7:01 pm)

Chair Patrick Kennedy (01) called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Commissioners Nicole Goldin (02), Trupti Patel (03), Evelyn Hudson (05), Jeri Epstein (06), Detrick Campbell (07), and James Harnett (08) were present.

Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Kennedy made a motion to adopt the ANC’s regular February 2020 meeting agenda by unanimous consent. Without any objection the agenda was adopted.

Adoption of Past Meeting Minutes

Chair Kennedy made a motion to adopt the ANC’s regular January 2020 meeting minutes by unanimous consent. Without any objection the minutes were adopted.

Community Forum (7:11 pm)

Report from the Metropolitan Police Department’s PSA 207

Captain Renato Caldwell, 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

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

Commissioner Updates

Commissioners Harnett and Epstein gave commissioner updates.

Announcements and Public Comments

Marina Streznewski, the President of the Foggy Bottom Association, gave announcements and public comments.

General Agenda (7:24 pm)

Presentation by Cheryl Morse, a Consumer Outreach Specialist for the DC Office of the People's Counsel, Regarding the Work of the Agency

Cheryl Morse, a Consumer Outreach Specialist for the DC Office of the People's Counsel, gave a presentation regarding the work of the agency.

Presentation by GW Hospital Regarding the Operations of the Hospital's Helipad

Christine Searight, GW Hospital's Senior Director of Strategic Marketing, Communications, and Business Development, and Dr. Babak Sarani, GW Hospital's Director of Trauma and Acute Care Surgery, gave a presentation regarding the operations of the hospital's helipad.

Matters Before the Public Space Committee (8:08 pm)

Public Space Application by Tatte Bakery & Cafe for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Cafe with 6 Tables, 24 Seats, and 6 Umbrellas at 1200 New Hampshire Avenue NW

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

ANC 2A supports Tatte Bakery & Café's public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk cafe at 1200 New Hampshire Avenue NW.

Public Space Application by Ruth's Chris Steak House for a Valet Staging Zone with 2 Metered Parking Spaces at 2000 L Street NW

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

ANC 2A supports Ruth's Chris Steak House's public space application for a valet staging zone at 2000 L Street NW.

Public Space Application by Lazy Kate's Bistro for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 13 Tables and 52 Seats at 2300 N Street NW

Commissioner Goldin made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

General Agenda (Continued) (8:21 pm)

Presentation by the U.S. Census Bureau and Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the 2020 Census

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

WHEREAS, every ten years the United States Census Bureau counts residents across the country,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A supports the United States Census Bureau's efforts in conducting a complete and accurate count of all U.S. residents as of April 1st, 2020,

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia, including ANC 2A, is one of the more demographically diverse places in the United States, and this diversity is our strength,

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia annually receives \$6 billion in federal funding based on census data,

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia, and ANC 2A, has seen dramatic increases in population and residents since the 2010 census,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A is committed to raising awareness of the importance of the 2020 census by aggressively reaching out to hard-to-count groups and encouraging their participation in the census,

WHEREAS, a complete count ensures accurate census data, which provides critical information for government programs, policies, and decision making that affect ANC 2A residents, including the funding of programs related to healthcare, transportation, education, housing, youth, and childcare,

WHEREAS, census data is used to update ward, ANC, and single member district (SMD) boundaries, determine funding for schools in ANC 2A, and plan for resources such as new playgrounds, recreation centers, senior wellness centers, and programming to serve specific populations,

WHEREAS, in 2010 the District of Columbia was the second-most undercounted city in the nation, with the following groups having been historically undercounted: low income residents, foreign-born residents, renters in multi-unit buildings, children ages 0-5, and African-American households, and

WHEREAS, the next three months, from February 12th, 2020 to May 12th, 2020, including the 2020 census day on April 1st, 2020, are a critical time to engage with residents to ensure that they are informed about why the census matters to ANC 2A, our ward, and our city, as well as how to participate.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A will work together through May 12th, 2020 to support activities that aim to have every resident in each SMD of ANC 2A counted in the 2020 census regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, language spoken, or citizenship status. ANC 2A commissioners will:

1. Post on neighborhood listservs, blogs, social media, and other electronic media to encourage residents to complete the census forms ([DC Census 2020 digital media toolkit](#)),

2. Encourage neighborhood volunteers to post and engage on electronic media about the census, and
3. Encourage neighborhood volunteers to organize and participate in SMD outreach using door hangers provided by DC Census 2020 officials. ([U.S. Census outreach toolkit](#)).

Matters Before the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (8:31 pm)

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Boston Properties' Request for an After-Hours Permit to Work During Overnight Hours on Weeknights in February, March, and April of 2020

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

ANC 2A supports Boston Properties' request for an after-hours permit to work from 7:00 pm to 3:00 am from February 24th, 2020 to April 30th, 2020 as part of the 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue NW construction project.

Matters Before the Mayor's Special Events Task Group (8:45 pm)

Special Event Application for the DC Bike Ride on Saturday, May 16th, 2020

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

ANC 2A supports the special event application for the DC Bike Ride on Saturday, May 16th, 2020.

Matters Before the DC Council (8:50 pm)

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Need for a New, Permanent Facility for the DC Archives

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

WHEREAS, the DC Archives and the Office of Public Records (OPR) serve the key public purpose of storing, protecting, and organizing the government documents that constitute the most universal records of District residents and those of the government that serves them.

When pieced together, these documents tell vivid stories about ordinary people of all races, classes, and genders, from all eight wards, representing both communities that exist

and ones that have been lost. These documents allow both historians and family genealogists to reconstruct the lives of ordinary residents.

Additionally, the Archives holds records of public figures, objects, and private collections of public interest. Among other things, these collections chronicle the struggles for home rule and civil rights that have defined the District.

WHEREAS, the current facility used to store DC's valuable historical documents is a converted stable in Naylor Court, off 9th Street NW in Shaw, that does not meet industry standards for security, fire protection, document preservation, and public access.

The facility was commissioned in 1990 but immediately fell into disrepair due to budget cuts in the 1990s. Between that time until the restoration of the HVAC system in 2018, poor climate control allowed DC heat and humidity to severely damage paper, photographs, and objects, many of which were never separated from mold or materials that degrade them, metal paperclips, oils, and glue.

Secondly, the current archive facility is too small, leaving government records scattered across District buildings and rented spaces. Indeed, the majority of public documents held by OPR are stored at a National Archives and Records Administration facility in Suitland, MD at a cost of over \$600,000 per year, and the full cost of offsite storage is difficult to calculate because this excess storage is paid for by the agencies that generated the records.

Finally, the lack of proper reading rooms means that the Archives are substantially not available to the public. The limited access citizens and historians have strained staff resources, and it is impossible to accommodate school or university instruction, a common practice elsewhere. When space is available, researchers must work in record storage areas, a major security risk.

WHEREAS, even the best conditions outlined above are not normal for peer institutions, such as ones that store state-level documents or those of major cities. Similarly, these conditions would not be considered acceptable for a university archive or private records collection.

WHEREAS, most peer organizations operate independently of the executive branch of government, either as independent agencies, or governmentally-chartered institutions. In contrast, key decisions about the DC Archives are made by the executive. The independence of other archives reflects an understanding that the cycles of government and politics are not conducive to the long-term planning and operations critical to a successful archive.

WHEREAS, between FY 2015 and FY 2019, Mayor Bowser and the DC Council appropriated over \$80 million to construct a new DC Archives facility and to transfer and conserve the records currently stored in rented spaces. This latest action occurred after a long period of citizen activism and after District agencies proposed several inappropriate locations.

In addition to this appropriation, capital funds from earlier building proposals remain assigned to OPR, unexpended, while the office's operational budget is insufficient for the backlog of conservation work.

WHEREAS, at the September 27th, 2018 hearing on the "District Historical Records Advisory Board Amendment Act of 2018" (DC Council Bill B22-0842), the Office of the Secretary announced that a new-construction archive, record, and education facility would be constructed at the University of the District of Columbia. The Secretary stated that construction would begin in 2019.

WHEREAS, as of December 31st, 2019, no contracts for design or construction of these facilities have been issued and no land transfer agreement between the University of the District of Columbia and the Government of the District of Columbia existed, or has been made public.

WHEREAS, at a time of major change in the District of Columbia, ANC 2A recognizes the need for a new facility and resources to make public records a public resource.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A requests that the Mayor and the DC Council secure a site for the DC Archives and the Office of Public Records at the University of the District of Columbia, design a facility, and begin substantial construction within eighteen months of this resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it is a matter of fiscal responsibility that the Mayor and the DC Council expend funds appropriated from their constituents to preserve their own history in a timely and efficient fashion. Appropriations from earlier capital plans not dedicated to establishing a new facility at the University of the District of Columbia should be spent completing the 20-year backlog of conservation work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and the DC Council should create a lasting legacy for the citizens of the District by establishing an independent District Records and Archives Agency, governed by a Mayorally-appointed board of specialists and citizens.

This independence is the most effective way to ensure that a new facility is put to use in a timely fashion and that the operations of the Archives are consistently and freely funded in the future.

General Agenda (Continued) (8:55 pm)

Presentation by the Office of Campaign Finance Regarding DC's Fair Elections Program

Belinda Perry, the Policy Analyst for the Office of Campaign Finance (OCF), gave a presentation regarding DC's Fair Elections Program.

Matters Before the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (9:06 pm)

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Authority's Draft FY 2021 Budget and Associated Bus Service Change Proposals

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

WHEREAS, the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) is soliciting public comments on the Authority's proposed Fiscal Year 2021 budget, to include potential changes to fares and Metrobus services.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A takes the following positions with respect to the changes proposed:

- The Commission strongly supports the proposal to introduce a full transfer credit (i.e., \$2) between bus and rail trips. This change will have considerable equity benefits for those previously double-charged if they wanted to transfer from the bus to Metrorail, and it will encourage better overall utilization of the network as a whole. This change is a necessary precondition to evaluating the bus network as a whole with the goal of introducing more frequent, reliable service that complements the Metrorail system.
- ANC 2A supports the implementation of a flat fare for all weekend trips in order to encourage off-peak ridership and discourage additional automobile trips into the District, however such fare should not exceed \$2.50 in order to provide an equitable saving to most District residents and match the base fare for peak-hour rail service.
- The Commission supports the incremental restoration of late-night service (to midnight between Tuesdays and Fridays and 2:00 am on Saturdays and Sundays). The ANC strongly encourages WMATA to restore at least one hour of service to each end on Sundays however, as the present span of service (8:00 am to 11:00 pm) is too limited for both morning riders (particularly those traveling from overnight employment or traveling to early church service) and evening riders (those working or out late).
- ANC 2A opposes the implementation of peak fares on rail service after midnight, as it will disincentivize use of the Metrorail system during low-ridership times, encourage additional ridehailing-driven congestion in popular nightlife areas, and potentially increase the incidence of intoxicated driving. Furthermore, service frequency at these hours is generally so low that charging peak fares will reduce the perceived rider value of Metrorail service as compared to other alternatives.
- The Commission opposes the implementation of a cash surcharge on Metrobus routes, in view of the fact that this concept was tried previously and phased out based on the minimal impact it appeared to have on rider behavior. Rather than

encouraging additional SmarTrip use, it is likely that this change will merely amount to a regressive tax on generally low-income riders.

- ANC 2A strongly opposes the implementation of a \$1 fare surcharge on MetroExtra routes due to negative equity impacts and the reality that the surcharge will amount to a disincentive for riders to embrace more efficient, limited-stop service both now and in future service planning efforts. Many bus routes have already seen their local line trips reduced in order to provide more limited-stop trips. If this surcharge is implemented, that will amount to a large cut in affordable bus service and make most MetroExtra trips in the District of Columbia more expensive than comparable Metrorail service.
- The Commission supports the advocacy of Commissioner James Harnett and the students of the George Washington University in advocating for a Metro pass program (U·Pass) for university students and that the program should be available to all university students in the District of Columbia. Further, the DC Council and universities in the District of Columbia are encouraged to work with student leaders to implement such a program, especially for low-income students.
- **D5:** The Commission opposes elimination of the D5 bus, which provides a direct connection for residents living in the Palisades neighborhood and inner parts of suburban Maryland along or near MacArthur Boulevard to Foggy Bottom and the K Street NW employment core. The alternative service available (mainly the D6), takes a much longer and less direct route toward Farragut Square and misses the Foggy Bottom neighborhood entirely. What's more, WMATA's own statistics show that a quarter of the riders utilizing the D5 do so at bus stops that are not presently served by other buses heading downtown.

In order to not encourage additional automobile trips into the Foggy Bottom neighborhood, the Commission recommends two alternatives to eliminating the D5 be studied:

- Evaluate the feasibility of routing D5 buses to the K Street NW corridor via the Whitehurst Freeway and the Washington Circle underpass in order to provide a quicker, "express" trip that avoids M Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW in Georgetown, where redundant service is provided by the 38B. A quicker trip time could translate into additional riders.
- Extend some D6 trips along the D5's present route into Maryland in order to ensure no complete loss of downtown-oriented bus service for commuters in that area.
- **30s:** The Commission supports conversion of 30N and 30S trips to 31, 33, 32, or 36 service based on the potential benefits to on-time performance and user intuitiveness, but bases its support on the following conditions:
 - That WMATA's Board of Directors fulfills its intent to implement a full fare credit (i.e., free transfer) between bus and rail trips coincident with

any change so that there is no substantial cost or convenience burden imposed on riders due to the new service pattern.

- That WMATA maintains full 30N and 30S service during overnight hours and at all times that the Metrorail system is not operating, hours during which traffic congestion and trip time reliability are not major concerns. Having a longer, one-seat ride that serves many activity centers during these hours is significantly more convenient (particularly given reduced service frequency during this time) than forcing a transfer between routes that may or may not be well-timed in practice downtown. Additionally, continuous night service that eliminates the need to wait outside, vulnerable to weather elements and in dark and potentially isolated locations, is safer for riders.
- That WMATA evaluates the feasibility of extending the 33 to Archives or Capitol Hill in order to fully serve commuter trips and establish a seamless connection between buses and the Green and Yellow lines.
- That WMATA implements some form of managed dispatch on the 30s line and considers further route series consolidation in order to properly space departures and produce more consistent, reliable, and frequent service along the whole of the existing line.

Matters Before the DC Council (Continued) (9:35 pm)

Consideration of a Resolution Encouraging the DC Council to Fully Fund Wage Theft Prevention Initiatives as Part of the FY 2021 Budgeting Process

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

WHEREAS, the compromise to repeal Initiative No. 77 is cited as the “Tipped Wage Workers Fairness Amendment Act of 2018.” The act embedded provisions designed to prevent the abuse of tipped workers,

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the DC Council have yet to fund the provisions,

WHEREAS, one such provision was to design a portal to accept anonymous and non-anonymous wage theft complaints by employees. In addition, the Department of Employment Services must establish a public reporting system that allows employees and other members of the public to report wage-related violations. The reporting system must be available by web and telephone 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every week for the entire calendar year,

WHEREAS, another provision directed the DC Council to create and establish a Tipped Workers Coordinating Council, which is intended to be a partnership of tipped workers, employers, and public agencies that promotes a high-quality response to tipped worker cases of wage theft and unfair labor practices, and

WHEREAS, another provision directed the Office of Human Rights (OHR) to design and provide a mandatory sexual harassment training course. The course should cover guidelines and policies that:

1. Inform employees about how they may report instances of sexual harassment to management and to OHR,
2. Distribute the employer's sexual harassment policy to employees and post the policy in a conspicuous place accessible to all employees in the workplace, and
3. Require sexual harassment prevention training of owners, operators, managers, and employees of tipping establishments. OHR will maintain records of each individual's training for at least five years.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A strongly urges the DC Council and the Mayor to properly promote, fully implement, and completely fund the Tipped Wage Workers Fairness Amendment Act of 2018. The act provides support, prevents abuse, and offers protections to DC's tipped workers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A authorizes Commissioner Trupti Patel to testify before the DC Council regarding this resolution.

Administrative Matters (9:41 pm)

Discussion of Procedures for Livestreaming ANC Meetings

The commissioners discussed proposed procedures for livestreaming ANC meetings.

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Adjournment (10:11 pm)

Chair Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 10:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Detrick Campbell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "C".

Detrick Campbell
Secretary, ANC 2A07