



# Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

## Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 21, 2015; 7:00 p.m.

GW Fungler Hall, Room 103 – 2201 G Street NW

### Call to Order

Chair Patrick Kennedy (01) called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm. Commissioners Rebecca Coder (02), John Williams (03), William Kennedy Smith (04), Philip Schrefer (05), Florence Harmon (06), and Peter Sacco (08) were present. Commissioner Jackson Carnes (07) arrived at 7:25 pm.

Chair Kennedy made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0).

### Election of 2015 Commission Officers

Commissioner Williams made a motion to nominate Chair Kennedy as the Chair. Chair Kennedy accepted the nomination. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0).

Commissioner Smith made a motion to nominate Commissioner Harmon as Vice Chair. Commissioner Harmon accepted the nomination. Commissioner Coder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES 7-0).

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to nominate Commissioner Sacco as Secretary. Commissioner Sacco accepted the nomination. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0).

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to nominate Commissioner Carnes as Treasurer. Commissioner Carnes accepted the nomination. Commissioner Coder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

### Community Forum

#### Consideration of a Resolution Honoring Former ANC Commissioners Asher Corson, Graham Galka, and Armando Irizarry

Chair Kennedy read a resolution he had written aloud, which honored former Commissioner Corson for his work on ANC 2A.

Chair Kennedy made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0).

Chair Kennedy read a resolution he had written aloud, which honored former Commissioner Irizarry for his work on ANC 2A.

Chair Kennedy made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0).

#### Public Safety Report from MPD PSA 207

Sergeant Lawrence from the Metropolitan Police Department was present to give the safety report.

Marina Streznewski, a local resident, asked if there was any additional information on the recent stabbings at McFadden's or the recent sexual assault at the corner of New Hampshire Avenue and Eye Street NW. Sergeant Lawrence said that both cases were currently open investigations and thus he could not give any additional information regarding them.

#### Report from the Office of Ward 2 Councilmember Jack Evans

Kevin Stogner, General Counsel for Councilmember Jack Evans, was present. He said that the DC Council's performance oversight and FY 2016 budget season was about to start. He encouraged community members to submit testimony or testify at any DC Council hearings related to agencies that community members had particular thoughts about.

#### Report from the Executive Office of the Mayor

John Fanning, the Ward 2 Representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, was present. Mr. Fanning introduced himself and then gave out his contact information. His email is: [john.fanning@dc.gov](mailto:john.fanning@dc.gov), and his cell phone number is: 202-340-7229. He added that Mayor Bowser would be making additional executive appointments to her administration in the coming week.

#### Updates on the West End Library and Fire Station Projects

Ben Sonnett from Eastbanc was present. He said that the demolition of the old police station building on the Square 37 site had started, and that the demolition of the old West End Library building would start soon. He also said that the project website was in the process of being updated. He gave out his contact info to attendees in case anyone had issues with the project or wanted to sign up for the bi-weekly project newsletter. His email is: [b.sonnet@eastbanc.com](mailto:b.sonnet@eastbanc.com).

#### Updates on the Fall 2014 ANC Grant Program

Commissioner Sacco said that the distribution of the first ANC grant to the Home and School Association at the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens was complete. He went over the history of the grant fund and said that the next deadline was coming up on February 28th.

### **General Agenda**

#### Report from the Ward 2 Education Network

Chris Sondreal, ANC 2A's representative to the Ward 2 Education Network, was present. He talked about the Network's plans for an upcoming public panel featuring local school principals, adding that the Network was trying to set a date for the meeting. He added that the school enrollment lottery was currently underway and that the deadline to enroll was February 2nd for high school students and March 2nd for students in grades 8 and lower.

Consideration of a Resolution Urging that Budget Allotment for Garrison Elementary School's Renovation / Reconstruction Not be Shifted from the Upcoming Fiscal Year

Chair Kennedy talked about the history of Garrison Elementary School and its recent "rebranding" by the school community. He distributed a resolution he had written, which called on the DC government to not reallocate funds already set aside for the renovation of the school. He read the "be it resolved" clauses of the resolution aloud.

Chair Kennedy made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Litigation Related to Noise Issues at The Avenue (2201 I St)

Alex Gallo, a resident of The Avenue, was present. He went over the history of the noise situation on the property and the fact that he filed an injunction against the delivery companies servicing The Avenue in the DC Superior Court.

Commissioner Carnes questioned whether or not DC's noise laws applied to commercial zones, one which The Avenue was located in.

Commissioner Harmon asked Mr. Gallo about the possibility of staying his lawsuit so that he and the ANC could negotiate directly with the businesses in The Avenue. She added that the ANC could retain an arbitrator for the two parties.

Commissioner Smith asked if Mr. Gallo had gathered community support from his neighbors on the matter. Mr. Gallo said that he had support from his neighbors but they were not willing to publicly express their support. Commissioner Smith suggested gathering public community support in order to show that the issue applied to the larger community.

Chair Kennedy described how the ANC could bring up the noise issues during the future liquor license renewal processes for the businesses located in The Avenue.

Commissioner Williams said that he believed that the ANC should not get involved in the situation since there was a lack of a general community support regarding the issue.

Mr. Gallo said that he would take some time to speak to other residents in the building and come back to the ANC with greater community support.

Application for a New Curb Cut at 2000 L Street (#101955)

J.P. Spickler from FOX Architects was present. He said that FOX Architects was the architect of record for the project.

Rafael Pelli from Pelli Clarke Pelli was also present. He said that Pelli Clarke Pelli was the design firm for the project.

Mr. Spickler said that two buildings at the site were being combined into one building, which would be called Alexander Court. He said that the developer was not seeking any relief from the Board of Zoning Adjustment for the project, so the project was a by-right development project.

Mr. Spickler said that there were three current curb cuts on the site and that the developer was seeking the ANC's support to remove one of the curb cuts and shorten the other two curb cuts from 25 feet to 14 feet in width.

Sara Maddux, a local resident, asked what the sidewalks on the site were going to be made of. Mr. Spickler said that they would be concrete pavers.

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to raise no objection to the curb cut application. Commissioner Coder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

#### Application by JBG Companies for a Curb-Cut Related to a Larger Project at 1900 N St (ANC 2B)

Derek Wood from FOX Architects was present. He said that the developer for the project was The JBG Companies. He gave a presentation on the plans for the building.

Mr. Wood said that the developer was proposing to eliminate one curb cut on the site as well as remove multiple Pepco vaults currently in place on the sidewalk.

The ANC did not take any action on this matter since the site is not within the boundaries of ANC 2A.

#### Overview of the Proposed "Potomac Hill Campus Master Plan" (Old Naval Observatory) and Consideration of a Resolution on the Same

*Commissioner Harmon recused herself from voting on this matter.*

Commissioner Smith went over the outcomes of a recent community meeting on the Potomac Hill Campus Master Plan. He added that that the public comment period on the proposed master plan had been extended due to an error made by the General Services Administration (GSA) on the initial plans.

Commissioner Smith distributed a letter he had written on the matter, which asked for the GSA to examine ways to open up the site to the public and to use the more historically-accurate name of "Observatory Hill" for the site when finalizing the campus master plan.

Jan Herman, the former Naval Historian for the site, was present and went over the historical significance of the site as well as the significance of the "Observatory Hill" name.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the letter to the General Services Administration. Commissioner Coder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0).

#### Update and Discussion on the Proposed Kennedy Center Expansion Project and Concerns Relating to Bus Parking and the Planned River Pavilion

Multiple representatives from the Kennedy Center were present. One representative went over the history of the proposal for the expansion project, adding that the Kennedy Center staff had been on a two year listening tour regarding the proposal at that point.

The representative said that the Kennedy Center team was very close to working through the appropriate approval processes, adding that the team was almost finished with the U.S. Commission on Fine Arts approval process and was still working through the approval process with the National Capital Planning Commission.

John Moss, an additional representative from the Kennedy Center, went over the number of bus parking spaces and car parking spaces for the proposed site, adding that buses would also be able to park on the Kennedy Center's main plaza for the busiest bus traffic times, estimated to be about two to three times per year. He added that the Kennedy Center team also went out on the Potomac River with the boating community, who said that the footprint for the floating performance space was not as large as they initially thought it would be.

Commissioner Williams asked about a previous project that was initially proposed to connect the Kennedy Center's main plaza to the bike paths and walking paths along the Potomac River. Mr. Moss said the project had been incorporated into this expansion project.

Commissioner Williams asked how the project planners would mitigate the heavy trash flows on the Potomac River. Mr. Moss said that the planning team included construction engineers who were working to negate the environmental impacts as a result of the project.

Commissioner Williams asked how noise pollution on the Potomac River would impact performances on the proposed outdoor venues. Mr. Moss said that the proposed venues would include indoor spaces as well as outdoor spaces that would use varying types of performing options.

Chair Kennedy asked if the Kennedy Center team had coordinated with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) regarding DDOT's plans for the Theodore Roosevelt Bridge. Mr. Moss said that the team did have peripheral conversations with DDOT regarding the matter.

#### Discussion of Recent Incidents Involving McFadden's (ABRA-060591) and Heritage India / The Zanzibar (ABRA-0900)

Commissioner Coder gave an overview of the recent incidents at McFadden's. She talked about the previous letter that the ANC members submitted in their individual capacity to the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board regarding the incidents. She said that since ANC 2A now had

newly sworn-in Commissioners, she hoped that that the ANC would reaffirm the letter to the ABC Board.

Commissioner Coder made a motion to approve the letter to the ABC Board. Chair Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

Commissioner Sacco then distributed a resolution he had written regarding the recent incidents at Heritage India / The Zanzibar. He gave an overview of the incidents as well as the recent actions that the ABC Board took against the establishment.

Commissioner Sacco made a motion to approve his resolution. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

#### Application for a New Class CR License by West Wing Cafe (2400 M St, ABRA-097022)

Gene Cynn, the legal counsel for the West Wing Cafe, was present. He gave an overview of the proposed menu for the restaurant.

Chair Kennedy went over the proposed hours for the establishment that were included in the liquor license application.

Commissioner Coder asked about the applicant's request for liquor sales hours that lasted until 2 am. She added that she had concerns with supporting the license if it included liquor sales hours until 2 am.

Commissioner Coder made a motion to protest the liquor license application on the basis of peace, order and quiet. Commissioner Harmon asked for a friendly amendment to authorize the Chair and the respective single member district Commissioner to negotiate the terms of the settlement agreement with the applicant. Commissioner Harmon seconded the final motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

#### Application for a New Class CR License and Stipulated License by Char Bar

Two representatives from Char Bar was present. They said that the concept for the liquor license was to offer kosher wines from around the world and a limited beer selection. They added that the restaurant had already opened and that it was not open on Fridays or Saturdays. They also said that most patrons left by 9 pm each night.

Commissioner Harmon made a motion to support the application for a Stipulated License and the application for a CR License. Chair Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

#### Update on Crosswalk Configuration at the Intersection of New Hampshire Avenue, 22nd & L Streets

Commissioner Harmon talked about a recent letter the ANC received from the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) in which DDOT decided to not reinstate the crosswalk at

the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue, 22nd Street, and L Street. She added that she was going to follow up with DDOT regarding the matter.

Request by FRESHFARM Markets for a Letter of Support to Stage the 2015 Foggy Bottom FRESHFARM Market

Dana Rybak and Caroline Michniak, representatives from FRESHFARM Markets, were present. They distributed a letter of support for the ANC to consider.

Commissioner Carnes made a motion to approve the letter of support. Commissioner Harmon seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

Consideration of a Resolution Urging the WMATA Board to Adopt as a Priority for Capital Budget Planning, the Construction of a Second Entrance to the “Foggy Bottom-GWU” Metro Station

Chair Kennedy talked about his recent meeting with Councilmember Jack Evans, DC’s new member of the WMATA Board, who said that he was going to prioritize funding for the construction of a second entrance at the Foggy Bottom Metro Station in the upcoming WMATA capital budget.

Commissioner Carnes read a resolution he had written on the matter aloud, which asked Councilmember Evans to support funding for the construction of a second entrance for the Foggy Bottom-GWU Metro Station.

Chair Kennedy asked to also address the resolution to the Interim General Manager of WMATA as well as the Chair of the WMATA Board.

Barbara Kahlow, a local resident, suggested also addressing the resolution to DC Council Chairman Phil Mendelson.

Commissioner Carnes made a motion to approve the resolution. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Flight Approach Paths into National Airport

Chair Kennedy went over the extent of the issue, adding that the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) altered flight paths coming in and out of National Airport a few years ago to move the paths away from the Virginia side of the Potomac River and towards the DC side of the river.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to note that the noise from the National Airport flight approach paths was an issue of concern to the neighborhood, and to commend Communities for Smart Airport Growth (CSAG) for its efforts to address the issue. Chair Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

Request for a Letter of Support by Competitor Group in Order to Stage the “2015 Rock N Roll Marathon and Half Marathon” on March 14th

Diane Thomas, a representative from the Competitor Group, was present to talk about the 2015 Rock N Roll Marathon. She said that there was both a full- and half-marathon planned for this year, and that both would start at 7 am and end by 10 am.

Sara Maddux, a local resident, described problems from the race last year where, when Virginia Avenue was closed down during the marathon, residents living in the area were unable to enter and exit from their properties. Ms. Thomas said that the Competitor Group could have a special operations unit in place for Virginia Avenue now that she knew that Virginia Avenue was a problematic area during the race.

Chair Kennedy made a motion to send a letter to the Mayor's Special Events Task Force Group, noting the neighborhood's concerns regarding noise and traffic impacts from the Rock N Roll Marathon as well as residential parking ingress and egress. Commissioner Smith asked for a friendly amendment to note the proximately of the marathon's planned sound stage #4 to nearby residential properties. Commissioner Harmon seconded the final motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

### **Administrative Agenda**

#### Approval of Past Commission Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Sacco made a motion to approve the June 2014, October 2014, and November 2014 regular meeting minutes pending minor technical edits. Commissioner Coder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

#### Approval of 2015 Commission Calendar of Meetings

Chair Kennedy distributed the proposed 2015 ANC calendar of meetings. Chair Kennedy made a motion to approve the calendar of meetings. Commissioner Williams seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

#### Approval of Expenses Related to Commission Meeting Locations

Chair Kennedy made a motion to approve expenses up to \$500 to compensate GW for audiovisual expenses related to the 2015 calendar of meetings. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

#### Authorization for the Commission to Participate in the ANC Security Fund for 2015

Chair Kennedy made a motion to approve expenses of \$25 for the ANC to participate in the ANC Security Fund for 2015. Commissioner Carnes seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

#### Authorization of Payment to Renew the Commission's UPS Store Mailbox for 2015



Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve expenses of \$420 to renew the ANC's mailbox lease at The UPS Store. Commissioner Coder second the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

Authorization to Reimburse Commissioner Peter Sacco for the Cost of Acquiring Nameplates for New ANC Commissioners

Chair Kennedy made a motion to approve expenses of \$74.85 to reimburse Commissioner Sacco for the cost of buying nameplates for the new ANC 2A Commissioners. Commissioner Coder seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0).

Discussion of Policy Regarding the Filming / Streaming of ANC Meetings

The Commissioners discussed the possibility of creating a live video stream for the ANC's meetings. This matter will be further discussed at a future meeting.

Chair Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 10:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted by **Peter Sacco**, ANC 2A Secretary.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Sacco". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.