



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 16th, 2019; 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), Nicole Goldin (02), Trupti Patel (03), Philip Schrefer (05), Jeri Epstein (06), Detrick Campbell (07), and James Harnett (08) were present.

Adoption of the Agenda

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

Adoption of Past Meeting Minutes

Chair Smith made a motion to adopt the ANC’s regular November 2018 meeting minutes by unanimous consent. Without any objection the minutes were adopted.

Election of 2019 Commission Officers

Commissioner Kennedy made a motion to elect Commissioner Smith as the ANC’s Chair for 2019. Commissioner Schrefer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Chair Smith made a motion to elect Commissioner Kennedy as the ANC’s Vice Chair for 2019. Commissioner Epstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Chair Smith made a motion to elect Commissioner Schrefer as the ANC’s Secretary for 2019. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Commissioner Kennedy made a motion to elect Commissioner Patel as the ANC’s Treasurer for 2019. Chair Smith seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Community Forum

Report from the Metropolitan Police Department’s PSA 207

Commander Duncan Bedlion, the new Commander for the Metropolitan Police Department’s (MPD) Second District, introduced himself to meeting attendees.

Lieutenant LaToyia Heath, a Lieutenant for MPD’s Police Service Area (PSA) 207, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Consideration of a Resolution Acknowledging Lieutenant Darren Haskis’ Service to the Neighborhood

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

WHEREAS, Lt. Darren Haskis has served as the Lieutenant for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Police Service Area (PSA) 207 since early 2018,

WHEREAS, Lt. Haskis has continually responded to ANC requests for additional enforcement and officer patrols in the Foggy Bottom and West End neighborhoods, including through the recent stationing of a traffic enforcement officer near the dangerous intersection of Washington Circle and 23rd Street NW, adjacent to GW Hospital,

WHEREAS, Lt. Haskis has consistently attended ANC 2A's regular meetings since he first started with PSA 207, providing monthly MPD updates to the ANC,

WHEREAS, Lt. Haskis has continually followed up on ANC requests for additional neighborhood crime statistics, including the publication of long range statistics that allowed the ANC to more clearly understand crime trends in Foggy Bottom and the West End, and

WHEREAS, Lt. Haskis has always responded to ANC and neighborhood emails and phone calls in a quick manner.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, in recognition of Lt. Darren Haskis' service to the Foggy Bottom and West End communities, ANC 2A hereby extends to him its grateful appreciation and best wishes for the years to come.

Report from the Executive Office of the Mayor

Richard Livingstone, a former Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), introduced Nicole Goines and Amr Kotb, the new MOCRS Ward 2 representatives, who gave an update from the Executive Office of the Mayor (EOM).

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

No one was present regarding this matter.

Report from the Department of Public Works

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

Consideration of a Resolution Acknowledging Former Commissioner Marco Guzman's Service to the Neighborhood

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

WHEREAS, Marco Guzman was elected to ANC 2A in Single-Member District (“SMD”) 2A03 on November 8, 2016 for a term commencing on January 2, 2017 and concluding on January 2, 2019,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Guzman’s former SMD contains more than half of the Foggy Bottom Historic District, a collection of alley dwellings and rowhomes of distinct character, whose residents are historically among the most civically-active in the neighborhood if not the District of Columbia as a whole,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Guzman devoted a significant amount of personal time to community consultation and due diligence efforts for historic preservation and zoning applications within and/or adjacent to the Historic District – efforts that resulted in ANC 2A considering resolutions that were logically sound and well-vetted, and which as a result garnered consensus support from his colleagues,

WHEREAS, in these and all other matters that came before him personally or ANC 2A as a whole, Commissioner Guzman conducted himself in a professional manner and maintained an even-keel despite confronting some very contentious issues about which his constituents had strong opinions,

WHEREAS, Commissioner Guzman always strove to protect the interests of his constituents while maintaining a balanced perspective about the needs of the broader community, and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Guzman always kept a clear-eyed view to what the relevant issues were in any matter that came before the Commission and considered carefully where his input would be most effective – contributing to efficient and productive deliberations by ANC 2A about a great many topics of community interest over the course of his term.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, in recognition of Commissioner Marco Guzman’s service to the Foggy Bottom and West End communities, ANC 2A hereby extends to him its grateful appreciation and best wishes for the years to come.

Nomination of Former Commissioner Florence Harmon as the ANC’s Special Representative for the Stevens School Project

Chair Smith made a motion to nominate former Commissioner Florence Harmon as the ANC’s Special Representative for the Stevens School Project. Commissioner Goldin seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Update Regarding DC Council Bill B22-0959 – the “East End Health Equity Act of 2018”

Chair Smith gave an update regarding DC Council Bill B22-0959 – the “East End Health Equity Act of 2018.”

Announcements and Public Comments

Linda Greenan, the External Affairs Manager for the District of Columbia for Pepco, gave an update regarding upcoming utility work in the neighborhood.

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

General Agenda

Presentation by Anacostia Riverkeeper Regarding an Upcoming District-Wide Weekly Water Sampling Project

Ben Turner, an Outreach Associate for Anacostia Riverkeeper, gave a presentation regarding the organization’s upcoming District-wide weekly water sampling project.

Presentation by MRP Realty Regarding Planned Renovations to 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

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

ANC 2A supports 91 TTPA LESSEE, LLC’s Zoning Commission application for a PUD modification of consequence at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Davis Construction’s Request to Carry Out Construction Work on the 2050 M Street NW Project and the Stevens School Project on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 21st, 2019; Presidents’ Day on Monday, February 18th, 2019; and Emancipation Day on Tuesday, April 16th, 2019

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

ANC 2A supports Davis Construction’s after-hours construction permit request for 2050 M Street NW and the Stevens School project at 2100 L Street NW / 1050 21st Street NW for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day on Monday, January 21st, 2019; Presidents’ Day on Monday, February 18th, 2019; and Emancipation Day on Tuesday, April 16th, 2019.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the 2019 Season of the FRESHFARM Foggy Bottom Market

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

ANC 2A supports the renewal of the public space permit for FRESHFARM Markets for the 2019 Foggy Bottom Farmers Market on the I Street Pedestrian Mall between 23rd Street and 24th Street NW.

Regulatory Agenda

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the District Department of Transportation's 20th Street / 21st Street / 22nd Street NW Protected Bike Lanes Project

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

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is currently soliciting comment on three alternatives identified for study in the 20th/21st/22nd Protected Bike Lanes Project,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A, in a resolution dated May 23, 2018¹, previously requested that the 22nd Street alternative not be carried forward for consideration and the Commission wishes to reiterate that position here, and

WHEREAS, the Commission wishes to comment further now that DDOT has released preliminary schematic designs of the alternatives as they stand at "10% design."

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A takes the following additional positions in regard to this project:

- Based on consultation with commissioners in ANC 2B (Dupont Circle), it is ANC 2A's understanding that our neighboring colleagues are unlikely to support the utilization of 21st Street north of New Hampshire Avenue for this project – and that they are instead likely to recommend the use of 20th Street for the segment in question. This being the case, ANC 2A wishes to coordinate our recommendation to the greatest extent possible with this likelihood.
- Proceeding southward from the intersection of 20th Street and New Hampshire Avenue on the basis of the above, ANC 2A supports the utilization of 20th Street for the Protected Bike Lane as designed by DDOT to a point at least as far as I Street south of Pennsylvania Avenue. The Commission notes that 20th Street has a wider right-of-way in this section than 21st Street does – four lanes of width as compared to three. The presence of a cycletrack on 20th Street would effectively narrow the roadway, resulting in safer conditions for all users while the more generous right-of-way ensures no substantial adverse impact on vehicular throughput. Utilizing 20th Street in this stretch would also enable the preservation of more on-street parking spaces and curbside commercial/passenger loading facilities relative to 21st Street, factors particularly important in the vicinity of the Lafayette Center office complex in the 1100 block – which contains a large concentration of medical offices for MedStar and other healthcare providers. Because of its narrower width, DDOT's design alternative for 21st Street

necessarily contemplates the elimination of all areas for vehicular stopping and standing on the east side of the roadway.

Finally, given that the schematics depict facilities of equivalent quality on both streets, the Commission sees little compelling rationale to privilege one street over another on the basis of cyclist preference; both roadways feature the same basic mix of uses in this segment (largely office and institutional) and existing protected (L and M Streets) and unprotected (New Hampshire Avenue) bicycle facilities intersect with the 20th Street corridor to serve points west.

- The Commission sees the utilization of 21st Street south of Virginia Avenue as a key component of fulfilling two major objectives for bicycle travel associated with this project: facilitating access by visitors down to the National Mall and serving commuter travel to the major concentration of federal office buildings located in the Northwest Rectangle. Because 20th Street is interrupted between Virginia Avenue and C Street by a fountain plaza adjacent to the Federal Reserve campus, continuous travel to the Mall on this artery is not possible and the detour required to bridge the two segments of 20th Street is less-than-straightforward. Twenty-First Street is the only roadway that provides a continuous connection in-between 19th Street and 23rd Street.

ANC 2A therefore deems it important that DDOT work with federal authorities to the greatest extent possible to secure use of the 21st Street right-of-way between Virginia and Constitution Avenues in order to establish a bicycle facility as contemplated in the 10% design documents. While establishing alternative pathways via Virginia Avenue, C Street, and 20th Street may be desirable in any event, ANC 2A believes that this facility will be most successful if the connection in this area is as straightforward as possible.

- Between these two segments in an area that is colloquially considered The George Washington University's Foggy Bottom campus (roughly I Street to Virginia Avenue), both 20th and 21st Streets are of equivalent width (three travel lanes). The Commission acknowledges a number of compelling arguments for the use of either artery, but it also sees potential complications for either one as well. Overall, four east-west pathways stand out as possible means by which the protected bike lane could "jog" from 20th to 21st Streets due to width and/or available capacity:
 - The 2000 block of I Street adjacent to the 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue complex
 - The 2000 block of G Street
 - The 2000 block of E Street (north service road)
 - The sidewalk south of the E Street Expressway which connects 20th to 21st Streets
- Depending on which of these "jogs" is selected, the length to which 20th or 21st Street is utilized will vary. Based on the 10% designs, the Commission notes the following advantages and disadvantages of both alternatives:

- 20th Street:
 - Advantages -
 - Locates the facility closer to large federal and institutional office buildings in the eastern section of Foggy Bottom, while remaining equidistant to the core of GWU's campus,
 - Has the potential to significantly calm commuter traffic exiting the E Street Expressway and traversing a pedestrian-heavy environment along the eastern edge of GWU's campus,
 - Avoids any reduction in residential parking spaces.
 - Disadvantages -
 - Displacement of parking and loading uses on the west curb presents a substantial inconvenience to residents of the York Apartments and Francis Scott Key Hall,
 - Due to secure setback requirements associated with the International Monetary Fund's office buildings, curbside uses are restricted on the east side of the 700 and 800 blocks – meaning that on-street parking spaces would likely need to be eliminated entirely on these blocks to facilitate the bike lane,
 - Possible lack of cyclist comfort due to direct interface with the terminus of the E Street Expressway.

- 21st Street:
 - Advantages –
 - Closer to the core of the GWU campus, providing more convenient commuting option for most students and University employees,
 - Does not impact curbside loading for any large multifamily residential buildings,
 - Perceived as a more tranquil and comfortable setting for bicycle riders due to lack of interface with E Street Expressway and the commuter traffic funneled off of it.
 - Disadvantages –
 - A large number of Metrobus vehicles make the hard right turn from eastbound F Street to southbound 21st Street, a turning movement which may necessarily violate the right-of-way for the protected bike lane as designed – to the detriment of cyclist safety, facility usability, and/or Metrobus operations,
 - Design would eliminate more on-street parking spaces than 20th Street alternative, including one or more “red top” metered spaces for persons with disabilities,
 - Strong objections have been raised by residents of the Monroe House condominium building on the 500 block concerning the possible loss of metered on-street and residentially-zoned parking spaces which are often used by visiting guests,

- The east side of 21st Street contains more curb cuts and more heavily-used curb cuts than does the west side of 20th Street. In particular, very wide (almost continuous) curb cuts between the 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue complex and the GWU School of Media and Public Affairs building (800 block) and on either side of the Statesman Apartments (500 block) would necessitate substantial gaps in the protected bicycle facility in order to facilitate vehicular ingress/egress. This was a major concern for the Commission in its earlier resolution, commenting on the proposed 22nd Street alternative.

For the foregoing reasons, the Commission is unable to provide a recommendation at this time as to where it would prefer that the protected bike lane “jog” from 20th to 21st Streets in order to complete the facility.

Therefore, in this segment, ANC 2A requests that DDOT advance both the 20th and 21st Street alternatives south of I Street to 30% design and provide possible mitigating solutions to address the deficiencies for each that have been listed above for the Commission’s future consideration.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the District Department of Transportation’s Proposal to Ban Turns on Red at Select Intersections Within ANC 2A

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: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation has requested input from ANC 2A on a set of proposed intersections in Foggy Bottom and the West End to ban turns on red,

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to address safety needs of people walking, biking, and scootering around the District, especially given that six people were killed by cars or trucks in Ward 2 while walking, biking, or scootering in 2018,

WHEREAS, fatalities from car accidents have risen every single year since Vision Zero was announced by Mayor Muriel Bowser in 2015, and

WHEREAS, the District must completely rethink the rules of the road for drivers, build more protected biking infrastructure throughout the city, and pair important efforts with strong enforcement in order to eliminate all traffic fatalities and serious injuries by 2024, as outlined in the Vision Zero priorities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports the prohibition of turns-on-red at the intersections in ANC 2A listed in the District Department of Transportation’s (DDOT) Notice of Intent (NOI) #18-227-TOA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports prohibiting turns-on-red at the intersection of H Street and 21st Street NW, the intersection of H Street and 20th Street NW, and the intersection of F Street and 20th Street NW.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports additional traffic enforcement efforts in order to ensure that drivers comply with the prohibition of turns-on-red at the intersections included in DDOT's NOI.

Public Space Application by BoltBus for a New Intercity Bus Stop Occupying 5 Metered Parking Spaces at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Commissioner Epstein made a motion to support BoltBus' public space application for 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW. Commissioner Harnett seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2A supports BoltBus' public space application for a new intercity bus stop occupying five metered parking spaces at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's Proposed FY 2020 Budget

Chair Smith 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).

Special Event Application for the Lawyers Have Heart 10K and 5K on Saturday, June 8th, 2019

Chair Smith made a motion to support the special event application for the 2019 Lawyers Have Heart 10K and 5K. Commissioner Epstein 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 Lawyers Have Heart 10K and 5K on Saturday, June 8th, 2019.

Special Event Application for the Marine Corps Marathon on Sunday, October 27th, 2019

Chair Smith made a motion to support the special event application for the 2019 Marine Corps Marathon. Commissioner Goldin 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 27th, 2019.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the ANC's FY 2019 Quarter 1 Financial Report

Commissioner Patel made a motion to approve the ANC's FY 2019 Quarter 1 financial report. Commissioner Campbell seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Approval of the ANC's Participation in the 2019 ANC Security Fund

Chair Smith made a motion to approve the ANC's participation in the 2019 ANC Security Fund and the respective \$25 expenditure to participate. Commissioner Epstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Approval of the Addition of New ANC Officers as Signatories for the ANC's Checking Account

Chair Smith made a motion to add the ANC's new officers as authorized signatories on the bank signature card for the ANC's checking account, and to remove the previous ANC officers for 2018. Commissioner Kennedy seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Approval of the ANC's 2019 Meeting Schedule

Chair Smith made a motion to approve the ANC's 2019 meeting schedule by unanimous consent. Without any objection the agenda was adopted.

Adjournment

Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 10:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. J. Schrefer".

Philip Schrefer
Secretary, ANC 2A05