



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

Regular Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2017, 7:00 pm
Our Lady Queen of the Americas Church
2200 California Street NW

Call to Order

Chair David Bender called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Establishment of Quorum

Commissioners David Bender (2D01) and Ellen Goldstein (2D02) were present, establishing a quorum. There were 54 residents and visitors in attendance.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the meeting agenda. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Approval of October 16, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the October 16, 2017 meeting minutes. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Administrative and Financial Matters

Commissioner's Comments

Commissioner Goldstein said that last week she was called to a meeting on Capitol Hill by Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton to testify in front of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and several Congressmen about helicopter noise in the neighborhood. She said that, during her testimony, she noted the lower, more frequent, noisier helicopter noise that the neighborhood has experiencing recently.

Commissioner Goldstein encouraged the public to testify in front of DC's Public Service Commission (PSC) during PSC's upcoming community hearings regarding the proposed merger of Washington Gas and AltaGas.

Commissioner Goldstein said that there are two more vacant foreign mission properties in the neighborhood: an Embassy of Greece-owned property on Massachusetts Avenue NW and an Embassy of the Philippines-owned property on R Street NW.

Chair Bender said that the Republic of Zambia is seeking developers to renovate a portion of their property on Massachusetts Avenue NW.

Chair Bender said that the ANC has received several public space applications for DC Water's upcoming construction on Massachusetts Avenue NW as part of the agency's DC Clean Rivers Potomac River Green Infrastructure Project.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Goldstein said that the current balance of the ANC's checking account is \$9,539.72.

Chair Bender moved to approve reimbursement of \$34.01 to Commissioner Goldstein for office supply and transportation expenses. Commissioner Goldstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

FY 2017 Quarter 4 Financial Report

Chair Bender moved to approve the ANC's FY 2017 Quarter 4 financial report. Commissioner Goldstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

DC Government Reports

Metropolitan Police Department

Lt. Jerome Merrill, the Lieutenant for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Police Service Area (PSA) 208, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Lt. Merrill said that the number of thefts from automobiles in the neighborhood has significantly decreased. He thanked local residents for being vigilant in ensuring that they are not leaving valuables in their cars.

A local resident asked for additional parking enforcement on non-worship days near the Islamic Center of Washington.

Mayor's Office

Jerry Chapin, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), said that leaf collection is currently underway across the city. He said that leaves that are bagged or raked into treeboxes will be picked up by the Department of Public Works (DPW).

Mr. Chapin said that Mayor Bowser recently held a community walk in Dupont Circle that focused on the city's rat control efforts. He said that the Mayor's Office is asking local residents to report any rat issues in the neighborhood through the city's 311 system. He said that the city's rat control team can treat rat issues that are reported through 311.

Commissioner Goldstein encouraged local residents to have their dogs vaccinated against Leptospirosis, a disease that is spread by rats.

Councilmember's Office

A representative for Councilmember Jack Evans' Office was not present.

Old Business

Streetscape for Massachusetts Avenue NW

Olusegun Olare, a representative for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave a visual presentation regarding DDOT's Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project.

Mr. Olare said that, as part of the project, DDOT is planning to rehabilitate the roadway, improve the overall streetscape, and create a safer corridor for motorists and pedestrians. He said that the project area runs from 20th Street to Waterside Drive along Massachusetts Avenue NW.

Allen Yang, an engineer for the project, gave an overview of the current pavement conditions along the roadway. He said that many portions of the roadway are classified as "poor" or "fair" and that few portions are classified as "excellent." He showed photos of the current pavement conditions along the roadway.

Mr. Yang gave a visual presentation regarding DDOT's proposed redesigns for several intersections along the roadway, including the intersection of Waterside Drive and Massachusetts Avenue NW. He said that streetscape upgrades that are being proposed as part of the project include new ADA-compliant sidewalk ramps, multi-space parking meters, higher visibility crosswalks, turf and permeable pavers for highly trafficked treeboxes, bioretention ponds and flow-through planters, bike racks, trash receptacles, and benches.

Commissioner Goldstein raised the possibility that the proposed bioretention ponds will lead to an increase in rat issues in the neighborhood.

Chair Bender asked that DDOT conform to the ANC's previously-adopted resolution regarding LED streetlight temperature as part of the plans for the LED streetlights that will be installed through the project.

Chair Bender asked that the project planners work with the Restore Mass Ave team to ensure that the proposed project does not conflict with Restore Mass Ave's plan to restore the double tree canopy along Massachusetts Avenue NW.

Multiple local residents raised concerns regarding the scope and traffic impacts of the project.

New Business

Commission Meeting Schedule for 2018

Commissioner Goldstein moved to approve the ANC's proposed meeting calendar for 2018. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The meeting calendar is as follows:

- Monday, January 8th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, February 20th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Monday, March 19th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Monday, April 16th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Monday, May 21st, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Monday, June 18th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Monday, September 17th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Monday, October 15th, 2018 at 7:00 pm
- Tuesday, November 13th, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Short-Term Rental Regulation and Affordable Housing Protection Act of 2017

The Commission tabled this matter until a future meeting.

2118 Leroy Place NW, FSMB's BZA Adjustment Application

Commissioner Goldstein moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2D met on November 20, 2017 and considered carefully the applicant's request for variance and approval of their proposed use of the property and, after considering all the responses to our questions, we have decided to oppose the applicant's Board of Zoning Adjustment application.

DDOT'S High Crash Site — Intersection of Connecticut Ave, S Street and Florida Avenue NW

Commissioner Goldstein moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Chair Bender seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) shared a "High Crash Site Review Summary Memo" which included the intersection of Connecticut Avenue, S Street, and Florida Avenue NW on September 8, 2017,

WHEREAS, this location falls mostly within ANC 2D, a busy and complicated intersection that saw 70 crashes between 2013 and 2015,

WHEREAS, the memo followed a field review of the intersection in June 2017, convened by DDOT and which included DDOT representatives, organizations engaged in vehicle, bicycle, and pedestrian safety, commissioners from ANC 2B and ANC 2D, and members of the community,

WHEREAS, ANC 2D appreciates the attention to this location given the daily volume of vehicular, bicycle, and pedestrian traffic,

WHEREAS, ANC 2D acknowledges the short- and long-term recommendations in the memo seeking to improve overall safety, including those that call for adjusting signage, improving pavement markings, reviewing timing on pedestrian crossing signals and vehicle clearance intervals, and extending medians,

WHEREAS, ANC 2D understands that there are additional opportunities to enhance pedestrian safety at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue, S Street, and Florida Avenue NW,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2D supports the “High Crash Site Review Summary Memo” in principle and requests that DDOT engage in further discussions with ANC 2D, as well as through community outreach, regarding the following:

- potential installation of a pedestrian crosswalk on the south side of Florida Avenue to cross Connecticut Avenue from the existing pedestrian refuge to the southeast corner of the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Florida Avenue NW,
- potential installation of a traffic camera at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue, S Street, and Florida Avenue NW to assist with enforcement of compliance with traffic signals and speed limits, the latter with particular regard to southbound Connecticut Avenue traffic,
- increased and enhanced monitoring of northbound and southbound cars on Florida Avenue NW that speed through the intersection at R Street when the light has turned red and thus create a danger for pedestrians crossing in the crosswalk with the light,
- synchronized pedestrian crossings of S Street and Florida Avenue NW on the west of Connecticut Avenue NW, and
- increased and enhanced monitoring of northbound and southbound cars on Florida Avenue NW that speed through the intersection at R Street when the light has turned red and thus create a danger for pedestrians crossing in the crosswalk with the light.

Chair Bender moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Goldstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, DC Council Bill B22-0234 has been introduced into the DC Council by Councilmember Mary Cheh, co-sponsored by Councilmembers Anita Bonds, David Grosso, Kenyan McDuffie, and Charles Allen, to phase out the sale and operation of gas-powered leaf blowers in the District of Columbia after an adequate period for current owners and retailers of such equipment to amortize their inventories and transition to healthier and more environmentally-sustainable alternatives.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2D hereby endorses the enactment of DC Council Bill B22-0234; urges Councilmember Jack Evans to endorse the passage of DC Council Bill B22-0234; and requests that the DC Council enacts DC Council Bill B22-0234, and Mayor Muriel Bowser signs the legislation as enacted, at the earliest practicable time.

Announcements

There were not any announcements.

Open Comments

There were not any open comments.

Date of Next Meeting

Chair Bender said that the next ANC meeting will be on Monday, January 8th, 2018 at 7:00 pm at Our Lady Queen of the Americas Church, 2200 California Street NW.

Motion to Adjourn

Chair Bender adjourned the meeting at 9:55 pm.