



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 19th, 2022; 7:00 p.m.

Online via Zoom

Call to Order

Chair Jeri Epstein (06) called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm. Commissioners Yannik Omictin (01), Joel Causey (02), Trupti Patel (03), Donna Barbisch (04), Evelyn Hudson (05), Adam Friend (07), and Margaret McDonald (08) were present.

Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Causey made a motion to approve the ANC’s meeting agenda. Commissioner Omictin seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Adoption of Past Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Causey made a motion to approve the ANC’s regular November 2021 meeting minutes. Commissioner Hudson seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Election of 2022 Commission Officers

Chair Epstein made a motion to elect herself as the ANC’s Chair for 2022. Commissioner Causey seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-3-0).

Chair Epstein made a motion to elect Commissioner Causey as the ANC’s Vice Chair for 2022. Commissioner Hudson seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-1-2).

Chair Epstein made a motion to elect Commissioner Omictin as the ANC’s Secretary for 2022. Commissioner Causey seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Chair Epstein made a motion to elect Commissioner Patel as the ANC’s Treasurer for 2022. Commissioner Causey seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Community Forum

Presentation by Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton

Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton gave a presentation regarding her work in the U.S. Congress and answered questions and heard concerns from commissioners and meeting attendees.

Report from the Metropolitan Police Department’s PSA 207

Lieutenant Bredet Williams, 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

Joe Florio, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), gave updates from the Mayor's Office.

Report from the Office of Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto

Pablo Velasco Rodriguez, the Constituent Services Coordinator for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, gave updates from the Councilmember's Office.

Report from the District Department of Transportation

Donovan Boyd, the Ward 2 Community Engagement Specialist for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave updates from the agency.

Commissioner Updates

Commissioners Omictin, Causey, Patel, Barbisch, Friend, and McDonald gave commissioner updates.

Announcements and Public Comments

Denise Synder, the Executive Director of the Foggy Bottom West End Village (FBWEV); John George, the President of the Foggy Bottom Association (FBA); James Harnett, a member of the Ward 2 ANC Redistricting Task Force; and a local resident gave announcements and public comments.

General Agenda

Update from GW Regarding the University's New President and the COVID Plan for the Spring Semester

Kevin Days, GW's Director of Community Relations, gave an update regarding the university's new President and the COVID plan for the spring semester.

Matters Before the Zoning Commission

Zoning Commission Application by GW for a Modification of Significance to the District House Planned Unit Development at 2121 H Street NW to Approve a Change from Retail to University-Only Foodservice Use

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

ANC 2A supports GW's Zoning Commission application for a modification of significance to the District House planned unit development at 2121 H Street NW to approve a change from retail to university-only foodservice use.

Matters Before the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration

Tigerella – Application for a New Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

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

ANC 2A supports Tigerella’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant license at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

Matters Before the Mayor’s Special Events Task Group

Special Event Application for the Lawyers Have Heart 10K & 5K on Saturday, June 11th, 2022

Chair Epstein made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Omicini 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 & 5K on Saturday, June 11th, 2022.

Special Event Application for the Rock ‘n’ Roll DC Half Marathon on Saturday, March 26th, 2022

Chair Epstein made a motion to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Causey 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 Rock ‘n’ Roll DC Half Marathon on Saturday, March 26th, 2022.

Matters Before the Public Space Committee

Public Space Application by For Five Coffee for a New Unenclosed Sidewalk Café with 3 Tables and 9 Seats at 2001 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

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

ANC 2A supports For Five Coffee's public space application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk café at 2001 Pennsylvania Avenue NW.

Matters Before the District Department of Transportation

Update Regarding Potential Safe Transportation Infrastructure Changes in Foggy Bottom and the West End

Commissioner Omiciti gave an update regarding potential safe transportation infrastructure changes in Foggy Bottom and the West End.

Matters Before the DC Council

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding DC Council Bill B24-0044 – the “Reopen Washington DC Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Amendment Act of 2021”

The Commission delayed consideration of this matter until a future ANC meeting.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the DC Council's Performance Oversight of the Department of Employment Services

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

WHEREAS, on January 5, 2022 a lawsuit has been filed against the Department of Employment Services (DOES) by the Legal Aid Society of the District of Columbia on behalf on claimants due to lack of proper communication and documentation with regards to benefits,

WHEREAS, DOES has made 10,000 claimants wait an average of sixty days before paying out benefits,

WHEREAS, the DC Council's performance oversight of DOES in 2021 triggered an audit by the Office of the Inspector General due to the numerous complaints before the DC Council,

WHEREAS, these challenges, along with the long-delayed modernization of the DOES portal, exacerbate anxiety among workers who are unable to access benefit payments and are unable to pay time-sensitive bills, and

WHEREAS, DOES has been targeted and hundreds of claimants had their payments stolen with little to no guidance from DOES and no sense of urgency to remedy the issue.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges the DC Council to introduce legislative remedies to support impacted claimants and to address the above pervasive issues plaguing DOES.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the DC Council’s Performance Oversight of the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions

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

WHEREAS, the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (OANC) is a resource center that serves all of DC’s 296 ANC Commissioners,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A believes that OANC should develop and implement ongoing educational campaigns to help the public, DC Government agencies, and the DC Council understand the functions of ANCs,

WHEREAS, ANC 2A believes that OANC should monitor whether DC Government agencies are meeting the requirements to offer training to their own managers and employees on the functions of ANCs, as well as how DC Government agencies are required to respond to ANCs, including providing notice to ANCs and giving “great weight” to certain ANC resolutions, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2A believes that OANC should offer solutions and share best practices to ANCs for attracting constituent attention and involvement.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A urges the DC Council to accept the above recommendations for how OANC could better serve the residents of DC.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the ANC’s FY 2022 Quarter 1 Financial Report

Commissioner Causey made a motion to approve the ANC’s FY 2022 Quarter 1 financial report. Commissioner Patel seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Approval of the ANC’s Participation in the 2022 ANC Security Fund

Chair Epstein made a motion to approve the ANC’s participation in the 2022 ANC Security Fund. Commissioner Causey 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

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Approval of the ANC’s 2022 Meeting Schedule

Commissioner Causey made a motion to approve the ANC's 2022 meeting schedule. Commissioner Omictin seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The ANC's 2022 meeting schedule is as follows:

- Regular January Meeting: Wednesday, January 19th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular February Meeting: Wednesday, February 16th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular March Meeting: Tuesday, March 15th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular April Meeting: Wednesday, April 20th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular May Meeting: Wednesday, May 18th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular June Meeting: Wednesday, June 15th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular July Meeting: Wednesday, July 20th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular September Meeting: Wednesday, September 21st, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular October Meeting: Wednesday, October 19th, 2022 at 7:00 pm
- Regular November Meeting: Wednesday, November 16th, 2022 at 7:00 pm

Adjournment

Chair Epstein adjourned the meeting at 10:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yannik Omictin', written over a light blue grid background.

Yannik Omictin
Secretary, ANC 2A01