



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

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

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 16th, 2022; 7:00 p.m.

In-Person – West End Library, Meeting Room, 2301 L Street NW

Online via Zoom

Call to Order

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

Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Causey made a motion to adopt the ANC’s meeting agenda. Commissioner Epstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Chair Causey made a motion to add an update regarding the recent fire at St. Mary’s Court to the ANC’s meeting agenda. Commissioner Epstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Adoption of Past Meeting Minutes

Chair Causey made a motion to adopt the ANC’s regular October 2022 meeting minutes. Commissioner Friend seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Community Forum

Report from the Metropolitan Police Department’s PSA 207

Lieutenant McHauley Murphy, 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

Julius Terry, 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.

Commissioner Updates

Chair Causey and Commissioners Friend, Patel, and Omictin gave commissioner updates.

Announcements and Public Comments

A local resident gave announcements and public comments.

Update Regarding the Recent Fire at St. Mary's Court

Chair Causey made a motion to allocate up to \$10,000 in grant funds to respond to the recent fire at St. Mary's Court. Commissioner Epstein seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

General Agenda

Presentation by the Office of Planning Regarding an Upcoming Project for the Foggy Bottom Neighborhood

Ron Barron, a Community Planner with the Office of Planning (OP), gave a presentation regarding an upcoming project for the Foggy Bottom neighborhood.

Matters Before the Public Space Committee

Public Space Application by the American Institute of Architects for Streetscape Improvements, Including a Framed Walkway and Stair, Signage, Walkway Lighting, Planting Areas, and New Bike Racks, at 1735 New York Avenue NW

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

ANC 2A supports the American Institute of Architects' public space application for streetscape improvements at 1735 New York Avenue NW.

Matters Before the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration

Arepa Zone – Application for Renewal of the Establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Tavern License at 2000 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

The Setting – Application for Renewal of the Establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Tavern License at 2512 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Bottles – Application for Renewal of the Establishment's Retailer's Class "C" Tavern License at 2500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

WineLAIR – Application for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern License at 1120 22nd Street NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Matters Before the DC Council

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding DC Council Bill B24-0802 – the “Green New Deal for Housing Amendment Act of 2022”

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: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, DC Council Bill B24-0802 – the “Green New Deal for Housing Amendment Act of 2022” will establish an Office of Social Housing Developments to foster the construction, maintenance, and growth of District- owned residential properties designed to be mixed-income housing,

WHEREAS, in addition to constructing new housing, the Office would be able to convert existing properties into social housing developments, which would also be eligible for Housing Production Trust Fund money,

WHEREAS, one third of the social housing developments’ units would be deeply affordable (0-30% AMI) and another third would be affordable (30-50% AMI). The remaining third of the units would be priced to subsidize the affordable units with regard to the overall cost of each development. Each development could also be subsidized by market-rate commercial space,

WHEREAS, every social housing development could have a tenant leadership board elected by residents. Leadership boards would be allowed to set bylaws and building rules and manage a community budget,

WHEREAS, any service agreements for a social housing development would be subject to the review and approval of the leadership board. The leadership board would also have the power to initiate a search for new vendors if a majority of the board finds current service unsatisfactory, and

WHEREAS, this legislation would address three areas of crisis: affordable housing, climate change, and labor opportunities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports DC Council Bill B24-0802 – the “Green New Deal for Housing Amendment Act of 2022” as one avenue to address the current housing crisis and to increase the amount of affordable and stable housing.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding DC Council Bill B24-0454 – the “Rediscover Equitable Central Occupancy Vitality and Encourage Resilient Yield (RECOVERY) Amendment Act of 2021”

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

WHEREAS, the purpose of DC Council Bill B24-0454 – the “Rediscover Equitable Central Occupancy Vitality and Encourage Resilient Yield Amendment Act of 2021” (the RECOVERY Act) is to provide a comprehensive and inclusive economic recovery package for the central business district (CBD) and the Golden Triangle Business Improvement District (BID),

WHEREAS, the legislation targets the District residents, workers, and businesses hardest hit by the pandemic, with the goal of transforming the CBD from solely commercial uses to a vibrant city core that includes mixed-use developments, affordable housing, jobs, and green space as a driver of growth,

WHEREAS, the pandemic has taken a toll on the CBD, resulting in the loss of thousands of jobs and a steep decline in transit ridership and area foot traffic, leaving millions of square feet of vacant office space and record-high retail vacancy rates,

WHEREAS, through the RECOVERY Act, currently empty or underutilized commercial buildings can be repurposed for the future while generating jobs in both construction and high-growth industries,

WHEREAS, only a fraction of the CBD’s former workforce now works from their offices, causing transit ridership to dramatically drop and daytime foot traffic to all but disappear, resulting in 5 million square feet of vacant office space and retail vacancy rates at record highs due to the COVID pandemic, and

WHEREAS, this legislation would advance strategies of tax incentives and grant programs that together will catalyze growth for a resilient CBD that benefits the entire District.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A supports DC Council Bill B24-0454 – the “Rediscover Equitable Central Occupancy Vitality and Encourage Resilient Yield Amendment Act of 2021” to fund a transformative recovery package for downtown and the Golden Triangle Business Improvement District to sustain the District’s recovery as a more equitable and resilient city for the 21st century.

Administrative Matters

Approval of an Addition of a December Meeting to the ANC’s 2022 Meeting Schedule

Chair Causey made a motion to add a regular December 2022 meeting on Thursday, December 15th, 2022 to the ANC's 2022 meeting schedule. Commissioner Friend seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 5-1-0).

Adjournment

Chair Causey adjourned the meeting at 9:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yannik Omictin', is written over a light blue horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Yannik Omictin
Secretary, ANC 2A01