



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 8th, 2023; 7:00 p.m.
Online via Zoom

Call to Order

The regular February 2023 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission or ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Meg Roggensack at 7:02 pm.

Introduction of Commissioners

The Commissioners identified their single member districts (SMDs). Present were: Meg Roggensack (2B01), Jeffrey Rueckgauer (2B02), Vincent Slatt (2B03), China Dickerson (2B04), Z Stein (2B05), Patricia Bencivenga (2B07), Zach Adams (2B08), and Christopher Davis (2B09).

Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Adams moved to adopt the ANC's meeting agenda. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Announcements and Public Comments

Commissioner Announcements

Chair Roggensack and Commissioners Dickerson, Adams, Slatt, and Bencivenga gave commissioner announcements.

Committee Updates

Commissioner Davis, Chair of the ANC's Land Use Committee (LUC), and Commissioner Rueckgauer, Chair of the ANC's Mobility Committee (MC), gave committee updates.

Reports from DC Government Representatives

Julius Terry, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS); Sergeant Kenneth Brown, a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District; and Victoria Casarrubias, the Scheduler and Office Assistant for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, gave DC Government reports.

Other Public Announcements and General Comments or Future Agenda Items

Susan Volman, the President of the Dupont Circle Citizens Association (DCCA); Nick DelleDonne, the President of the Dupont East Civic Action Association (DECAA); and two local residents gave other public announcements and general comments or future agenda items.

Alcoholic Beverage Control Board Agenda

Rosebud Liquor – Application to Transfer the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License from 1711 17th Street NW to 1700 17th Street NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Land Use Agenda

1825/1875 Connecticut Avenue NW – Application for Special Exceptions from the Penthouse Setback Requirements, the Court Requirements, and the Side Yard Requirements to Construct Upper Floor Additions with Penthouses and Roof Decks, and Convert to a Residential Use, an Existing, Detached, Nine-Story, with Below-Grade Parking, Penthouses, and Roof Decks, Mixed Use Building

Commissioner Davis moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-2). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, PB Universal South, LLC and PB Universal North, LLC have submitted Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) application #20879 and are seeking approval for special exceptions from the penthouse setback requirements, court requirements, and side yard requirements to convert an existing office building to residential use and construct penthouses and roof deck at 1825/1875 Connecticut Avenue NW, located within ANC 1C01,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B’s Land Use Committee (LUC) reviewed the submitted concept plans at its duly noticed monthly meeting via Zoom on February 1, 2023,

WHEREAS, the applicant presented a tasteful and architecturally contextual scheme to renovate the public-facing facades,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B strongly supports the conversion of under-performing office properties to residential use,

WHEREAS, questions were raised about the addition of curb cuts and a large driveway on Florida Avenue NW and its effect on the pedestrian experience and safety, and

WHEREAS, questions were raised about the penthouse addition and its effect on the roof line visible from the street.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B largely supports BZA application #20879 and requests that the applicant continues working with the community to refine the penthouse setback and Florida Avenue NW entrance.

1816-1818 R Street NW – Application for a Special Exception from the Matter-of-Right Uses and Area Variances from the Nonconforming Structure Requirements and Floor Area Ratio Requirements to Construct a Rear Addition, and Permit the Continued Non-Profit Use, of an Existing, Attached, Four-Story with Basement, Office Building

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

WHEREAS, the American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) submitted Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) application #20875 for a special exception from the matter-of-right uses and an area variance from the nonconforming structure requirements at 1816-1818 R Street NW, located within ANC 2B03,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B's Land Use Committee (LUC) reviewed the submitted concept plans at its duly noticed monthly meeting via Zoom on February 1, 2023, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the concept plans appear to be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the zoning regulations and zoning maps.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports BZA application #20875 as presented.

1816-1818 R Street NW – Concept / Alterations and Rear Addition

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

ANC 2B supports the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) application for 1816-1818 R Street NW as presented.

1632 17th Street NW – Application for a Special Exception from the Matter-of-Right Uses to Permit an Animal Boarding Use on the Second Story of an Existing, Semi-Detached, Two-Story Commercial Building

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

WHEREAS, Kristina Heinz submitted Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) application #20878 for a special exception from the matter-of-right uses to permit a cat boarding use on the second story of 1632 17th Street NW, located within ANC 2B03,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B's Land Use Committee (LUC) reviewed the submitted concept plans at its duly noticed monthly meeting via Zoom on February 1, 2023, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the concept plans appear to be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the zoning regulations and zoning maps.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports BZA application #20878 as presented.

1300 Connecticut Avenue NW – Application for a Minor Modification to the Planned Unit Development (PUD)

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

WHEREAS, TRT 1300 Connecticut Owner Ave, LCC submitted Zoning Commission (ZC) application #80-13B for a minor modification to the planned unit development to add penthouse space at 1300 Connecticut Avenue NW, located within ANC 2B05,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B's Land Use Committee (LUC) reviewed the submitted concept plans at its duly noticed monthly meeting via Zoom on February 1, 2023, and

WHEREAS, ANC 2B believes that the concept plans appear to be in harmony with the general purpose and intent of the zoning regulations and zoning maps.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B supports ZC application #80-13B as presented.

1617 U Street NW and 1620 V Street NW – Application for a Map Amendment from MU-4 to MU-10

Commissioner Davis moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion. Commissioner Dickerson moved to table the matter to a future ANC meeting. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion to table the matter, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-1).

General Agenda

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Special Event Application for the 2023 Capital Pride Parade on Saturday, June 10th, 2023

Chair Roggensack moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Dupont Circle has hosted the annual Capital Pride Parade since its founding as Gay Pride Day in 1975,

WHEREAS, the Capital Pride Parade and Capital Pride Festival are among Washington, DC's largest community events and carry extra significance to the LGBTQI+ community due to their location in the nation's capital,

WHEREAS, the Capital Pride Alliance, the sponsor and producer of the annual Capital Pride Parade and Capital Pride Festival, plans this year's 2023 parade and festival, scheduled for June 10, 2023 and June 11, 2023, respectively,

WHEREAS, the 2023 Capital Pride Parade will honor the event's history with a route beginning in Logan Circle and ending in Dupont Circle and complementary venues, while looking to its future – WorldPride Washington, DC, a 50th celebration in 2025,

WHEREAS, these venues will include review areas along the route and a closure of 17th Street NW from R Street NW to P Street NW in order to enable a block party event during June 10, 2023, as well as June 9, 2023 if approved by the Mayor's Special Event Task Group, and

WHEREAS, this year's Capital Pride Parade is the 48th annual and is a critical building block toward WorldPride Washington, DC, on the occasion of the 50th celebration in two years, and will benefit from strong advanced community and business engagement to ensure awareness, support, and appropriate logistical preparations.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B welcomes the return of the annual Capital Pride Parade and Capital Pride Festival.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B requests that the Mayor's Office elevates the profile of the Capital Pride Parade and Capital Pride Festival, facilitating and prioritizing necessary permits, approvals, arrangements, and requisite support from District of Columbia authorities, agencies, and departments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B pledges to support the Capital Pride Alliance and the LGBTQI+ community in outreach and associated activities in order to contribute to the successful return of this event to our neighborhood.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Restore Mass Ave's Dupont Tree Plaza Project and its Conflicts with the Staging Area for the District Department of Transportation's Connecticut Avenue Streetscape and Deck-Over Project

Commissioner Slatt moved to remand the matter to the ANC's Mobility Committee. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding DC's Support for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness During Encampment Clearings

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the ANC's Regular January 2023 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Adams moved to approve the ANC's regular January 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Bencivenga seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0).

Appointment of the Members of the ANC's Land Use Committee (LUC)

Commissioner Davis moved to appoint the members of the ANC's Land Use Committee. Commissioner Slatt seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The members of the ANC's Land Use Committee are as follows:

- Michael Beidler
- Yonah Freemark
- William Herbig
- Sam Nelson
- Beverly Schwartz
- Kyle Mulhall

Appointment of the Members of the ANC's Mobility Committee (MC)

Commissioner Rueckgauer moved to appoint the members of the ANC's Mobility Committee. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 8-0-0). The members of the ANC's Mobility Committee are as follows:

- Meredith Brown
- Paul Cadario
- Ana Karimi
- Rudi Riet
- Giancarlo Valdetaro
- Dan Winston

Adjournment

Chair Roggensack adjourned the meeting at 11:03 pm.