



Government of the District of Columbia

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

Minutes of the Meeting July 9, 2024

PLEASE NOTE: In compliance with Roberts Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th Edition, §48, page 468, the minutes of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 9B are a record of the actions taken by the Commission, not a record of what people said during the meeting. Accordingly, comments made by commissioners or members of the public are not be recorded in detail in the minutes.

The Special Emergency Community Meeting convened at approximately 6:00 pm at Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library, 901 G ST NW, Room 401F. The following Commissioners attended the meeting: Michael Shankle (Chairing), Thomas Lee, and Becky Strauss.

A quorum was declared and determined by roll call at the beginning of the meeting, with 3 of 3 commissioners present and with one vacancy.

Chairperson Shankle announced that the Board of Elections opened, and he explained the ANC nomination process. The community received notice of the meeting.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Commission APPROVED (3-0) the agenda as presented. (Motion by Strauss)

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES MAY & JUNE 2024.

The Commission APPROVED (3-0) the minutes of the meeting of May 2024 as submitted. (Motion by Strauss)

The Commission APPROVED (3-0) the minutes of the meeting of June 2024 with corrections. (Motion by Strauss)

3. REPORTS (Roberts outlines that reports from officers, Boards and standing committees are after minutes approval)

a. Treasurer's Report.

Cm. Lee reported that the beginning balance in the PNC business account for June 2024 was \$67,599.58. There was \$788 for expenses and a \$33 surcharge from PNC Bank. The ending balance was \$66,816. Cm. Lee will present the Quarter 3 financials at the following meeting.

4. COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. MPD 2ND District Crime and Community Awareness, Captain Sharde Harris, shared.harris@dc.gov, 202.821.8414, or Lieutenant Sylvester Garvin, Sylvester.garvin@dc.gov, 202.774.6866.

As a representative of MPD 2nd District was not present, the ANC went to the next item.

- b. MPD 1st District Crime and Community Awareness, Captain Paul Hrebenak, Paul.Hrebenak@dc.gov, 202.643.8471 or Lieutenant Jeremy Knieseley, Jeremy.knieseley@dc.gov, 202.839.1367

As a representative of MPD 1st District was not present, the ANC went to the next item.

- c. Office of Mayor's Office Ward 2 Mayor's Liaisons – Tadai Abilla, Ward 2 Liasion, Tadai.Abilla@dc.gov, 202.805.7122

As a representative of the Mayor's Office was not present, the ANC went to the next item.

- d. Office of Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto – Brooke Pinto Councilmember, Ward 2, bpinto@dccouncil.us, 202-724-8058, Maddy White, Constituent Services, mwhite@dccouncil.us, and Brian Romanowski, Constituent Services Director, bromanowski@dccouncil.us, 202-285-9195

Maddy White, from Councilmember Brooke Pinto's office, provided updates. The 7th Annual NATO Summit was ongoing from July 9th through July 11th which was greatly impacting traffic and parking. Protest activity was also anticipated. She provided an update on the budget and the priorities, including funding for a new Ward 2 senior center, establishing a non-profit security grant program, and grants for Chinatown businesses for long-term lease agreements. Maddy White reported that there would be a hearing on Thursday, July 11th, regarding moped legislation. Cm. Shankle and the audience then participated in a discussion regarding potential locations for the senior center.

- e. DowntownDC BID, Lukas Umana, Director of Public Space Operations, lukas@downtowndc.org, 202.270.0366

Lukas Umana, Director of Public Space Operations, reported on the work that the DowntownDC BID was doing. He presented the Clean and Safe Data from May and June 2024 and ongoing work with art as a beautification and activation tool.

The Commission APPROVED (3-0) sending a letter of support for DowntownDC BID to continue to place murals in the Chinatown area. (Motion by Shankle)

- f. D.C. State Board of Education Update, Allister Chang, Ward 2, SBOE member, Allister.chang1@dc.gov

Allister Chang, SBOE member, discussed the importance of advancing literacy, and he announced that funding was secured to implement the first phase of recommendations. He also provided updates on other ongoing initiatives and staff changes. Cm. Lee asked a question regarding truancy for grade-level students, and Allister Chang provided information on the ongoing work.

- g. Special Update: Update from DowntownDC BID. Gerren G. Price, President and Chief Executive Officer, DowntownDC Business Improvement District (BID), gerren@downtowndc.org.

Gerren Price, President and CEO of DowntownDC BID, provided information on what the DowntownDC BID did and updates on the work of DowntownDC BID, including the renewal plan, the Gallery Place-Chinatown Task Force, the Penn Quarter-Chinatown Safety Team, the state of downtown forum and publication, office attendance remaining at 48% of pre-pandemic levels, and challenges with commercial office and retail vacancies reaching record highs. He discussed upcoming events and strategic partnerships. Gerren Price discussed the DowntownDC Holiday Market and the decision to move in a different direction with the market operator. Gerren Price also discussed the TMS & DowntownDC BID Incubator Program in relation to the Holiday Market.

Cms. Shankle and Lee and the audience participated in a wide-ranging discussion, including on the economics of the downtown, the next steps of the task force, the work to be done in Chinatown, the long-term vision for local creative businesses, the changes to the Holiday Market, and the eight factors of the improvement of the area and the lack of goals related to the achievement of the goals.

5. LOCAL EVENTS THAT IMPACT THE COMMUNITY

- a. Army Ten-Miler Race, Sunday, October 13, 2024. Travis Souza, Army Ten-Miler, Travis.m.Souza.naf@army.mil, 771.233.6488

Travis Souza, Operations Manager, provided information about the Army Ten-Miler Race that would be held on October 13, 2024. Cm. Shankle and the audience asked questions, including about the location, the number of participants, and special activities, and Travis Souza provided the information.

The Commission APPROVED (3-0) sending a letter of support for the Army Ten-Miler Race. (Motion by Shankle)

6. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS LICENSING (ABCA)
None.

7. TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC SPACE

- a. Update 15th ST NW Multi-Modal Safety Improvement. David Balick, Tralis Planner, Planning and Sustainability Division, District Department of Transportation, David.Balick@dc.gov, 202.934.0381

David Balick, a transportation planner at DDOT, provided information on multi-modal safety improvements on 15th ST NW. He discussed MoveDC 2021, Sustainable DC, and Vision Zero Goals regarding the multi-modal safety improvements, the need for the project, the goals of the project, options for the project, and the anticipated schedule for the project. Cms. Shankle and Lee and the audience asked questions, including about the NOI, the consideration for H Street, the target date for construction, and the strategic plan, and David Balick provided information.

- b. Open Streets 7th ST NW. Saturday, October 5, 7 AM to 5 PM. Christophe Wassmer, Community Engagement Specialist – Ward 2, District Department of Transportation, Christophe.wassmer@dc.gov

Kimberly Vacca, a transportation planner at the District Department of Transportation, provided information on Open Streets 7th ST NW, including the goal of Open Streets, details of the event, information about the bike giveaway, and the call for volunteers. Cms. Lee and Strauss asked questions, including consideration of moving the event to include D Street and where the bikes were coming from, and Kimberly Vacca provided information.

The Commission APPROVED (3-0) sending a letter of support for Open Streets 7th ST NW. (Motion by Shankle)

8. OTHER BUSINESS/COMMISSIONER CONCERNS/COMMUNITY CALENDAR.

A resident asked about the outcome of a cannabis store and funding for the senior wellness center. Cm. Strauss explained the reason for the senior center and offered to put him in touch with Ward 2. Cm. Shankle provided updates on the cannabis store and reported a decision had not yet been made on the location.

A resident asked about a building to the right of the Clara Barton. Cm. Shankle stated he was unaware of what would be occurring with the building. Cm. Lee stated he heard it would be dormitories for Johns Hopkins.

The new Ward 2 Manager, Ty Abilla, introduced herself.

A resident raised concerns regarding the need for a law for temporary drug-free zones and about the suspended Metro service.

The Commission adjourned at approximately 8:27 pm.

Prepared by Minutes Services

Approved on: 13 August 2024

Attested by: Rebecca Strauss, Secretary