



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 17th, 2023; 7:00 p.m.

In-Person – Friends Meeting of Washington, 2111 Decatur Place NW

Online via Zoom

Call to Order and Election of Officers

Commissioner Warren called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm.

Commissioner Feld moved to elect Commissioner Warren as the ANC's Chair and Secretary for 2023. Commissioner Warren seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Chair Warren moved to elect Commissioner Feld as the ANC's Vice Chair and Treasurer for 2023. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Establishment of Quorum

Commissioners Ashley Warren (2D01) and Carole Feld (2D02) were present, establishing a quorum.

Approval of Agenda

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's meeting agenda. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Approval of November 2022 Meeting Minutes

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's November 2022 meeting minutes. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Administrative and Financial Matters

Commissioner's Comments

Chair Warren thanked everyone for voting for Commissioner Feld and herself in the last election. She also thanked DC Government employees for working with the commissioners to improve the Sheridan-Kalorama community.

Chair Warren gave an overview of the ANC's accomplishments from 2022, including working with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to restore parking spaces in front of the Russian Cultural Center at 1825 Phelps Place NW, having speed bumps installed in the alley between Waterside Drive NW and Massachusetts Avenue NW, and establishing a neighborhood listserv for the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project.

Commissioner Feld said that, looking ahead to 2023, the ANC is looking forward to finishing the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project, keeping items on the ANC's meeting agenda so they do not fall through the cracks, and working with Sheridan-Kalorama organizations to build neighborhood awareness of the organizations' work.

Commissioner Feld said that the combined annual meeting of Sheridan-Kalorama neighborhood organizations will take place Tuesday, March 21st at 6:00 pm at the Woodrow Wilson House at 2340 S Street NW.

Approval of the ANC's 2023 Meeting Schedule

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's 2023 meeting schedule. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0). The ANC's 2023 meeting schedule is as follows:

- Regular January Meeting: Tuesday, January 17th, 2023 at 7:00 pm
- Regular February Meeting: Tuesday, February 21st, 2023 at 7:00 pm
- Regular March Meeting: Monday, March 20th, 2023 at 7:00 pm
- Regular April Meeting: Tuesday, April 18th, 2023 at 7:00 pm
- Regular May Meeting: Monday, May 22nd, 2023 at 7:00 pm
- Regular June Meeting: Monday, June 12th, 2023 at 7:00 pm
- Regular September Meeting: Monday, September 18th, 2023 at 7:00 pm
- Regular October Meeting: Monday, October 16th, 2023 at 7:00 pm
- Regular November Meeting: Monday, November 13th, 2023 at 7:00 pm

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Feld said that the current balance for the ANC's checking account is \$15,306.97.

Approval of the ANC's FY 2023 Quarter 1 Financial Report

Commissioner Feld moved to approve the ANC's FY 2023 Quarter 1 financial report. Chair Warren seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Security Fund Participation

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's participation in the 2023 ANC Security Fund. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Bank Signatories

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Government Reports

Mayor's Office

Julius Terry, a Ward 2 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), said that Mayor Bowser has invited ANC commissioners to attend a public safety meeting on Saturday, January 21st. He also said that DC's Chinese Lunar New Year Parade will take place on Sunday, January 22nd at 2:00 pm in Chinatown. He encouraged local residents to attend the parade. He said that the parade includes live music, marching bands, and lion dances.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed holiday tree collection and leaf collection with Mr. Terry.

Councilmember's Office

Aukima Benjamin, the Committee and Constituent Services Manager for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, introduced herself to meeting attendees and said that she will be the Councilmember's office's representative to ANC 2D moving forward.

Pablo Velasco Rodriguez, the Constituent Services Coordinator for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, congratulated the commissioners on being reelected. He said that Councilmember Pinto was recently named as the Chair of the DC Council's Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety. He said that the Councilmember's priorities for the committee include enhancing public safety and the court system, improving supports and opportunities for underserved communities, and developing interagency partnerships. She said that the Councilmember is also focused on improving housing stability and revitalizing DC's downtown. He said that Councilmember Pinto will be hosting a Ward 2 Budget Forum on Thursday, January 19th from 7:00 to 8:00 pm via Zoom.

Mr. Rodriguez gave an overview of Councilmember Pinto's introduction of DC Council Bill B25-0032 - the "Electric Bicycle Incentive Kickstarting the Environment (E-BIKE) Act of 2023." He asked local residents to move their holiday trees to the curbside for the Department of Public Works (DPW) to pick up. He added that DPW's leaf collection efforts have now entered their second round.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed the Ward 2 Budget Forum, rent control, and public safety with Mr. Rodriguez.

State Board of Education

Allister Chang, the Ward 2 Member of the State Board of Education (SBOE), said that his top priority while serving on SBOE is to advance literacy. He gave an overview of how COVID has

affected literacy rates in DC. He said that Councilmember Pinto has been a champion for his literacy efforts, including by creating a new task force on literacy in DC. He said that he is the Chair of SBOE's Education Standards Committee. He added that his other SBOE priorities include mental health for students and teachers, student safety, and teacher retention.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed literacy rates, charter schools, and volunteer opportunities to help students with Mr. Chang.

District Department of Transportation

The Commission removed this matter from the ANC's meeting agenda.

Office of Campaign Finance

No one was present regarding this matter.

Metropolitan Police Department

Lieutenant Timothy Beirne, a representative for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood. He said that the crime trends are pretty good overall for ANC 2D.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed a recent large police presence around the Russian Cultural Center and the Washington Hilton and a recent vehicular accident on Massachusetts Avenue NW with Lieutenant Beirne.

New Business

Historic Preservation Review Board Concept Application for a Three Story Rear Addition at 2137 Leroy Place NW

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

ANC 2D supports the Historic Preservation Review Board application for 2137 Leroy Place NW.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Mitigating Glaring Light from Streetlights Installed as Part of the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project

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

ANC 2D requests that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) explores options to minimize the light pollution and better focus the lighting from the streetlights on the 2300 block of Massachusetts Avenue NW, including through the possible use of dimmable streetlights, while keeping in mind the safety of the sidewalk. The ANC requests that DDOT ultimately implements an option that accomplishes the stated goal of this resolution.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Suicide Prevention Barriers on the Taft Bridge

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

ANC 2D supports the installation of suicide prevention barriers on the Taft Bridge.

Old Business

Update Regarding the Status of the Embassy of Pakistan's Property at 2201 R Street NW

Chair Warren said that the Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR) is still working on its software update that would allow someone to take ownership of the Embassy of Pakistan's property at 2201 R Street NW.

Commissioner Feld said that the ANC has sent an email to the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development (DMPED), asking the office to consider a foreclosure request for the property. She said that the goal is to use the building for a good purpose and to not be a blight on the neighborhood.

Update Regarding the Status of the District Department of Transportation's Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project

Shaun Davis, a Construction Manager for HNTB, said that tree box cleanup is wrapping up as part of the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project. He said that street tree installation continues. He added that the project team and Pepco are still working to power up some of the new streetlights and traffic signals.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed the moratorium on new roadway construction on Massachusetts Avenue NW once the project is complete and the final project punch list with Mr. Davis.

Update Regarding the Change to the Bus Stop at the Intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Belmont Road NW

Commissioner Feld said that DDOT cannot address the issues with the bus stop at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Belmont Road NW until after the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project is completed.

Update Regarding a Speed Camera for the Intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Florida Avenue NW

Chair Warren said that the ANC has been trying to get the results of a study DDOT completed regarding the traffic conditions at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Florida Avenue NW.

Update Regarding a Proposed Left Turn Signal on Massachusetts Avenue NW to Waterside Drive NW

Commissioner Feld said that the ANC is continuing to follow the issue.

Update Regarding Alleyway Signage in the Neighborhood

Commissioner Feld said that issues persist at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue NW and the alley that connects Massachusetts Avenue NW and Waterside Drive NW. She said that the ANC is continuing to follow the issue.

Update from Restore Mass Ave Regarding the Dupont Tree Plaza Project

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

ANC 2D requests that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) does not use the north side of the 1900 block of Massachusetts Avenue NW, an area that Restore Mass Ave has identified for the organization's Dupont Tree Plaza Project, as a staging area for the Connecticut Avenue Streetscape and Deck-Over Project.

Announcements and Open Comment

Deborah Shapley, the President of Restore Mass Ave, gave a presentation regarding the recent cutting down of two large Magnolia trees at the Consulate of the Embassy of India at 2536 Massachusetts Avenue NW. She said that it appears that the trees were illegally cut down. She said that Restore Mass Ave has asked DDOT's Urban Forestry Division (UFD) to investigate the matter.

Date of Next Meeting

Chair Warren said that the ANC's next meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 21st, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

Chair Warren adjourned the meeting at 9:35 pm.