

Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 14th, 2023; 7:00 p.m.
In-Person – Church of the Pilgrims, 2201 P Street NW
Online via Zoom

Call to Order

Chair Warren called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

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 October 2022 Meeting Minutes

Chair Warren moved to approve the ANC's October 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

Commissioner Feld congratulated the organizers of the Mitchell Park Fall Fun Day. She said that she attended and thought it was a great day. She also thanked Councilmember Pinto for attending.

Commissioner Feld thanked her constituents for reelecting her to the ANC.

Chair Warren also thanked her constituents reelecting her to the ANC. She said that the ANC is working to find a solution regarding the loud protester at the intersection of 23rd Street and S Street NW.

Commissioner Feld gave an overview of upcoming roadway paving that will be taking place in the neighborhood.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Feld said that the balance for the ANC's checking account is \$18,272.96.

Approval of Contract for Improving ANC 2D Website

Chair Warren moved to approve a contract with Peter Sacco, the ANC's Administrative Coordinator, for up to \$500 for improving the ANC's website. Commissioner Feld seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 2-0-0).

Government Reports

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.

Commissioners and meeting attendees discussed thefts of airbags from cars, the recent shooting near the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Florida Avenue NW, a recent hit and run on the 2300 block of California Street NW, and crime at Assets with Lieutenant Beirne.

Mayor's Office

No one was present regarding this matter.

Councilmember's Office

and

Update Regarding DC Council Bill B24-0433 – the "Rightsizing Residential Permit Parking Regulation Amendment Act of 2021"

Pablo Velasco Rodriguez, the Constituent Services Coordinator for Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, congratulated the commissioners on their reelections. He gave an overview of Councilmember Pinto's top priorities, which include improving public safety, supporting individuals experiencing homelessness, supporting small businesses and downtown recovery, a more sustainable environment and transit system, and women and girls. He gave an overview of Councilmember Pinto's upcoming office hours in the Wilson Building.

Mr. Rodriguez gave an overview of Councilmember Pinto's recent Community Meeting on Public Safety with the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia (OAG), MPD, the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia (USAO), and the T.R.I.G.G.E.R. Project. He said that Councilmember Pinto has joined MPD on bike patrols in Ward 2. He gave an overview of Councilmember Pinto's recent Ward 2 Community Bike Ride. He also gave an overview of legislation that the DC Council is currently considering, including Councilmember Pinto's "Business and Entrepreneurship Support to Thrive (BEST) Amendment Act of 2021" and "Rediscover Equitable Central Occupancy Vitality and Encourage Resilient Yield (RECOVERY) Amendment Act of 2021", as well as DC's revised criminal code.

Mr. Rodriguez said that the Councilmember's office is reviewing the results of the District Department of Transportation's (DDOT) parking study in Dupont Circle. He said that the Councilmember's office will use the results of the study as the DC Council considers the "Rightsizing Residential Permit Parking Regulation Amendment Act of 2021," which Mr. Rodriguez said the Councilmember's office has received community opposition to.

Old Business

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

Commissioner Feld said that the Office of Tax and Revenue (OTR) is still going through a software update process, which needs to be completed before tax sales can resume.

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 the roadway reconstruction west of Sheridan Circle has been completed as part of the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW

Project. He said that there are a few manholes that still need to have their frames readjusted. He said that pavement markings have been put down and that planting work and signal activation will continue. He said that, east of Sheridan Circle, roadway paving continues. He added that, in response to previous questions, the paver design being used for the project was specified by DDOT. He said that the completion date for the project is still being targeted for the end of 2022 or January 2023.

The commissioners and meeting attendees discussed the purposes of the project with Mr. Davis.

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

Commissioner Feld gave an overview of how the eastbound bus stop at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Belmont Road NW was moved from the east side to the west side of the intersection. She said that the community has asked DDOT to do a traffic study regarding the bus stop change. She said that DDOT said that they cannot do a traffic study while the Rehabilitation of Massachusetts Avenue NW Project is taking place. She said that DDOT said that a traffic study could be requested if traffic issues exist after the project is completed. She asked anyone who sees traffic issues at the intersection to report them to Chair Warren and herself.

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

Commissioner Feld said that the ANC has been requesting the installation of a speed camera at the intersection of Connecticut Avenue and Florida Avenue NW for a long time now. She said that DDOT is reviewing the request and will notify the ANC once a determination has been made. She added that DDOT's review is expected to be completed by December 2022.

Update Regarding Alleyway Signage in the Neighborhood

Commissioner Feld said the ANC has requested improved signage for the alleyway between Massachusetts Avenue NW and Waterside Drive NW as the current signage does not make sense. She said that DDOT has received a service request regarding the matter.

Update Regarding Parking on Leroy Place NW, Including American Fazl Mosque Parking

Commissioner Feld gave an overview of DDOT's previous removal of street parking in front of the American Fazl Mosque at 2141 Leroy Place NW for the installation of a pick up and drop off zone. She said that the community has requested that the street parking be reinstated. She said that DDOT has created a work order for the reinstatement of the parking. She added that the mosque will be able to install guidance signage on private property asking people to not park out front during worship times.

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

Commissioner Feld gave an overview of the traffic congestion at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and Waterside Drive NW. She said that DDOT is gathering data regarding the intersection.

New Business

Proposal to Remove the "No Right Turn on Red" Signage at the Intersection of Belmont Road and Massachusetts Avenue NW

Commissioner Feld said that she has done an informal survey of residents near the intersection of Belmont Road and Massachusetts Avenue NW regarding the proposal to remove the “No Right Turn on Red” signage at the intersection, which she said might improve traffic flows. She said that she has asked DDOT to look into the matter.

Presentation Regarding a House Renovation at 2331 California Street 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 a two-story rear addition and new window openings at 2331 California Street NW.

Application by Assets for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “C” Nightclub License at 1805 Connecticut Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Application by Russia House for Renewal of the Establishment’s Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License at 1800 Connecticut Avenue NW

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

Announcements and Open Comments

Chair Warren thanked DDOT and the U.S. Department of State’s Office of Foreign Missions (OFM) for helping the neighborhood to reclaim several parking spaces in front of the Russian Cultural Center at 1825 Phelps Place NW.

Commissioner Feld said that anyone who wants to sign up for the Friends of Mitchell Park’s newsletter can email Holly Sukenik at: hsukenik@hotmail.com.

A local resident said that the Open Door Market at 2160 California Street NW has been sold and the new owner is terrific. She encouraged local residents to support the market.

Date of Next Meeting

Chair Warren said that the ANC’s next meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 10th, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

Adjournment

Chair Warren adjourned the meeting at 8:31 pm.