



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2E

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 29th, 2023; 6:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom

Call to Order - 6:32 pm

Commissioner Elizabeth Miller called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm. Commissioners Kishan Putta (2E01), Topher Mathews (2E02), Paul Maysak (2E03), Joe Massaua (2E04), Mimsy Lindner (2E05), Gwendolyn Lohse (2E06), Elizabeth Miller (2E07), and John DiPierri (2E08) were present.

Approval of the ANC's June 29th, 2023 Meeting Agenda - 6:32 pm

Commissioner Lohse moved to approve the ANC's June 29th, 2023 meeting agenda. Commissioner Putta seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Approval of the ANC's May 30th, 2023 Meeting Minutes - 6:32 pm

Commissioner Lindner moved to approve the ANC's May 30th, 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner DiPierri seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-0).

Administrative - 6:33 pm

Public Safety and Police Report - 6:33 pm

Lieutenant John Merzig and Sergeant Philip Robinson, representatives for the Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Second District, and Sergeant Scott Ford, a representative for the DC Fire and EMS Department's (FEMS) Fire Investigations Branch, gave an overview of the recent crime statistics for the neighborhood.

Community Commendations - 7:07 pm

Community Commendation for ANC 2E Chair Elizabeth Miller - 7:07 pm

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

ANC 2E commends the exemplary dedication that ANC Commissioner Elizabeth Miller has demonstrated to Georgetown throughout her ANC tenure. Her proactive approach has been unwavering no matter the topic. Her contributions have improved our village and assisted its residents in countless ways, including helping to secure funding for a fully reimagined Jelleff Recreation Center, an updated storm water management system at the historic Mount Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries, and improvements to Book Hill Park and the triangle park. Moreover, even during a global pandemic, she applied her collaborative style

to bring vitality to our local business community and beat the drum for the importance of a beautiful commercial area.

Finally, ANC 2E wants to highlight Commissioner Miller's service as Chair of the ANC in 2023. She has shown exceptional leadership as Chair – always available to partner with any and all to support those she was serving. ANC 2E will miss Commissioner Miller's humor, boundless energy, and expertise for all things Georgetown.

Community Comment - 7:10 pm

Update from the Mayor's Office - 7:10 pm

Lawrence Davin, a Ward 7 representative for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), gave an update from the Mayor's Office.

Update from Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office - 7:13 pm

Brian Romanowski, the Constituent Services Director for the Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, gave an update from the Councilmember's Office.

Update from Lisa Fager, the Executive Director of the Black Georgetown Foundation - 7:19 pm

Neville Waters, a representative for the Black Georgetown Foundation, gave an update from the organization.

Update from DC Water Regarding Neighborhood Projects - 7:27 pm

Andrew Galli, a Public Outreach Coordinator for DC Water, gave an update regarding neighborhood projects.

Update Regarding the Georgetown Transportation Access and Circulation Study - 7:42 pm

Ted Van Houten, a Transportation Planner for the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), gave an update regarding the Georgetown Transportation Access and Circulation Study.

Update Regarding Neighborhood Schools - 8:00 pm

Commissioner Putta gave an update regarding neighborhood schools.

Update from Georgetown University Students - 8:03 pm

Commissioner Massaua and Sabreen Mohammed, the Vice President of Staff for the Georgetown Emergency Response Medical Service (GERMS), gave updates regarding Georgetown University students.

Update Regarding the Jelleff Recreation Center Project and the Duke Ellington Field Project - 8:14 pm

Chair Miller and Commissioner Putta gave an update regarding the Jelleff Recreation Center Project and the Duke Ellington Field Project.

New Business - 8:18 pm

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Department of Parks and Recreation and Department of General Services Community Meetings - 8:18 pm

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

Despite multiple attempts to have the Jelleff Recreation Center and Ellington Field meetings take place before summer got underway, the meetings have been scheduled for July 11th, 2023 and July 18th, 2023, respectively. Since fall 2022, ANC 2E has repeatedly asked for a virtual option to increase participation. The Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) continues to say that the agency will consider it, but the agency did not have a virtual option at the first community meeting in November and will not commit to a virtual option for the upcoming meetings.

ANC 2E strongly requests a virtual option for these upcoming meetings. Either fully virtual or hybrid is acceptable, but the ANC knows that hybrid is challenging and the ANC prefers fully virtual. It is unacceptable to the ANC for the only option to be in person. Most of the ANC's constituents will be unable to make these July meetings and the DC Government has the technology to include them so we need to make this virtual option happen.

ANC 2E is happy to work with DPR and the Department of General Services (DGS) to help execute on the technology.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding the Fire at the Mt. Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries - 8:21 pm

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

ANC 2E was deeply saddened by the fire at the Mt. Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries on Juneteenth. These burial grounds are the resting place of enslaved and freed Black persons and their descendants. The cemeteries are believed to have served as an extension of the nearby Black community of Georgetown for enslaved persons seeking freedom via the Underground Railroad. The Mt. Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries are some of the oldest remaining Black burial grounds in Georgetown and greater Washington, DC. The damaged grave belongs to Nannie who died a few days before her eighth birthday. Her grave has traditionally been adorned with toys and mementos and is the most visited grave in the cemeteries.

ANC 2E stands with our friends at the Mt. Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries and pledges its full support to maintain and uphold its importance in the community. The ANC encourages all residents to visit the site and consider volunteering and supporting this

important treasure. The ANC further looks forward to working closely with law enforcement, the Mt. Zion and Female Union Band Society Cemeteries, and the greater Georgetown and Burleith communities to ensure proper security is in place at this sacred space.

Consideration of a Resolution Regarding Proposed Perimeter Rule Changes at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport - 8:22 pm

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

The DC-area's Congressional delegation is united against Congressional proposals to increase the number of flights at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA), including long-haul flights, on the grounds that this would:

- Dramatically increase passenger delays at DCA,
- Erode the operational integrity of DCA,
- Negatively impact the balanced roles carefully crafted for the region's three airports, and
- Cause harm to nearby residents due to more noise pollution.

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) has joined the DC-area delegation in its opposition.

ANC 2E fully supports these efforts of opposition. Moreover, a 2014 shift in flight patterns at DCA led to much more noise in our communities starting very early each morning. Many neighbors have complained of health effects because of this airplane noise. For the past several years the DC Fair Skies Coalition, of which the Citizens Association of Georgetown (CAG) is a member, has asked for a DCA flight pattern plan that minimizes aircraft noise in residential neighborhoods to the maximum extent feasible.

ANC 2E urges you to continue actively opposing current Congressional proposals to increase traffic at DCA, and to support efforts to reduce the increased noise caused by the 2014 flight pattern changes.

Special Event Application for the 2023 DC Bike Ride on Saturday, September 9th, 2023 - 8:25 pm

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

ANC 2E is pleased to support the 2023 DC Bike Ride and to welcome the organizers in this sixth year. With over 10,000 riders expected the ANC is happy that only the Whitehurst Freeway will be closed during the ride. The ANC understands and appreciates that there will be no amplified music throughout the event. The ANC expects that event organizers will develop solutions to minimize traffic disruptions on neighborhood streets and protect public safety.

Many streets throughout the city will be closed during the race, but the Whitehurst Freeway is the only affected road in single member district 2E05. It is expected that the Whitehurst Freeway will be closed as early as 6:30 am but will reopen as close to 11:00 am as possible.

ANC 2E expects DC Bike Ride organizers to work closely with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) to ensure that traffic control officers are present during the race and that they will work together to mitigate traffic issues that may arise.

ANC 2E expects to be notified at least three days before race day of “day of” points of contact for direct communication between DDOT, the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), and the ANC.

With all of this said, ANC 2E supports this special event application for the 2023 DC Bike Ride on Saturday, September 9th, 2023 and congratulates the organization for the approximately \$200,000 in donations since inception to support street safety programs and local food banks in the community.

Special Event Application for the 2023 BellRinger Bike Ride on Saturday, October 21st, 2023 - 8:29 pm

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

ANC 2E fully supports Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center’s BellRinger Bike Ride special event application to conduct its second annual charity ride on Saturday, October 21st, 2023.

The timing and route have been designed to minimize the event’s impact on traffic. ANC 2E is pleased to support this event for a very worthy cause.

Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Control Board - 8:32 pm

Application by All About Burger Café for a New Retailer’s Class “D” Restaurant License at 1424 Wisconsin Avenue NW - 8:32 pm

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

ANC 2E protests All About Burger Café’s application for a new Retailer’s Class “D” Restaurant license at 1424 Wisconsin Avenue NW based on the adverse impact on the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood. The ANC agrees to withdraw the protest when a satisfactory settlement agreement is executed by the ANC and the applicant and presented to the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board for approval.

ANC 2E authorizes Commissioner Paul Maysak to negotiate and execute a settlement agreement with the applicant. The ANC further authorizes Commissioner Maysak and/or ANC 2E Executive Director Peter Sacco to represent the ANC at all hearings concerning the matter.

ANC 2E supports the issuance of a stipulated license.

Public Space Committee - 8:37 pm

Public Space Application by La Chaumiere for a New, Un-Enclosed Sidewalk Café with 6 Tables, 12 Seats, and 2 Umbrellas at 2813 M Street NW - 8:37 pm

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

The existing sidewalk in front of La Chaumiere has ample room to accommodate the proposed tables, maintain ADA standards, and not build out a wider sidewalk on M Street NW. ANC 2E will expect La Chaumiere to keep the space clean and have well maintained furnishings that are in keeping with the character of Georgetown. With this understanding, the ANC fully supports La Chaumiere's application for a new, un-enclosed sidewalk café.

Old Georgetown Board - 8:41 pm

OG 23-273 (HPA 23-422) Georgetown Historic District - Various locations - 8:41 pm

Commissioner Lindner moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Lohse seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-1-0). The resolution reads as follows:

First introduced in 2020, the Georgetown BID master plan for placement of public furnishings in streetscapes and plazas is supported in concept by ANC 2E. Both the cleaning up of the tree boxes and a flexi-pave surface applied to protect the trees and pedestrians are considered necessary components of the plan and conditions of our support.

While ANC 2E generally supports public furnishings and enhanced streetscapes in plazas in Georgetown, the ANC does have concerns about the piecemeal approach to design and implementation. Adding Enzi furniture would be yet another variety of furniture. The ANC asks the Georgetown BID to evaluate current furniture that may need replacing or refurbishing. The ANC further asks the Georgetown BID to turn to the Old Georgetown Board to select appropriate new benches.

Moving forward, ANC 2E suggests that the Georgetown BID takes a more holistic approach to a future plan and continues to work with the community and friends' groups. For example, the Friends of Georgetown Waterfront Park has very clearly expressed opposition to the placement of Enzi furniture in the park, but other areas in Georgetown may embrace them. The ANC encourages the Georgetown BID to place pieces that address the needs and desires of residents and visitors.

A thoughtful use of furniture and art installations can tell a better story about our vibrant community.

SMD 2E02 - OG 23-274 (HPA 23-423) 1556 Wisconsin Avenue, NW - 9:12 pm

The Commission did not take any action regarding this matter.

SMD 2E03 - OG 23-233 (HPA 23-382) 1363 Wisconsin Avenue, NW - 9:17 pm

Commissioner Maysak moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Mathews seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E is pleased to see the efforts to improve this building along our main thoroughfare of Wisconsin Avenue NW. The ANC asks that the Old Georgetown Board (OGB) looks closely at the historic character on this block and how this two-story increase in height in the front on Wisconsin Avenue NW fits in with the block.

ANC 2E also notes that there is a three-story increase in height in the rear which is visible from O Street NW. The ANC asks that OGB looks closely at the finishes, including the circular staircase and the massing of the project, as viewed from O Street NW.

SMD 2E05 - OG 23-185 (HPA 23-293) 3071 Canal Street, NW - 9:36 pm

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

ANC 2E supports the proposed addition to 3071 Canal Street NW. This is a very important block in Georgetown and improvements and updates to the townhome are needed. This project will complement the existing Georgetown House hotel by providing additional opportunities for visitors to enjoy our historic area. The ANC leaves the overall design of the project up to the Old Georgetown Board and the applicant.

SMD 2E05 - OG 23-257 (HPA 23-406) 1000 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW - 9:45 pm

Commissioner Lindner moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Maysak seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E generally supports this project, which includes converting a commercial office building into a multi-use building that will include a three-level addition and mechanical penthouse. Included in this conversion is residential, commercial, and retail space comprising of 95-115 apartments, including affordable housing. The 130 parking spots and loading and unloading areas would remain.

This area at the Georgetown waterfront would benefit from this revitalization. This conversion will provide new energy and amenities while focusing on the needs of current and new residents and the enhancement of street level retail.

ANC 2E notes that this is a large project, and with the height the loss of air and open space will be felt by all who live nearby and visit the area. The ANC appreciates that the proposed cut-outs are a positive attempt to offset the additional building height.

SMD 2E05 - OG 23-258 (HPA 23-407) 1050 Thomas Jefferson Street, NW - 10:15 pm

Commissioner Lindner moved to adopt a proposed resolution regarding the matter. Commissioner Maysak seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 7-0-1). The resolution reads as follows:

ANC 2E generally supports this project, which includes converting a commercial office building into a multi-use building that will include a two-level addition with mechanical penthouse, 170 to 220 residential apartments, including affordable housing, commercial space, and retail space. Below ground parking and the loading and unloading areas would remain.

This conversion would come with much needed amenities, additional life on the street, and perhaps retail that will enliven a street that, during certain hours, has often been dark and void of people. The energy and needed amenities will focus on the needs of current and new residents.

ANC 2E however shares the concerns of 31st Street NW neighbors about the potential loss of light to residents who live in the smaller buildings adjacent to 1050 Thomas Jefferson Street NW. Additionally, there is worry that noise may emanate from any outdoor terraces or balconies. The ANC asks the applicant and the Old Georgetown Board to work together to best accomplish a scenario that seeks to balance all considerations in practical fashion.

SMD 2E06 - OG 23-241 (HPA 23-390) 2801 N Street, NW - 10:18 pm

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

Kesher Israel is a critical part of Georgetown's community fabric and a wonderful partner to our community. The proposed project will not only better serve the Kesher Israel congregation, especially with regards to safety and access for all, but will improve the three historic properties owned by Kesher Israel. ANC 2E fully supports Kesher Israel's proposed application.

Adjournment

Chair Miller adjourned the meeting at 10:37 pm.