

# ANC 2F | Regular Monthly Public Meeting

## MINUTES

WEDNESDAY  
APRIL 3, 2024

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

### PRESENT

David Rubenstein (2F01)  
Neil Rocklin (2F02)  
Joe Florio (2F03)  
Christopher Dyer (2F05)  
Christopher Appel (2F06)  
Brant Miller (2F07)

### ABSENT

Caroline Zagranicznzy (2F08)

### GUESTS AND PRESENTERS

Sergeant Bobbett Forrest (MPD)  
Lieutenant Derek Tarr (MPD)  
Brian Romanowski (DC Council)  
Grace Reeder (MOCRS)  
JR Russ (DC Commission on Arts and Humanities)

Chair Joe Florio called the meeting to order at 7:02 and called roll.

### *Community Forum*

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#### **Commissioner Announcements**

Chair Florio announced that the Mayor had presented her budget today.

#### **Report from Metropolitan Police Department, *Lt. Tarr***

Lieutenant Dereck Tarr presented updates from the 3<sup>rd</sup> District. He reported no violent crime. He also reported a downturn in theft, though continued frequent theft from autos. He also reported a death in a residential fire in the district, but did not have further updates. Finally, he noted the mass shooting at 16<sup>TH</sup> and P Street near the 2F boundary, and confirmed investigation was ongoing.

Commissioner Brant Miller asked whether any “drug free zones” were planned for the area. Lt. Tarr reported that the area around 7<sup>th</sup> and T Streets NW was one such area, adding that the identification of the zones was driven by reports of crime. Commissioner David Rubenstein asked what the “drug free zone” actually signified. Lt. Tarr responded explained that penalties could be increased in these zones, and that officers could ask people to disperse.

#### **Report from Executive Office of the Mayor, *Grace Reeder***

Grace Reeder offered updates from the Mayor’s office, including budget updates. She explained that the District’s budget needed to represent a balanced budget across four years, and that this year’s budget reflected a financing gap after COVID-19 stimulus funding was not available, as well as a decrease in other revenue streams. Thus, the Mayor prioritized critical funding priorities, including downtown revitalization. She described plans for a project to update the Capital One Arena.

Ms. Reeder shared updates on the Housing and Downtown Program, intended to incentivize conversion of commercial buildings to residential.

#### **Report from DC Council Ward 2 Office, *Brian Romanowski***

Brian Romanowski announced that Mayor Bowser had signed CM Pinto’s “Secure DC Act,” and that the District had already put some of the provisions in the Act into place. He celebrated the agreement for the Wizards and Capitals to stay in the District.

Commissioner Rubenstein asked about the Clean Team budget in the Mayor’s budget. Mr. Romanowski explained that there were some cuts to the Clean Team budgets but that it was yet to be determined where these cuts may hit.

### **Report from DC Commission on Arts and Humanities, *JR Russ***

JR Russ shared information regarding the DC Commission on Arts and Humanities, which offers financial support for arts programming in the District. He shared information about three open grants with upcoming deadlines, as well as other grants that will become available. He also shared his contact information and the Commission's newsletter.

### **Community Announcements**

Ms. Ninat from the Legal Council for the Elderly shared updates from the Council's work to advocate for the elderly to be able to exercise their housing rights.

### ***Consent Agenda***

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Commissioner Florio moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of March Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Expenses
  - Executive Director March salary (\$1278.81)
  - iPage Domain renewal (\$22.25)
  - DC wage taxes (\$131.50)
  - Federal wage taxes (\$747.47)
  - Paid Family leave (\$23.18)
  - Unemployment insurance (\$134.44)

**VOTE: 6-0-0**

### ***Committee Reports***

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#### **Public Space and Transportation Committee, *Commissioner David Rubenstein***

Commissioner Rubenstein shared updates from DDOT on their 11<sup>th</sup> Street project. He noted that they were seeking comment on this project by the end of April, and that he would be hosting them at the next Public Space and Transportation Committee meeting. Commissioner Christopher Appel asked about the timeline for being able to provide comment, given the next ANC meeting would not take place until April. Commissioner Brant Miller offered a few courses of action: passing a resolution at the May 1 meeting or asking DDOT to extend the NOI period. Commissioner Appel endorsed the idea of asking for an extension on the period to allow the Committee to propose a resolution to the ANC.

#### **Alcohol and Cannabis Policy Committee, *Chair Florio***

Chair Florio shared updates from the Committee, including two license application renewals for retail establishments that had no complaints. Chair Florio and Commissioner Neil Rocklin also shared complaints regarding Pearl Dive for noise issues; Commissioner Rocklin explained that he was hoping to engage ownership and neighbors to address these concerns.

Chair Florio shared updates about an ongoing protest of Mr. Nice Guys' application for a cannabis retail license, as well as engagement with neighbors. He explained that he hoped to come to agreement before the protest hearing takes place on Monday, April 8.

Commissioner Rubenstein reported that ABCA was beginning to conduct enforcement of regulations for gifting shops that had not yet submitted any application for licensing as a medical cannabis retailer. Commissioner Rubenstein explained that he had prepared a list of the gifting and tobacco stores that he planned to share with ABCA.

**The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 PM.**