

ANC 2F Regular Monthly Public Meeting

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY
JULY 3, 2024

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

PRESENT

David Rubenstein (2F01)
Neil Rocklin (2F02)
Joe Florio (2F03)
Christopher Dyer (2F05)
Brant Miller (2F07)
Caroline Zagraniczny (2F08)

ABSENT

Christopher Appel (2F06)

GUESTS AND PRESENTERS

Allister Chang (DC BOE)
Captain Harris (MPD)
Lieutenant Sharmika Gatewood (MPD)
Brian Romanowski (DC Council)
Ty Abilla (MOCRS)

Chair Joe Florio called the meeting to order at 7:03 and called roll.

Community Forum

Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Brant Miller reminded the community that the upcoming NATO summit would present a challenge for transportation due to road closures.

Report from DC Board of Education, *Allister Change*

Allister Chang shared updates and statistics on education in the District. He lauded new funds that Board had secured to address poor literacy rates and other education challenges. He described resources available at the State Board of Education, including an ombudsman's office.

Commissioner Brant Miller asked how the Board was addressing truancy; Mr. Chang described the need for greater investment in schools, particularly in support for adult figures who may provide mentorship and care for students to keep them in schools.

Commissioner Caroline Zagraniczny asked how Ward 2 compares to literacy rates in other parts of the city; Mr. Chang responded that the Ward was comparable to other wards in the city.

Report from Metropolitan Police Department Second District, *Captain Harris and Lieutenant Sharmika Gatewood*

Captain Harris introduced Lt. Sharmika Gatewood and announced her promotion. She also shared crime statistics from the district, noting that crime was trending downward. She also shared information about interagency programs to intervene in theft and conduct community walks. She noted efforts on motor scooter enforcement and maintaining a footprint in the nightlife areas. She also described a police drone program that the MPD launched to monitor major events.

Chair Florio noted issues on the eastern border of PSA 208, including a firearm placed in a planter and drug activity throughout the summer. He asked for additional patrols in the area to anticipate increased crime activity.

Commissioner David Rubenstein asked whether the CVS called in a police report for shoplifting incidents as a policy. Captain Harris described the process for monitoring shoplifting and communicating with CVS.

Commissioner Zagraniczny asked whether businesses had opted into the camera program. Captain Harris responded that she was unsure.

Commissioner Neil Rocklin asked about potential crime incidents in the District, but Captain Harris said these were in the third districts and she did not have specific information on them.

Report from the Mayor’s Office, *Ty Abilla*

Ty Abilla introduced herself. She did not have a report to share as she just began the position but expressed her excitement to work with the ANC moving forward.

Chair Florio said he was excited to get to know Ty and introduce her to the neighborhood. Commissioner Rubenstein invited Ty for a walk as well, and Commissioner Christopher Dyer offered a warm welcome.

Commissioner Miller said he’d hoped to communicate with the Third District about public drinking on the border areas with the ANC.

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

Brian Romanowski provided updates from DC Council Ward 2 Representative Brooke Pinto’s office, including budget updates, upcoming hearings and recess, upcoming events, and updates to trash collection to accommodate summer heat.

Community Announcements

No community announcements were presented.

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Dyer moved to amend the consent agenda to add the cancellation of the August meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

VOTE: 7-0-0

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

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of June Meeting Minutes
- Cancellation of August meeting
- Approval of Expenses
 - Executive Director June salary (\$1278.81)
 - DC wage taxes (\$412.24)
 - Federal wage taxes (\$747.47)
 - Paid Family leave (\$18.25)
 - Unemployment insurance(\$107.91)

VOTE: 7-0-0

Committee Reports

Public Space and Transportation Committee, *Commissioner David Rubenstein*

Commissioner Rubenstein shared updates on ongoing enforcement actions for a variety of establishments operating sidewalk cafes without permits. He also noted that the District budget did *not* include additional budget as had been requested in previous resolutions, but the Committee was considering how to work within current contracts and available budgets.

Public Safety Committee, *Commissioner Caroline Zagraniczny*

Commissioner Zagraniczny shared continued concerns around 12th and M Street NW and a return of encampments that had been removed three years ago. She noted that MPD had conducted additional patrols in the area but acknowledged they were stretched thin. Chair Florio explained that he wanted to work to connect the third district MPD to Commissioners and discuss ongoing topics of concern. Commissioner Rubenstein noted that ANC 2F had not authored a resolution about the concerns and that this might be an avenue to elevate concerns.

Commissioner Zagraniczny also noted that the Mayor had a task force to remove graffiti, and Chair Florio mentioned he'd love additional information on the task force.

Alcohol-Cannabis Policy Committee, *Chair Joe Florio*

Chair Florio mentioned that the APC had not met in June, but Commissioner Rubenstein shared that the ANC had reached a Settlement Agreement with Taco Bell Cantina. He noted an extensive review of all hours in the neighborhood to ensure the SA comported with other establishments.

Commissioner Rubenstein noted that there was a continued need to address unlicensed cannabis stores in the ANC.

New Business

Letter of Support for LCCA Public Art Sculpture

Commissioner Rubenstein shared that the ANC needed to re-issue a letter of support for a sculpture that Logan Circle Community Association had worked to install in Logan Circle. Pamela Wessing of the LCCA noted that the LCCA was not able to secure a 2023 grant and was seeking a 2024 grant; she noted that the grant makers would not accept the 2023 letter and so needed an update to reflect a 2024 date.

Commissioner Rubenstein moved that the ANC adopt a letter of support for the sculpture. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. Commissioner Miller thanked Pamela for all her efforts. The motion was approved unanimously.

VOTE: 7-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.