

ANC 2F Regular Monthly Public Meeting

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY
JUNE 5, 2024

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

PRESENT

David Rubenstein (2F01)
Neil Rocklin (2F02)
Joe Florio (2F03)
Christopher Dyer (2F05)
Christopher Appel (2F06)
Brant Miller (2F07)
Caroline Zagraniczny (2F08)

ABSENT

GUESTS AND PRESENTERS

Lieutenant Bobbett Forrest (MPD)
Lieutenant Derek Tarr (MPD)
Brian Romanowski (DC Council)
Matthew Hendrickson (DDOT)

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 Pride celebration would be taking place over the weekend. He and Chair Florio shared updates on road closures.

Report from Metropolitan Police Department Second District, *Bobbett Forrest*

Lieutenant Bobbett Forrest shared updates on crime, including persistent crime at retail establishments like CVS. Lt. Forrest also shared updates on carjacking and theft from auto, reminding the community to stay vigilant about crime. She also shared information about police access to private and commercial cameras.

Chair Florio noted the routine presence of a patrol car in the area, and Lt. Bobbett noted that they had increased police patrol presence by car near the CVS, as well as bike patrol presence. Commissioner Neil Rocklin expressed his gratitude for this attention.

Report from District Department of Transportation, *Matthew Hendrickson and Christophe Wassmer*

Matthew Hendrickson provided information about the Mayor's bus priority project, which includes a Rogue Safety Audit (RSA). He emphasized the importance of community participation in the RSA and shared dates where DDOT would conduct community walks.

Commissioner David Rubenstein noted that Mr. Hendrickson had attended a prior Public Space and Transportation Committee (PSTC) meeting.

Commissioner Brant Miller noted that the shelters at the bus islands do not shade bus riders in the afternoons/evening as the sun is setting, and so riders waited behind the bus shelters.

Commissioner Caroline Zagraniczny observed that delivery drivers often stopped in the middle of traffic on 14th Street, which impacted bike and pedestrian safety.

Commissioner Christopher Appel asked whether the review would include a consideration of Sunday service, which had increased over the past years. Mr. Hendrickson acknowledged increased weekend ridership and confirmed that would be considered within a better bus network redesign.

Commissioner Zagraniczny asked about ongoing evening road work, as well as how residents might get updates. Christophe Wassmer noted that the road work should be finished and he said that notices would be distributed for further work.

Commissioner Appel asked Mr. Wassmer about recent requests for information that the ANC had submitted and whether he would provide updates to the PSTC, though he noted that construction had completed at 11th and Rhode Island.

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

Brian Romanowski shared updates from the Council, including budget updates and proposed tax reforms that would impact properties valued at \$2.5 million or more and a Paid Family Leave tax.

He also shared updates on rodent control trainings and graffiti removal.

Commissioner Miller asked whether the rodent control academy would be available online; Mr. Romanowski said he would get back to him with this information.

Commissioner Rubenstein expressed his opposition to Paid Family Leave tax, which would disproportionately impact small businesses and undermine efforts to keep DC vibrant. Mr. Romanowski shared that Councilmember Pinto opposed the proposed tax and encouraged the Commission and area establishments to reach out.

Community Announcements

No community announcements were presented.

Consent Agenda

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

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of May Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Expenses
 - Executive Director May salary (\$1278.81)

VOTE: 7-0-0

Committee Reports

Public Space and Transportation Committee, *Commissioner David Rubenstein*

Commissioner Rubenstein shared responses to the 14TH Street Bus Priority project, which emphasized that the project could not only consider buses, but also needed to consider pedestrian safety and other perspectives on use of the street.

Public Safety Committee, *Commissioner Caroline Zagraniczny*

Commissioner Zagraniczny shared updates on sale of drugs in the ANC, including increased activity at construction sites that residents were using for shelter. Chair Florio suggested linking the development project manager and the MPD to share resident concerns. Mr. Romanowski shared that he had shared this public safety concern with the developer, who had committed to removing the scaffolding in the coming weeks.

Alcohol-Cannabis Policy Committee, *Chair Joe Florio*

Protest of New Class "C" License Application for Taco Bell Cantina

Commissioner Rubenstein shared information about the application, as well as the Committee's concerns that the hours of operation sought in the license were too extensive. He noted that both the Committee and the applicant are open to pursuing a Settlement Agreement, but that the Committee recommended protesting the application.

Chair Florio moved to protest Taco Bell's Cantina's application for a liquor license based on a negative impact on peace, order, and quiet, as well as to nominate Commissioner Rubenstein to represent the ANC in negotiations with the applicant. Commissioner Dyer seconded the motion.

Chair Florio noted that the McDonalds in the area was open all hours of the day, but his concerns were related to the 8 a.m. to 3 a.m. hours of alcohol sale, and he preferred that the hours would be reduced, particularly to begin later. Matthew Minora, who represents the applicant, clarified that these hours were similar to the licenses in the area. Commissioner Rubenstein noted that he would be reviewing other establishments in the neighborhood.

Commissioner Neil Rocklin asked whether pending complaints against other Taco Bell Cantinas affected this establishment; Mr. Minora explained they did not.

The question was called and the motion was approved unanimously.

VOTE: 7-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 PM.