

ANC 2F | Regular Monthly Public Meeting

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 1, 2023

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

PRESENT

David Rubenstein (2F01)
Neil Rocklin (2F02)
Joe Florio (2F03)
Brian McCabe (2F04)
Christopher Dyer (2F05)
Matt Fouracre (2F06)
Brant Miller (2F07)
Caroline Zagraniczny (2F08)

ABSENT

GUESTS AND PRESENTERS

Sylvester Garvin (Metropolitan Police Department)
Brian Romanowski (Ward 2 CM)
Grace Reeder (EOM)
Allister Chang (DC BOE)

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM. The Chair called roll and confirmed quorum.

Community Forum

Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Brant Miller reported COVID test distribution will no longer be happening at public libraries, only at COVID centers.

Commissioner Christopher Dyer noted that street sweeping was resuming normal schedules.

Commissioner Caroline Zagraniczny asked for any interested in joining the Public Safety Committee to reach out and express interest.

Report from Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto's Office, *Brian Romanowski*

Brian Romanowski reported on CM Pinto's office hours.

He also reported that CM Pinto had released her budget request letter, which included an emphasis on public safety, but also included a number of requests from 2F. He also offered the schedule of oversight and budget hearings.

He shared a link to legislation proposed by the CM.

Commissioner Neil Rocklin asked about access to trash compactors and how they might be requested.

Commissioner Zagraniczny asked about gun violence roundtables and for more specifics on dates. She also asked which fora would be most appropriate for Commissioners to attend. Mr. Romanowski committed to following up with more information.

Report from Metropolitan Police Department, *Detective Sylvester Garvin*

Lt. Garvin provided year on year updates and other crime statistics. He also noted that the MPD would be offering free steering wheel locks for DC residents with post-2011 Hyundai and Kia vehicles.

Commissioner David Rubenstein asked about the door smashing of commercial enterprises. Lt. Garven explained that they were still looking into this matter.

Commissioner Zagraniczny asked about a sexual crime that Lt. Garvin reported; he responded that this was an incident in which a man grabbed a woman's butt and the perpetrator had been processed into custody.

Janice Ferebee asked what was the best course of action in the instance that she witnessed a drug sale. Lt. Garvin explained that the best course of action would be to call 911. Mary M. followed up by asking which instances would be best to report where. Lt. Garvin responded with more information on reporting.

Report from State Board of Education, *Allister Chang*

Allister Chang offered an outlook on his priorities, particularly on literacy, where DC ranked last in the country on fourth grade literacy.

Commissioner Dyer expressed his concern regarding the child literacy rates and asked what the ANC might offer in terms of support to Mr. Chang's proposed initiatives. Mr. Chang noted other models nationwide that he had been studying, along with a task force in the DC Council, in order to formulate legislative proposals that he could take to the ANC to solicit support.

Commissioner Zagraniczny asked whether the statistics and information that Mr. Chang shared could be publicized more widely as a part of a campaign. She also asked the degree to which DC was in touch with other states to share knowledge. Mr. Chang explained that he represented DC on the nationwide board of education; he also explained that he appreciated being able to participate in meetings to spread the word on these developments.

Venetia Williams-Vann asked what else the community might do to help beyond volunteering to tutor. Mr. Chang also noted the need for continued advocacy and support on increasing the budget for education in DC.

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

Grace Reeder introduced Christopher Powell, a new counterpart working in the Mayor's office.

Ms. Reeder also provided a presentation with a number of updates relevant to the Commission.

Community Announcements

No community announcements were made.

Meeting Agenda

Commissioner Rubentsein moved to amend the agenda to include a change to the April meeting date, so that meeting would take place on April 4. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

VOTE: 8-0-0

April Meeting

Chair Florio moved to change the date of the April meeting to Tuesday April 4. The motion was seconded. The motion passed with one abstention (Neil Rockiln).

VOTE: 7-0-1

Consent Agenda

Chair Florio read the consent agenda, including:

- Approval of February Meeting Minutes
- Approval of New Committee Members
- Approval of Expenses: \$1278.81 for Executive Director's Salary
- Approval of Jane Jane Use of Benches in Public Space

Commissioner Matthew Fouracre moved to approve the consent agenda; the motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

VOTE: 8-0-0

Committee Reports

Public Space and Transportation Committee, *Commissioner David Rubenstein*

Commissioner David Rubenstein offered a report from the PSTC, including discussion on e-bikes, review of 2021 and 2022 resolutions and communication with DDOT on status updates.

Alcohol Policy Committee, *Commissioner Matthew Fouracre*

Vegas Lounge - Nude Dancing Endorsement

Chair Joe Florio shared updates that he had been in touch with the establishment regarding a Settlement Agreement.

Amelie - Settlement Agreement

Commissioner Fouracre noted that he had been in contact with the establishment with Amelie wine bar and they had agreed to the standard Settlement Agreement. He moved to approve the agreement. Commissioner Dyer seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

VOTE: 8-0-0

Little Gay Pub - Settlement Agreement

Commissioner Miller noted that a Settlement Agreement had been reached with the establishment, following the standard agreement but with a change to include a 3 AM closing time (rather than 2:30 AM). They also asked to remove language that kitchen facilities must remain open until one hour before closing time, and he had no problem with that change. Commissioner Dyer moved that the ANC rescind its protest and approve the Settlement Agreement as described. Commissioner Miller seconded the motion.

Commissioner Rubenstein asked whether the change in hours would change for the outdoor portion of the establishment as well; Commissioner Miller explained that it would not change this portion of the SA.

VOTE: 8-0-0

New Business

Support for Capital Pride

Chair Florio expressed his support for the Capital Pride events and presented a letter of support for their events. He moved that the Commissioner submit the letter to Capital Pride. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

VOTE: 8-0-0

Creation of an *ad-hoc* Committee on Encampments

Commissioner Dyer noted that he would propose an *ad-hoc* committee to consider and look at issues facing unhoused neighbors. The motion was seconded. Commissioner Miller underscored that he preferred the nomenclature reflect the humanity of the unhoused community.

Commissioner McCabe asked about the nature of *ad-hoc* committees and whether they were bound to a discreet length. He also noted that there may be an impetus to have more collaboration across other ANCs. He finally asked what the goal of the committee would be—whether that was identifying best practices, advocating on behalf of unhoused neighbors, proposing policy, etc. Commissioner Dyer noted that he was interested in identifying resolutions that the ANC could pass and offer its great weight and expressed that in the past adding a sunset clause provided parameters on the extent of the work of the committee. He also supported the idea of hosting a community forum with other ANCs.

Commissioner Zagraniczny offered her thoughts on how the Committee might be most helpful in identifying and developing proposals.

Commissioner Fouracre asked whether there could be more specific language included around the parameters of the committee, else he supported the idea of a “task force” that could propose recommendations, one of which could be the formation of an *ad-hoc* committee. Commissioner Rubenstein also expressed questions and concerns about the scope of a Committee and whether the Committee would include considerations of mental health or other social concerns. He thus endorsed Commissioner Fouracre’s suggestion of a task force. The commissioners continued discussion on the pros and cons of creating a Committee that appoints a task force versus creating a task force to consider the creation of a committee.

Commissioner Dyer rescinded his motion.

Commissioner McCabe offered a motion to create an *ad-hoc* Committee to consider issues related to unhoused neighbors, which would report back to the full Commission at its April meeting. Commissioner Dyer offered an amendment to the motion that Commissioner Zagraniczny and Commissioner McCabe would be co-chairs. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

VOTE: 8-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM.