

ANC 2F | Regular Monthly Public Meeting

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 2, 2022

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

PRESENT

Brian Romanowski (2F01)
John Guggenmos (2F02)
Michelle Yan (2F03)
John Fanning (2F04)
Maxime Devilliers (2F06)
Alexandra Bailey (2F08)

ABSENT

GUESTS AND PRESENTERS

Vicki Caudullo (DDOT)
Victoria Casarrubias (DC Council)
Terry Julius (EOM)

Meeting **called to order** by Chair John Guggenmos at **7:02 p.m.** The Secretary called roll.

Community Forum

Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Brian Romanowski shared that he would be moving out of the ANC and thus resigning his seat as Commissioner.

Commissioner Alexandra Bailey shared that she had received the 1234 Massachusetts mold report from DOEE after flooding, and she is willing to e-mail it to anyone who would like to review it.

Report from DC Council Ward 2 Office, *Victoria Casarrubias*

Victoria Casarrubias provided updates from the DC Council, including the Councilmember's community engagement activities. She also shared legislative updates, including budgeting and updates to the criminal code. She reminded residents to vote in the upcoming elections.

Chair Guggenmos noted the packed fall calendar and offered to communicate any priority hearings or important events.

Commissioner Bailey thanked the Councilmember for the revision of the criminal code. Chair Guggenmos seconded those comments.

Report from Mayor's Office, *Terry Julius*

Terry Julius shared updates regarding leaf collection. Brant Miller, a resident, shared concerns that leaves were being put out for collection in the bike lanes.

Report from District Department of Transportation: Update on 11th and Vermont NW Protected Bike Lane Project, *Vicki Caudullo*

Vicki Caudullo shared updated statistics on Vision Zero and bike use around the city, and she addressed how the Bike Lane Project contributed to achieving public safety objectives and promote biking. She walked through plans to establish protected bike lanes on Vermont from Logan Circle to 11th ST NW.

Chair Guggenmos asked whether there was any opportunity to preserve existing angled parking. Ms. Caudullo explained that the space would not allow for both bike lanes and angled parking, while acknowledging parking was a

limited resource. She noted that parallel parking spaces would remain available, but that the value of providing bike lanes made this project a priority.

Commissioner John Fanning, who represents the block where the project would be taking place, asked the agency's plan to engage residents whom the project would directly impact. He encouraged in-depth conversations; Ms. Caudullo offered to conduct meetings with neighbors. Commissioner Fanning also asked about concrete median by the Garrison Elementary School; Ms. Caudullo explained this would remain.

Commissioner Romanowski expressed his support for the project and safer infrastructure for these streets, as well as reiterated Commissioner Fanning's request for more direct outreach to neighbors.

Chair Guggenmos asked what nature of support or engagement Ms. Caudullo was looking forward to the project. Ms. Caudullo explained that at the moment she was seeking overall feedback, but she welcomed official support or requests.

Brant Miller noted that turning lanes were being utilized for loading, and noted that adding the protected bike lanes may make loading more difficult. Ms. Caudullo registered the comment and committed to incorporating this feedback.

Venattia Williams-Vann asked about angled parking availability in front of her church at 11th St NW and K St NW. Donovan Boyd of DDOT committed to getting back to Ms. Williams-Vann about this question. Commissioner Bailey committed to facilitating communication between Ms. Williams-Vann and DDOT.

Chris Appel shared that his wife had been hit by a car on this stretch of road and underscored his support for the project.

Janice Ferebee asked about enforcement to keep bikes and scooters off of the sidewalk in the central business district.

Community Announcements

Phil Thomas from the Office of the Clean City presented updates from his department. Commissioner Romanowski thanked the Office of the Clean City for providing trash supplies. He also noted that DPW has been removing public litter cans when they've been overflowing and asked that they simply conduct more frequent pick ups. He also asked about street sweeping vehicles and whether they actually pick up trash.

Commissioner Michelle Yan encouraged as many bulk trash drop offs.

Commissioner Fanning also asked about switching public trash cans to big belly trash cans. Mr. Thomas explained that there was a significant additional cost but that he understood the benefit.

Commissioner Bailey shared concerns about dirt and trash in the alley.

Theresa DuBois shared updates from EventsDC, including services and goods provided for the Feast of Sharon on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

Janice Ferebee, president of Cambridge Tenants' Association and former 2F08 Commissioner, commented that she was disappointed, offended, and saddened by unprofessional behavior by several ANC Commissioners.

Business Meeting

Approval of Consent Agenda

- Approval of Agenda
- Approval of October Meeting Minutes

- Treasurer’s Report: Expenses
 - \$1278.81 for Executive Director’s Salary
 - \$161.32 for DC Taxes
 - [Updated budget for FY 2023 with new allocation](#)
 - Q4 FY 2022 Quarterly Financial Report
- Reaffirm support for Jane Jane's use of public benches
- Outgoing thank-you letters to district leaders

Commissioner Yan moved to accept the consent agenda. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

VOTE: 6-0-0

Committee Reports

Public Space and Transportation Committee (PSTC) Report, *Commissioners Brian Romanowski and Maxime Devilliers*

Letter to Downtown DC BID about Plans to Utilize Sidewalks on East and West of Thomas Circle

Commissioner Romanowski shared interest in asking downtown BID to activate the unused space, including potentially for bikeshare stations.

Commissioner Romanowski moved that the ANC accept the resolution. Chair Devilliers seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

VOTE: 6-0-0

Letter Asking DDOT to Study Safety Improvements at 10TH and Massachusetts Ave (and Prioritize Addressing Existing Traffic Safety Investigations)

Commissioner Romanowski noted that a pedestrian was recently struck and killed at this intersection. He noted that the Committee did not have clear recommendations in mind but wanted to see safety improvements. He also noted that there were at least three traffic safety investigations pending with DDOT.

Commissioner Romanowski moved that the ANC accept the recommendation of the PSTC to send a letter to DDOT. Chair Guggenmos seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

VOTE: 6-0-0

Resolution to ask DDOT for a Speed Hump at 1150 12TH ST NW

Commissioner Romanowski shared the final resolution, which would ask DDOT for a speed hump.

Commissioner Romanowski moved that the ANC accept the resolution. Commissioner Devilliers seconded the motion. Brant Miller explained that he submitted a traffic safety investigation for the 1300 block of 12th St NW, because the vehicles seemed to jump between stop signs to get to the stop light up ahead. Commissioner Romanowski offered an amendment to his motion to include consideration of speed humps on 12th St NW going north.

The motion was passed unanimously.

VOTE: 6-0-0

Public Safety Committee Report, *Commissioner Alexandra Bailey*

Commissioner Bailey explained that she had conducted walk-throughs at the Cambridge Apartments to review public safety and litter concerns in the back alley. She noted that she had contacted the appropriate district agencies regarding these issues.

She also noted that Horizon House had asked for an additional security guard to patrol the alley between Cambridge Apartments and Horizon House and that she would be raising this request to CM Pinto.

She also noted that she had engaged DOEE on mold issues in several apartment buildings in her SMD, including Claridge Towers and 1234 Massachusetts Ave, which had recently experienced massive flooding.

She also shared information on the hypothermia hotline.

The commissioners also shared reminders not to idle or leave cars unmonitored and to be on the lookout for package theft.

Alcohol Policy Committee Report, Commissioners Brian Romanowski and John Fanning

Tiger Fork Settlement Agreement

Commissioner Romanowksi shared updates that an SA had been reached with Tiger Fork. He moved to approve the Settlement Agreement. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

VOTE: 6-0-0

License Renewals: TG Cigars

Commissioner Romnoawksi shared noise and smoke issues that neighbors had shared. Commissioner Devilliers shared concerns also about use of the space after-hours.

Amanda Gore presented neighbors' concerns about noise and use of the summer garden past 11 pm. She also noted concerns about a lack of responsiveness from management when these concerns were raised. Alan Windsor also shared concerns that the Settlement Agreement was not being respected. Charles Jewett explained that he had sent multiple messages to 911 to ask for quiet; he shared the impact that continued noise had on his medical needs. Carrie Rosato, the board chair for the Whitman, noted a "pattern" of noise that continued late into the nights on weekdays; she asked that the ANC protest the license renewal. Jonathan Lord also reiterated noise concerns; he also noted parking concerns, where patrons' cars were blocking traffic and emergency entrances.

Risa Hsao spoke on behalf of the establishment, clarifying the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

Commissioner Devilliers moved that ANC 2F protest a renewal of the liquor license for TG Cigars unless an agreement is reached with the establishment before the protest deadline. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Yan. Commissioner Romanowski committed to facilitating a meeting between neighbors and the establishment. The motion was approved unanimously.

VOTE: 6-0-0

License Renewals: Black Whiskey and Player's Club

Commissioner Romanowski shared concerns regarding noise and queues on the street with these two establishments. Chair Guggenmos noted meetings with the establishments and willingness to establish a shared fund to support cleaning and additional security. Commissioner Fanning asked whether it was possible to set up some kind of online reservation app; Chair Guggenmos explained this may be difficult given the nature of bars versus restaurants, and he expressed concern that patrons would still loiter outside while waiting for entry. David Feinstein also shared concerns about lines blocking street access. Scott Herman spoke for the property and committed his intention to resolving the crowd issues. He mentioned that use of a reservation application did lead to more chaotic loitering rather than an orderly and managed line. Commissioner Fanning asked about current crowd control and occupancy policies. Commissioner Yan explained that the line tended to drift away from the wall farther down in the queue.

Chair Guggenmos suggested taking no action on Black Whiskey. No objections were raised.

Commissioner Romanowski moved that ANC 2F protest a renewal of the liquor license for Player's Club unless an agreement is reached with the establishment before the protest deadline. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Yan. The motion was approved with Chair Guggenmos objecting.

VOTE: 5-1-0

License Renewals: Aslin

Commissioner Romanowski shared some neighbor concerns that had been raised about Aslin.

David C. explained that Aslin was regularly advertising live entertainment on the website and conducting it on the premises, in violation of the Settlement Agreement and with no remedy from management.

Joyce Cowan asked that the ANC protest the license renewal for violation of the Settlement Agreement with no remedy after notification of the problem. She noted that the problems might be addressed with closer reading of the terms of the SA. She also noted that signage regarding exit use was promised but had not been placed yet.

Mesky Brhane underscored concerns previously raised, as well as concerns deliveries obstructing alley use.

Sarah also shared concerns about amplified noise.

Commissioner Romanowski moved that the ANC protest Aslin's license renewal unless an agreement could be reached with neighbors. The motion was seconded. Ms. Cowan noted violations of Settlement Agreement. Commissioner Romanowski amended the motion to include protest on grounds of alleged breach of Settlement Agreement. The motion was passed unanimously.

VOTE: 6-0-0

Commissioner Romanowski read the remaining list of license renewals for consideration. No concerns were raised.

Commissioner Devilliers moved to adjourn the meeting; the meeting was adjourned at 10:03.