

ANC 2F Regular Monthly Public Meeting

MINUTES

WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 4, 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

Lieutenant Bobbette Forrest (MPD)
Brian Romanowski (DC Council)
Ty Abilla (MOCRS)

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

Community Forum

Commissioner Announcements

Commissioner Brant Miller shared the theme for Art All Night would be the “Art of Drag;” the event will take place on September 28 in Logan Circle Park.

Commissioner Joe Florio shared updates on road improvements and committed to circulating the DDOT notice to residents.

Report from Metropolitan Police Department Second District, *Lieutenant Bobbette Forrest*

Lieutenant Bobbette Forrest shared updates from the second district.

Chair Florio asked about any updates in the P Street NW area, noting that he had many constituents that reach out to him about possible criminal activity area. Lt. Forrest also underscored the need to call 911 if there is any such activity. John Guggenmos expressed his frustration regarding individuals who had established a presence in the Logan Circle area, including with lawn chairs and computers, to sell drugs. He explained that this was the same group that operated in the Shake Shack area last summer, until a shooting occurred at the Shake Shack. Mr. Guggenmos noted that he was planning to elevate the issue to the Chief of Police. Lt. Bobbette committed to following up with Mr. Guggenmos to look more deeply into this issue.

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

Ty Abilla presented information about the MOCRS offices. She also directed the audience to the 311 application and how to best report concerns. She presented information on new hire opportunities. Finally, Ms. Abilla shared upcoming events taking place in the District.

Commissioner Miller shared concerns that individuals gathering on the 1300 block of 12TH Street and the 1100 block of 13TH Street continued to gather and consume alcohol. He also mentioned that someone had dumped a couch and he would like to arrange a bulk trash pickup.

Commissioner Christopher Dyer thanked Ty for her presentation and her help with constituent outreach.

Commissioner David Rubenstein noted local establishments that had not maintained a clean curb; Ms. Abilla thanked him for bringing this to her attention and the two agreed to follow up with details.

Community residents shared concerns regarding vagrancy and criminal activity – including a building break in – in the neighborhood. They expressed their desire to work more closely with the MPD and city agencies to address these issues and some of the personal safety concerns.

Inspector Davis updated Commissioner Miller that the couch in question has been removed.

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

Brian Romanowski shared updates from the DC Council, including updates on elections and accountability proceedings for CM Trayon White.

He shared updates on the legislative agenda, including upcoming legislation on noise control and medical cannabis.

Mr. Romanowski also shared updates on traffic and public safety investments and actions.

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 July Meeting Minutes
- Approval of August Special Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Expenses
 - Executive Director July salary (\$1278.81)
 - Executive Director August salary (\$1278.81)
 - Annual Zoom Account Payment (\$158.89)
 - Web services contract – Dave Foran (\$1200.00)

VOTE: 6-0-0

Committee Reports

Community Development Committee Meeting

HPRB Application – 1017 M Street NW

Mr. Bill Bonstra, the architect representing the applicant, presented the loss of structural integrity of the current structure, which would require re-designation as non-contributing to the historic character of the neighborhood. Commissioner Dyer moved to support the application for designated as a non-contributing to the historic character of the neighborhood due to loss of structural integrity. The motion was seconded. Commissioner Miller asked whether any of the details from the building could be preserved. Mr. Bonstra explained that it might, and that he would come before the CDC and Commission when he had plans for rebuilding. The question was called and the motion passed unanimously.

VOTE: 6-0-0

Public Safety Committee, *Commissioner Caroline Zagraniczny*

Commissioner Caroline Zagraniczny shared her gratitude for the conversations on public safety with MPD and her enthusiasm for conducting a walk through in the coming days.

Alcohol-Cannabis Policy Committee, *Chair Joe Florio*

Sav-On Liquors Application for License Transfer

Chair Florio presented Sav-On Liquors' application to transfer their license from their current location to a new location a block south. Chair Florio addressed some of the concerns that community members raised, some of which

were addressed in the Settlement Agreement, including loitering, neon signs, reduction in hours, delivery, sales of single servings, and other issues. He expressed that the applicant had agreed to many of these requests.

Chair Florio moved that the ANC would protest the application for license transfer, nominate Chair Florio to represent the ANC in any Board appearances, and to designate another ANC members in the event Chair Florio could not be present. The motion was seconded. Commissioner Rubenstein and Rocklin expressed their support for reduction in hours; Commissioner Rocklin asked whether the reduction in hours would also apply to periods where ABCA extended hours (e.g. for holidays). Commissioner Miller thanked the Committee and applicants for their constructive attitudes.

Anjali Patel, the president of the Matrix HOA, expressed condo owners' concerns about hours, signage, lighting, and noise. She also asked whether the community members could review the Settlement Agreement before it is finalized. Chair Florio responded and clarified the timeline for drafting a Settlement Agreement and sharing with community members.

Alex Wagner asked whether the protest could result in the denial of transfer for the liquor license. He expressed his objection to the new location, which he characterized as "fundamentally different" from the current location, due to the residences abutting the location. He voiced concerns about people loitering outside of the liquor store, which he believed would change the character of the area. Chair Florio explained the role that the ANC had in negotiating the Settlement Agreement. Commissioner Dyer also shared that the neighborhood had changed a great deal over the years, but ultimately the ANC could only protest on the grounds of "peace, order, and quiet," and that changes in the nature of the neighborhood did not constitute grounds.

Arusha from the Matrix HOA echoed Mr. Wagner's concerns and urged the ANC to protest. She also suggested Sav On liquors might change its name to attract a new and different clientele.

Commissioner Rocklin shared a letter from DDOT regarding the inability to remove benches on 14TH Street.

The Chair called the question, and it was approved unanimously.

VOTE: 6-0-0

New Business

VOTE: 6-0-0

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 PM.