# Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2G Hybrid Public Meeting Thursday, August 3, 2023

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2G convened In-Person and via Zoom Video Conference at the Watha T. Daniel/Shaw Library, 1630 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, on Thursday, August 3, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a Special Election for ANC 2G03 Commissioner.

#### Present:

Tony Brown, (Treasurer), ANC 2G01 Alex Padro, (Chair), ANC 2G02 Steven McCarty (Secretary), ANC 2G04 Sheena Berry, ANC 2G05

Rachelle Nigro, (Vice Chair), ANC 2G06 (joined the meeting late)

[Secretary, ANC 2G03 - Vacant]

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 3:29 p.m. with a quorum of 4 out of 5 Commissioners present.

Commissioner Padro turned the floor over to Kent Boese, Executive Director of the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (OANC), who presented an empty ballot box which was then sealed and placed on the table to receive ballots. The election was declared open.

### 2. SPECIAL ELECTION FOR ANC 2G03 COMMISSIONER: Polls Open

#### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner McCarty seconded to approve the Agenda as submitted. The Motion *passed* unanimously 4 yeas - 0 nays - 0 abstentions.

# 4. RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE DC BOARD OF ELECTIONS BE MADE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONDUCTING ANC SPECIAL ELECTIONS

Commissioner Padro stated we are here this afternoon because under the current statute, the ANC itself is required to host the election at a meeting of the Commission. He stated he thinks all of us are aware there was quite a bit of difficulty being able to find a day and a time when we could get four Commissioners available to be able to have a quorum in order to be able to conduct this election. Also, the cost of conducting a mailing to be able to advise all of the affected constituents that the election was taking place had to be borne by the Commission from its existing funds – no special funding is available in order to be able to accomplish that. So, we did actually have a constituent that reached out and was concerned her work obligations made it impossible for her to be able to vote because there is no absentee ballot and there is no other means of voting except in person with a result that she felt disenfranchised, so in the interest of making sure that all of ANC 2G's constituents are able to be properly enfranchised in the future, Commissioner Padro presented the following resolution which he requested be entered into the record:

**RESOLUTION** in Support of the DC Board of Elections conducting ANC Special Elections: On August 3, 2023, at a duly noticed meeting conducted both virtually and in person at the Watha T. Daniel/Shaw Library, 1630 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW and via Video Conference and with a quorum of 4 out of 6 commissioners and the public present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2G approved the following resolution by a vote of 4 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions:

"WHEREAS Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) or commissioners are currently required to conduct Special Elections to fill vacancies on their commissions during ANC meetings with assistance from the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, and

WHEREAS ANCs must meet for longer than 4 hours in order to meet statutory requirements for the Special Elections which represents a burden on commissioners who are employed, and

WHEREAS ANCs must divert funds provided for Commission operations from other needs in order to pay for costs related to communicating Special Elections to affected constituents, as no other funding is available for this purpose, and

WHEREAS it can be difficult for ANCs to find public facilities that are able to host meetings longer than four hours long in order to conduct Special Elections, and

WHEREAS conducting Special Elections represent an undue and significant burden on ANCs, and

WHEREAS the DC Board of Elections has the technical capabilities and funding to conduct ANC Special Elections.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2G formally requests and recommends that the Council of the District of Columbia assign the responsibility for conducting Advisory Neighborhood Commission Special Elections to the DC Board of Elections as soon as possible, and

Commissioner McCarty offered the following **friendly amendment** which was seconded by Commissioner Padro:

WHEREAS DCBOE has the resources to provide accessibility options for voters such as senior citizens, people with disabilities, and people who are Non-English Proficient (NEP), or Limited English Proficient (LEP), as well as Language Access services, such as sound amplifiers, translated voting material, multi-language signs and posters, foreign language and American Sign Language interpreters for voters.

**MOTION:** Commissioner McCarty moved and Commissioner Brown seconded to adopt the above resolution as amended. The Motion *passed* unanimously 4 yeas - 0 nays - 0 abstentions.

#### 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION:** Commissioner Padro moved and Commissioner Brown seconded to approve the Minutes of the ANC 2G Public Meeting held on July 13, 2023 with any corrections to be submitted to the recording secretary. The Motion **passed** unanimously 4 yeas – 0

nays – 0 abstentions.

#### 6. APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

- **MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner McCarty seconded to approve the Quarterly Report for Quarter 3. The Motion **passed** unanimously 4 yeas 0 nays 0 abstentions.
- **MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Berry seconded to reimburse Commissioner Padro in the amount of \$83.74 for the Zoom invoice for the July Public Meeting. The Motion **passed** 3 yeas 0 nays 1 abstention (Commissioner Padro).
- **MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Berry seconded to reimburse Commissioner Padro in the amount of \$16.95 for the Zoom Pro fee for the July Public Meeting. The Motion **passed** 3 yeas 0 nays 1 abstention (Commissioner Padro).
- **MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Berry seconded to reimburse Commissioner Padro in the amount of \$16.95 for Zoom fees for the July Public Meeting. The Motion **passed** 3 yeas 0 nays 1 abstention (Commissioner Padro).
- **MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner McCarty seconded to approve the expense of \$70.24 for the August Webinar fee which was charged to the ANC 2G Master Card. The Motion **passed** unanimously 4 yeas 0 nays 0 abstentions.
- 7. 7:30 PM: SPECIAL ELECTION FOR ANC 2G03 COMMISSIONER: Polls Close

[Commissioner Nigro joins the meeting].

#### 8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1) Commissioner Padro stated Events DC will be conducting a summer movie series on Thursday August 17, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. on the lawn at Carnegie Library (801 K Street NW). The movie is "Turning Red." There will be free food and beverages for everyone to enjoy.
- 2) Commissioner Nigro stated we are continuing the fight against the proposed Central Cell Block at 501 New York Avenue NW. Anyone who wants to join this effort, please email her at 2G06@anc.gov or call the Mayor's Office or Councilmember Brooke Pinto. There is another opportunity at 410 4th Street, NW where there is a cell block underneath a courthouse. She is waiting for GSA to get back to her.
- Commissioner Padro announced that Art All Night will return to the Shaw neighborhood on Saturday, September 30, 2023. There will be free art and entertainment. The welcome center will be on the west plaza at Banneker Academic High School at 1600 9<sup>th</sup> Street NW. There will be 14+ venues throughout the neighborhood all offering free art entertainment and even do-it-yourself activities. You can find out more by going to: <a href="https://artallnightshawdc.com">https://artallnightshawdc.com</a>. Events start at 7:00 p.m.

# 9. 7:35 PM: ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION RESULTS: OFFICE OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

166 ballots cast

Chris Malafis 49 votes Leroy Thorp, Jr. 56 votes Sranda Watkins 61 votes

### 10. 7:40 PM: APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS

WHEREAS the Board of Elections informed ANC 2G that the only candidates who qualified to fill the vacancy in Single Member District 2G03 are: Christopher Malafis, Leroy Thorpe, Jr. and Sranda Watkins;

WHEREAS an election was conducted on August 3, 2023 at the Watha T. Daniel/Shaw Library, 1630 7<sup>th</sup> Street NW;

WHEREAS the winner of the election was Sranda Watkins;

RESOLVED, THEREFORE, that ANC 2G requested the Board of Elections to clear the vacancy filled by Sranda Watkins, and

RESOLVED FURTHER that copies of this resolution also be sent to the DC Council, the Mayor's Office, and Sranda Watkins.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded to adopt the above resolution as presented. The Motion *passed* unanimously 5 yeas -0 nays -0 abstentions.

NEXT MEETING: September 14, 2023 6:30 p.m.

#### 11. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Commissioner Berry moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded to adopt the above resolution as presented. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas -0 nays -0 abstentions. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, (Transcribed from Recording)

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