

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2G  
Virtual Public Meeting  
Thursday, July 13, 2023**

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2G convened via Zoom Video Conference and/or Telephone on Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

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

[Secretary, ANC 2G03 – Vacant]

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 6:\_\_\_ p.m. with a quorum of 4 out of 5 Commissioners present. **(Automatic recording failed).**

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Automatic recording failed).**

**MOTION:** Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ moved and Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ seconded to approve the Agenda as submitted. The Motion **passed** unanimously \_\_\_ yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

**3. POLICE REPORT: METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT, 3<sup>RD</sup> DISTRICT**

**(Automatic recording failed).**

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS (Automatic recording failed).**

**A. REPORT FROM MAYOR’S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND SERVICES (MOCRS)**

Grace Reeder, ([grace.reeder@dc.gov](mailto:grace.reeder@dc.gov); 202-297-6566), Ward 2 Community Liaison

[Requested written comments from her.]

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A question-and-answer period followed.

- o Commissioner Nigro stated she sent an email on June 9, 2023 to follow up with Lindsey Parker, Chief of Staff for the Mayor, requesting a meeting with key stakeholders in regard to the Department of Corrections (DOC) proposed Holding Cell Block at 501 New York Avenue NW and has not had a response. Response: Director Richard Livingston is on this call. Director Livingston stated he will get back to Commissioner Nigro about her request.

**B. REPORT FROM WARD 2 COUNCILMEMBER PINTO'S OFFICE**

[bpinto@dccouncil.gov](mailto:bpinto@dccouncil.gov); 202-724-8058; <https://www.brookepintodc.com/> Brian Romanowski, Constituent Services Director, [bromanowski@dccouncil.gov](mailto:bromanowski@dccouncil.gov)

- Councilmember Pinto held office hours at Compass Coffee at 7<sup>th</sup> & G yesterday and spoke with neighbors about issues with public safety, rodents, and graffiti.
- She also attended two events at Howard Theatre.
- FY24 Budget finally passed. Councilmember Pinto's wins are:
  - Complete modernization of Seaton Elementary.
  - Fund the Shaw Clean Team.
  - Providing funding for a Shaw Main Streets Truck to keep the neighborhood clean.
  - Provide a grant to the DC History Center.
  - Fund Substance Abuse Treatment Outreach Workers at the 600 block of T Street NW.
  - Establish a community access pilot for security and custodial services to allow for community use of Garrison Elementary and Banneker High School fields.
  - Continue funding for the trash compactor pilot.
  - Create a new City Center Middle School
- DC Council passed Councilmember Pinto's slate of emergency public safety bills:
  - The Prioritizing Public Safety Emergency Amendment Act of 2023. Key Pillars:
    - Prevent repeat offenses.
    - Increase police access to camera footage to close cases.
    - Hold people who endanger the community accountable.
    - Close gaps to ensure accountability.
    - Increase data sharing and transparency.
  - The Law Enforcement Vehicular Pursuit Clarification Emergency Amendment Act of 2023.
  - The Office of Unified Communications Transparency and Accuracy Emergency Amendment Act of 2023.
- Office Hours: Francis Pool, 2435 N Street NW, Friday, July 14, 2023, 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Hosting Chinatown community meeting on safety at MLK Library, August 3, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
- DPR Updates:
  - Holding a community meeting Wednesday, July 18, 2023, 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. at Dunbar High School about New Jersey and O Street Park.
  - Propane tanks to be removed as of COB tomorrow, July 14, 2023.
  - Kennedy Recreation Center renovation begins in mid-August; estimated completion of November 2023.
  - Working to add tall netting to the west side of Bundy Field to prevent soccer balls from going over the fence into neighbors' yards.
  - Mid-block crosswalk between Bundy and Kipp is now a raised crosswalk.

A question-and-answer period followed.

- Commissioner Padro – **(1)** stated the New Jersey & O Street Park meeting is actually Wednesday, July 19, 2023, not July 18, 2023; **(2)** on the raised crosswalk, there is no signage to warn drivers that they are approaching it and that DDOT should be contacted to handle this issue; **(3)** on Kennedy, there was a brief outage for two days this week on the spray park but it is now back in operation. Hours of Operation: Wednesday through Monday: 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m.; Tuesday: 3:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. due to weekly maintenance.
- Commissioner Nigro – **(1)** asked whether Councilmember Pinto is opposed to the Proposed DOC Holding Cell at 401 New York Avenue NW and was informed she sent her conditions to the Mayor and, if they are not met, she will not support it; **(2)** stated there is supposedly additional jail space at 510 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW and asked whether Councilmember Pinto can have some influence with that.

### **C. REPORT FROM EVENTS DC**

Solana Vander Nat, Senior Manager of Community Engagement

- Visit: [eventsdc.com](https://eventsdc.com); please sign up for Events DC electronic mailing list.
- July 28-30, 2023: OTACON Annual Convention; Estimated attendance 40,000
- July 21-24, 2023: USA Junior National Championship
- July 21-23, 2023: Ubiquitous Women's Expo 2023; Estimated Attendance: 10,000
- FY 24 Community Grants: Applications now open. Informational sessions Tuesday and Thursday Noon and 6:00 p.m., also hosting a Spanish speaking session on July 17, 2023; application deadline August 1, 2023.
- August 17, 2023: Summer Movie Series is back at the Carnegie Library Lawn,

A question-and-answer period followed.

- Commissioner Nigro stated there were two criminal incidents related to the Sneaker Con event – a robbery in the garage and an armed carjacking. She was informed Events DC is working closely with MPD regarding these incidents.

## **5. PRESENTATION – JOBS NOT GUNS EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE – DOTTIE WADE**

- Jobs Not Guns Employment Initiative is a non-profit, volunteer organization that has been working with the Mayor's Office on Gun Violence Prevention since 2019.
- It provides employment and training opportunities for District residents to reduce gun violence incidents in the District of Columbia.
- Hosted five job recruitment fairs around the city.
- Hosted three Meet and Greets with community businesses.
- Held 3 career summits.
- We are invited by Councilmembers into their wards to put on these special recruitment fairs.
- 3 Pronged Approach:
  - Planning Committee – consists of government agencies, corporations, ANC commissioners, among others, and the community at large – all volunteers.
  - Youth Outreach and Workshop Program – invite 50 high school seniors and juniors to participate.
  - Recruitment Fairs
- Asking for financial support for this organization; received grants from the DC Government and ANCs. We will be applying for a grant from ANC 2G. The funding goes to the cost of streaming, printed matter, etc.

- Events:
  - 11/29/21: Ward 8 -- East of the River Recruitment Fair, Entertainment and Sports Arena; had almost 100 exhibitors, police, unions, construction industry; encouraged young people to put down their guns and apply for a job.
  - 7/20/21: Ward 2 -- Recruitment Fair -- MLK Library, 35 exhibitors; 100 attendees.
  - 7/27/22: Ward 1 – Summit and Recruitment Fair, Columbia Heights Education Campus
  - 11/16/22: Ward 5 – Recruitment Fair – Turkey Thicket Recreation Center
  - 4/22/23: Ward 4 – Recruitment Fair -- Coolidge High School – over 200 people.

Commissioner Padro advised that ANC 2G does not have a lot of money because it is a brand new commission and suggested she reach out to ANC 6E.

**6. SPECIAL GUEST: ALLISTER CHANG, WARD 2 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION REPRESENTATIVE**

- Top priority of the Board is to advance literacy – 74% of DC Public School students are not reading proficiently by 4<sup>th</sup> Grade.
- Worked to create a structured literacy action plan and he represents the Board on the task force now which will be working to develop a plan with other education agencies by the end of September 2023. Will come back again to get that finalized and to get your feedback.
- He also convened a group of literacy experts and practitioners made up of educators, researchers, students and families to make sure we are advocating for the most effective literacy related policies. If you know any reading instructors or researchers, would love your recommendations and introductions.
- The Board has been busy with revising our Social Studies standards and on 6/21/23 voted unanimously to approve new Social Studies standards which will have a strong focus on history, more focus on local history, and windows and mirrors theory that focuses on the study of texts that reflect students' own identifies, experiences and motivations (mirrors) and provides insight into the identities, experiences and motivations of others (windows).

**7. AMBAR, 1547-49 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET NW: APPROVAL OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT AND WITHDRAWAL OF PROTEST OF RENEWAL OF CLASS ABCA TAVERN LICENSE [2G03]**

Representative Present: Cameron Mixon, The Veritas Law Firm

Mr. Mixon confirmed the following with the applicant: **(1)** that the sidewalk café shall be enclosed, with operable windows that shall be closed each night at 11:59 p.m., **(2)** the applicant shall ensure the retractable roof is closed no later than 11:59 p.m. daily, **(3)** the applicant shall not permit vendor deliveries between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 9:00 a.m., **(4)** that all vendor deliveries be scheduled only between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., **(5)** that the applicant not dispose of trash or recyclables outside of the building between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., and **(6)** the applicant shall require all vendors to schedule trash contractors to pick up trash and recyclables only between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m.

**MOTION:** Commissioner McCarty moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded that ANC 2G accept the Settlement Agreement as presented and that ANC 2G withdraw the protest of renewal of the Class C ABCA Tavern License for Ambar, 1547-49 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW and communicate same to ABCA. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

**8. FOSTER HOUSE APARTMENTS, 801 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE NW: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF REDEVELOPMENT AND CREATION OF 198 UNITS OF MIXED INCOME HOUSING [2G01]**

Representative Present: Reverend Dexter Nuttal, New Bethel Baptist Church

- o Foster House has always been affordable housing.
- o New Bethel Baptist Church Housing Corp. owns the Foster House.
- o Building is over 50 years old and they have been attempting to redevelop it; building has reached the end of its useful life, requiring the replacement of all major building systems.
- o Uninsurable in its current condition.
- o Cost of renovating the existing building exceeds \$9 million.
- o A new building with 76 affordable units, 122 market rate units, and 80 parking spaces could be built for \$65 million.
- o Redevelopment first proposed in 2018; most of the tenants have moved out with only 33 apartments remaining occupied.
- o Small group of tenants have been convinced by attorneys that they can expect a substantial financial windfall if they oppose the redevelopment of the property and have enlisted the assistance of the DC Office of the Attorney General.
- o The current owners of the building have expended hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal fees defending against the actions of the OAG jeopardizing their ability to move forward with the project and even endangering their continued ownership.

A question-and-answer period followed.

- o Commissioner Nigro stated this is a very complicated issue and we have not heard from the other side.

This item was **tabled** until the September 14, 2023 ANC 2G Public Meeting.

**9. SHAW COMMUNITY CENTER (FORMER LINCOLN TEMPLE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH), 1701 11<sup>TH</sup> STREET NW: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HAVING THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST ALLOW THE CENTER TO CONTINUE TO OCCUPY THE FORMER CHURCH BUILDING INSTEAD OF REDEVELOPING IT [2G01]**

Representatives Present: Serina Wiltshire, Chair & Treasurer, Shaw Community Center  
Sudi West, President, Shaw Community Center  
Randy Smith

- Want to remain in the building.
- Serve about 200 families with educational programs, summer camps, and before-and-after school programs. Also a supportive services provider, in that we provide childcare and programs that allow families to work.
- Also provide mentoring services, violence interruption services, and we are an arts and culture hub.
- Currently we are completing one of a series of short-term leases within the building.
- There is a potential development proposed by the building owner in which we have not had access to all the meetings, the development plans, limited input, and no guarantee that we would be able to remain in the building. From what we have seen of the development plans, it reduces the space and would not have any amenities for a community center, thus making it impossible for us to serve our families.
- We have been maintaining the building for 10 years at our own expense.
- Asking for support of the ANC and DC Council in order that we are part of any developments or, ideally, that we be supported and renovating the building in ways that support what it is that we are doing.

A question and answer period followed.

- Commissioner Nigro stated this is a landlord/tenant situation.
- Commissioner Berry asked if they have reached out to DCR or Howard University. She is working closely with the Kennedy Recreation Center renovation and this could be a collaborative opportunity to work with them as an option.
- Commissioner McCarty – **(1)** asked how long have you been operating at the current location? Response: 10 years; **(2)** when does your current lease end? Response: June 2024; **(3)** do you have any understanding of when they will begin and a timeline? What is your backup plan? Response: It is not a renovation; it is a redevelopment; **(4)** have the plans been submitted to the Office of Planning or HPRB? Response: Not to their knowledge.
- Bob Carter stated he lives within a block of the Center and strongly supports it because of the ANC's presence in the community where the resolution would have to be given great weight.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Berry seconded that ANC 2G formally requests that the United Church of Christ extend the Shaw Community Center's lease on the Lincoln Temple building at 1701 11<sup>th</sup> Street, NW and engage with the Center and Shaw community stakeholders in planning for the renovation and future use of the building. The Motion **passed** 4 yeas – 0 nays – 1 abstention (Commissioner Nigro).

**10. RESOLUTION REQUESTING DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS ENFORCEMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION SIGNAGE TO ADDRESS ILLEGAL PARKING IN ANC 2G04 [2G04]**

Commissioner McCarty introduced the topic and stated ANC 2G04 consists entirely of historic alleyways that are not regularly monitored by DPW's Parking Enforcement team. There is a lot of illegal parking in our alleyways. Some residents cannot even leave their building because cars have parked blocking the doors for egress. He would like DPW to assign all alleyways in 2G04 to their Parking Enforcement route so they are consistently monitored.

Commissioner McCarty read a lengthy proposed resolution in regard to the illegal parking.

Commissioner Nigro applauded Commissioner McCarty for his efforts in this matter and stated this resolution will have great weight because it will be given to the Department of Public Works.

**MOTION:** Commissioner McCarty moved and Commissioner Brown seconded to move this resolution to address illegal parking in ANC 2G04 before the Commission and before the stakeholders he mentioned, including the DC Department of Public Works, the DC Council's Committee on Public Works and Operations, Councilmember Brianne Nadeau, Chair of the Committee on Public Works and Operations, and the addition of the Mayor's Office to receive this resolution as well. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 years – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

**11. RESOLUTION TO PROPOSE LEGISLATIVE MEASURES TO COMBAT NOISE DISTURBANCES BY PRIVATE DELIVERY, SERVICE, AND MAINTENANCE VENDORS [ALL SMDs]**

Commissioner McCarty stated in mixed use areas, much like 2G04, neighbors and businesses are sharing walls. While we love and support our local businesses, it has come to our attention that there are no regulations on noise pertaining to private delivery vendors or services for some of the business and hotels that we share space with, especially Shepard Court. A lot of the regulations are managed by the Department of Buildings (DOB) and the Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection (DLCP) and MPD. However, in the DC Noise Control Act, there are only measures that stipulate that private trash companies are prohibited to service their customers between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. After reaching out to these various District agencies over the past six months, they have all said there is no way to enforce this, so we have a gap. He would like to propose a resolution to ask Councilmember Brianne Nadeau and the Committee on Public Works and Operations to consider legislation to add private delivery, service, and maintenance vendors to the DC Noise Control Act so that they can be enforced by the DLCP just like the DLCP enforces private trash truck deliveries between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 am.

Commissioner read a lengthy proposed resolution.

**MOTION:** Commissioner McCarty moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded that the resolution to address private delivery truck noise and to amend the DC Noise Control Act be supported by the Commission and sent to all the relevant stakeholders, including the DLCP and Councilmember Brianne Nadeau for consideration. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 years – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

**12. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SPECIAL ELECTION FOR ANC 2G03 COMMISSIONER [2G03]**

Commissioner Padro provided the following information:

- o Three successful candidates identified by the OANC.
- o Special Election to be held on Thursday, August 3, 2023, 3:00 p.m., Watha T. Daniel/Shaw Library, 1630 7<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Meeting Room 1 – In-Person and Hybrid.
- o Postcard mailing will also go out to all registered voters in the affected area.
- o 3:30 p.m. Election begins. Ballots cast for four hours until 7:30 p.m.; Balloting closed.
- o OANC will count the ballots. Then resolutions presented to Commission.
- o The Commission will then vote to approve the resolutions codifying the results of the Election.
- o Winning candidate will be announced before the end of the meeting and then sworn in.

### 13. APPOINTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE CHAIR

**MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded to appoint Commissioner Berry as Chair of the ANC 2G Transportation Committee. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

### 14. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

#### A. Approval of Minutes of 06/08/23 Meeting

**MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner McCarty seconded to approve the Minutes of the June 8, 2023 ANC 2G Public Meeting as submitted. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

#### B. Approval of Expenses

- 1) **MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Berry seconded to amend the initial budget to move \$2,000 out of the Other Expense allocation and move it into the Office Supplies, Equipment and Printing allocation which would zero out the Other Expense allocation and increase the Office Supplies, Equipment and Printing allocation by \$2,000 in order to pay the \$2,250 bill for the postcard mailing for the Special Election. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
- 2) Commissioner Brown stated on June 20, 2023, ANC 2G finally got its initial allotment for the first quarter in the amount of 47,942.23. We had an initial balance deposit made by Chair Padro of \$50.00. This \$50.00 was used to pay the ANC Security Fund fee of \$50.00. He has a total of \$3,290.58 in checks to write.
- 3) He requested an ATM card to take care of expenses that was never received. He submitted another request for a new ATM card to be sent to the ANC 2G post office box.

### 15. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Commissioner Berry stated she will hold her in-person Single Member District meeting at the Kennedy Recreation Center on July 17, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. to



discuss public safety and community engagement. Her meetings are held on the third Monday of every month. With the Kennedy Recreation Center renovation, she will need to find another location for her meetings.

- B.** Commissioner Brown stated that this coming Saturday, July 15, 2023, there will be noise starting at 5:00 a.m. at Parcel 42 (7<sup>th</sup> and Rhode Island Avenue, NW).

## 16. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Berry seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions. The meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

- UPCOMING MEETINGS:**
- (1) Special Election for ANC 2G03 Commissioner, August 3, 2023 at 3:00 p.m., Watha T. Daniel/Shaw Library (In-Person and Virtual)
  - (2) ANC 2G Public Meeting, September 14, 2023

Respectfully submitted,  
**(Transcribed from Recording)**

Karen Jehle  
Recording Secretary  
Cell: 703-606-2010  
Email: [karen-jehle@outlook.com](mailto:karen-jehle@outlook.com)