

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2G
Virtual Public Meeting
Thursday, July 11, 2024**

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2G convened via Zoom Video Conference and/or Telephone on Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Tony Brown, (Treasurer), ANC 2G01
Alex Padro, ANC 2G02
Sranda Watkins, (Secretary), ANC 2G03
Steven McCarty, (Vice Chair), ANC 2G04
Sheena Berry, ANC 2G05 [dropped from call at 9:30 p.m.]
Rachelle Nigro, (Chair), ANC 2G06

Absent:

None

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with a quorum of 6 out of 6 Commissioners present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Padro moved and Commissioner Brown seconded to approve the Agenda as submitted. The Motion **passed** unanimously 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. REPORT FROM WARD 2 COUNCILMEMBER PINTO'S OFFICE

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

- o Updates were provided dealing with the FY25 Budget final vote and Councilmember Pinto's priorities.
- o Their office is still working with DPR to find a date for the community meeting regarding the Kennedy Recreation Center and with DGS for a meeting with Kipp and Bundy about Bundy Field.

B. REPORT FROM MAYOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND SERVICES (MOCRS)

Tadai "Ty" Abilla, Ward Manager

- o Tadai "Ty" Abilla introduced herself as the new Ward 2 Manager for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) and provided a brief background of herself. Each ward will have two co-partners, a manager and a liaison.
- o She will have a full PowerPoint presentation for the next meeting.

C. REPORT FROM EVENTS DC

Solana Vander Nat, Senior Manager of Community Engagement, Walter E. Washington Convention Center

- o Visit: eventsdc.com; please sign up for Events DC electronic mailing list.
- o A report was provided highlighting the 75th NATO Summit and events at the Convention Center for the remainder of July 2024 as well as their Community Grants Program.

D. Commissioner Announcements:

- o Commissioner Padro stated he will be drafting a resolution for the Commission to consider at the September ANC 2G Public Meeting that will be sent to Councilmember Pinto, the Mayor, Eleanor Holmes Norton, Events DC, among others, so that businesses who lost sales during the 75th NATO Summit can be compensated.

4. PRESENTATION BY DDOT ABOUT OPEN STREETS DAY ON 7TH STREET

Presenters: Christophe Wassmer, Ward 2 Liaison, DDOT
Kimberly Vacca, Public Space Activation Coordinator, DDOT

A brief presentation was provided highlighting DDOT's Open Streets program that seeks to reimagine streets to prioritize people over cars. One mile of 7th Street NW will be closed and open to people to participate in a range of fun and family-friendly activities. Event Date; Saturday, October 5, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more info, visit: openstreets.dc.gov or email: openstreets@dc.gov

5. PRESENTATION BY MID-CITY DEVELOPMENT ABOUT STATUS OF 1200 5TH STREET PROJECT [2G05]

Presenter: Aaron Carter, Senior Development Manager, Mid-City Development

Aaron Carter provided a presentation and reported on the status of 1200 5th Street NW, a 360 unit apartment building with 4- and 5-story donuts connected by an amenity space with a pool. It is planned to have 100 below-grade parking spaces. The project has been delayed. It is anticipated construction will begin in the early summer of 2025 when it is hoped interest rates and construction prices come down.

6. 501 NEW YORK AVENUE NW (POTENTIAL CENTRAL CELL BLOCK): REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR A SPECIAL EXCEPTION BY THE DC DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES FOR A BZA APPLICATION FOR CASE #21177 [2G06]

Presenters: Agyei Hargrove, DC Department of General Services
Tom Faust, Director, DC Department of Corrections
Meridith Moldenhauer, Counsel

Commissioner Nigro introduced the topic. She shared a slide and narrated a Background/Timeline for the Potential Central cell block at 501 New York Avenue NW. The next BZA Hearing is scheduled for September 18, 2024.

A PowerPoint presentation was provided that updated and reviewed the elements of the DGS presentation made in May of last year in terms of the building and the renovation itself. Also presented were renovation plans for the Daly Building and a timeline. Attorney Meredith Moldenhauer reviewed the Special Exception process with BZA and the Special Exception relief requested.

Commissioners and the community participated in a lengthy question-and-answer period with the presenters.

MOTION: Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner McCarty seconded that ANC 2G **not support** the Special Exception Relief requested by the District of Columbia Department of General Services for 501 New York Avenue NW, the proposed temporary location for the central cell block. The Special Exception Relief needed to construct the Central Cell Block will affect adversely the use of neighboring properties in accordance with the Zoning regulations and Zoning maps. The significant increase in cells and detainees on site will bring with it increased traffic, noise and security concerns. The proposed temporary location of the Central Cell Block to 501 New York Avenue NW will directly, significantly and negatively impact the residents, business owners, and community organizations in the surrounding vicinity. The Motion **passed** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

7. RESOLUTION FOR RESTORING COMMUNITY RIGHTS IN MEDICAL CANNABIS LICENSING

Commissioner McCarty presented and read a Draft Resolution – “Restoring Community Rights in Medical Cannabis Licensing.”

MOTION: Commissioner McCarty moved and Commissioner Padro seconded that ANC 2G submit the “Restoring Community Rights and Medical Cannabis Licensing” Resolution, as amended, to the Director of ABCA, the D.C. Council Committee on Business and Economic Development, Councilmember Brooke Pinto, and the Executive Office of the Mayor. The Motion **passed** unanimously 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

[Commissioner Berry drops from the call at 9:30 p.m.]

8. 1209 10TH STREET NW: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR APPLICATION FOR NEW MEDICAL CANNABIS LICENSE [2G04]

MOTION: Commissioner McCarty moved and Commissioner Watkins seconded that ANC 2G formally file a protest against the Medical Cannabis Retailer License for XXX Distributions, trading as Positronics, on the grounds of peace, order and quiet, over concentration of the medical cannabis retailer market, public safety, parking and traffic, pending any proposed settlement agreement being in full support of the Commission and the community. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

9. DISCUSSION ABOUT ANC 2G COMMITTEES

Commissioner Nigro stated she has been working with the OANC about having more transparency as it relates to committee meeting notifications and getting them out in a timely manner for community awareness. She will be more diligent about uploading meeting recordings, notes, and other presentations to the website. Commissioner McCarty is working on a new web page and more information on this will be forthcoming.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

A. Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Padro moved and Commissioner McCarty seconded to approve the Minutes of the May 9, 2024 and June 13, 2024 ANC 2G Public Meetings with any corrections to be submitted to the Recording Secretary. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

B. Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Brown reported that for the period ending June 30, 2024, there was a Closing Balance of \$6,138.29.

C. Approval of Expenses

- 1) **MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Padro seconded to reimburse Commissioner Nigro in the amount of \$9.60 for an Uber ride from her residence to the MPD 3D CAC Meeting on 3/28/24. The Motion **passed** 4 yeas – 0 nays – 1 abstention (Commissioner Nigro).
- 2) **MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Padro seconded to reimburse Commissioner Nigro in the amount of \$13.90 for an Uber ride from the MPD 3D CAC Meeting to her residence on 3/28/24. The Motion **passed** 4 yeas – 0 nays – 1 abstention (Commissioner Nigro).
- 3) **MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Padro seconded to approve payment of the invoice in the amount of \$275.00 submitted by Karen Jehle for Minutes of the June 13, 2024 ANC 2G Public Meeting. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
- 4) **MOTION:** Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Padro seconded to approve payment of the invoice in the amount of \$275.00 submitted by Karen Jehle for Minutes of the July 11, 2024 ANC 2G Public Meeting. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
- 5) **MOTION:** Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Brown seconded that ANC 2G seek support from the OANC Expert Assistance Fund for \$1,500 for the retainer and \$1,824 for the first payment of the new cycle to the law firm of Donohue, Themac and Miller, PLC as it relates to 501 New York Avenue NW. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

11. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Padro seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The Motion **passed** unanimously 5 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions. The meeting adjourned at 9:48 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: September 12, 2024, 6:30 p.m. via Zoom **[No Meeting in August]**

Respectfully submitted,
(Transcribed from Recording)

Karen Jehle
Recording Secretary
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