



## Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

Michael Shankle 2C01, Chair  
Jim Swart 2C04, Vice Chair  
Thomas Lee 2C03, Treasurer  
Nancy Groth 2C02, Secretary  
[2C@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2C@anc.dc.gov)

January 13, 2026

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting held on January 13, 2026, with a quorum of 4 of 4 commissioners being present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC") 2C voted to approve these Minutes by a vote of 4-0-0.

### Government of the District of Columbia

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C  
December 2025 Meeting Minutes

**DATE:** December 9, 2025

**ANC-2C COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Commissioner Michael Shankle, Commissioner Thomas Lee, Commissioner Jim Swart, Commissioner Nancy Groth

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Shankle called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm (2025 December 9 ANC 2C Community Meeting (youtube.com)).

#### 2. ROLL CALL:

Four out of the four Commissioners were present when the meeting was called to order.

#### 3. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS:

The Commissioners introduced themselves.

A moment of silence was held for Army Specialist Sarah Berkstrom, and all those affected by the National Guard shootings which occurred in Commission 2C. Groth acknowledged that these were the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> shootings in her SMD 2C02 during her term.

#### 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

**MOTION:** Groth moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Swart. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

#### 5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

**MOTION:** Swart moved to approve the October and November 2025 minutes as amended. Seconded by Lee. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

#### 6. TREASURER REPORT:

Commissioner Lee reported that December started with a balance of \$63,506. Two disbursements from the city totaling \$2,271 each were received on November 7. The current balance was \$68,048.

**MOTION:** Groth moved to approve the treasurer's report. Seconded by Shankle. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

## **7. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:**

**1. Website Refresh:** Commissioner Groth invited anyone else to take over the project. Commissioner Shankle noted that they were looking for a website designer.

**2. Admin Support:** Commissioner Shankle noted that they were looking for administrative support for up to 20 hours per month.

## **COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**1. MPD 2nd District Crime and Community Awareness, Captain Michael Hamelin, [Michael.hamelin@dc.gov](mailto:Michael.hamelin@dc.gov), 202.698.1405, or Lieutenant Sylvester Garvin, [Sylvester.garvin@dc.gov](mailto:Sylvester.garvin@dc.gov), 202.774.6866**

Captain Hamelin reported a 26% reduction in violent crime, an 8% reduction in property crime, and an 8% overall reduction in crime. The main concern was still theft from autos, but it had decreased from earlier in 2025. The thefts from autos were more challenging because there was no pattern. Everyone was reminded not to leave anything in their vehicles. Captain Hamelin discussed the shooting related to the National Guard.

Commissioner Groth reported that at approximately 4:45 on December 9 at the Quincy Hotel, there was a loud animal rights protest, and she encouraged the general manager to call the police. She asked what businesses should do in similar instances. Captain Hamelin stated that she gave the manager the right advice. He stated that they were usually aware of the instances and monitored them. They also usually contacted the people running the event to ask how long they were staying.

Commissioner Groth asked about protecting the National Guard. She stated that she had seen a number of guardsmen with MPD officers and asked if that was the current staffing. Captain Hamelin explained that the number of MPD officers and guardsmen working together had increased, and that the MPD was working on spending a bit more time in the spaces they were working in.

Commissioner Swart noted that in his ANC, there was one residential area with complaints about protest noise. He noted that they had called 311 and had not received any assistance. Captain Hamelin stated that the calls would still come to them through 311. The protests were monitored from a distance, and units would be added for safety if needed.

**2. MPD 1st District Crime and Community Awareness, Captain Paul Hrebenak, [Paul.Hrebenak@dc.gov](mailto:Paul.Hrebenak@dc.gov), 202-729-2179 or Lieutenant Araz Alal, [Araz.Alali@dc.gov](mailto:Araz.Alali@dc.gov), 202.698.0066.**

Captain Hrebenak reported that total crime was down compared to 2024. Total crimes decreased from 51 to 35, property crimes decreased from 49 to 33, and theft from autos and motor vehicles decreased 50%. One robbery occurred and was still pending investigation. There were many additional resources at the Downtown Holiday Market, Mount Vernon Triangle, Chinatown, and Penn Quarter. Captain Hrebenak reminded everyone not to leave items in their vehicles. There were a couple of mail rooms at apartments in which packages had been stolen, so Captain Hrebenak encouraged residents to reach out to the apartment manager to keep the mail rooms secure.

Commissioner Shankle discussed the noise complaints at 777 Gallery Place in relation to drummers. The drummers were asked to decrease the noise, move, or stop drumming. Captain Hrebenak stated that he would have it checked on. He noted that it was trickier before 10:30 p.m., when the noise cutoff began, but they would work on the issue.

A resident discussed that the performers were great and asked if they could talk to them about a mediation with the group to lessen the problems. Commissioner Swart noted that the Sound Mitigation Act had been passed into law but had not been enacted due to budget limitations.

Andrew Cohen discussed that the issue with the G Street Alleyway was that it funneled noise and attracted many buskers. The performing started after the DOB noise complaint hours, so it was nearly impossible to get an inspector on time. He stated that he was hoping for some alternative reporting solution where someone could get to the area in a timely manner.

Howard Marks discussed that residents, clients, and upscale dining were also affected and stated that a united front was needed to end the issue.

Captain Hrebenak asked Andrew Cohen to email him, and he would continue to provide updates as Lieutenant Tukt worked on the issue.

Captain Hamelin encouraged no one to leave valuables in vehicles, even if they were stored in garages.

**3. Metro Transit Police Department, Deputy Chief Stephen Boehm, [SBoehm@wmata.com](mailto:SBoehm@wmata.com), Captain Aaron Donald, [Adonald@wmata.com](mailto:Adonald@wmata.com), District 1 Commander, Lieutenant David Barga, [dbarga@wmata.com](mailto:dbarga@wmata.com), District One Evenings, 202-306-5783.**

Lieutenant David Barga reported that robberies had decreased. The only incident occurred at the Gallery Place Station, and the presence increased on the trains between Anacostia and

Georgia Avenue. Fare evasion at the gates continued. Overall, the year was historically low for crime.

**4. Office of Mayor's Office Ward 2 Mayor's Liaisons – Tadai Abilla, Ward 2 Liaison, [Tadai.Abill@dc.gov](mailto:Tadai.Abill@dc.gov), 202.805.7122 and Adriana Macedonio, Ward 2 Liaison, [Adriana.Macedonio@dc.gov](mailto:Adriana.Macedonio@dc.gov).**

Ty Abilla invited everyone to participate in the Fresh Start 5K on January 1, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. The location changed to the Frederick Douglass Memorial Bridge, and registration was available on site. EdFEST is a public-school fair where families can learn more about school options for the upcoming year. The next event was scheduled for December 12, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., for those entering pre-K3 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The Mayor and DPR announced that applications were open for all community grants, which assisted with community-based organizations for youths aged 6 through 18. The deadline was December 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. The mayor's office and Serve DC invited all residents to sign up for the snow team heroes that pair community members with neighbors needing assistance clearing their sidewalks. FY26 Robust Retail Grant Program opened earlier in December to provide financial assistance to DC brick-and-mortar retail businesses, and the deadline was January 20, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. DGS is hosting its town hall meeting virtually on December 10 at 6:00 p.m. Ward 1 and Ward 2 are holding a construction meeting on December 11 at 6:00 p.m.

**5. Office of Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto – Brooke Pinto Councilmember, Ward 2, [bpinto@dccouncil.gov](mailto:bpinto@dccouncil.gov), 202-724-8058, Maddy White, [mwhite@dccouncil.gov](mailto:mwhite@dccouncil.gov), Brian Romanowski, Constituent Services Director, [bromanowski@dccouncil.gov](mailto:bromanowski@dccouncil.gov), 202-285-9195.**

Diya Mehta acknowledged the tragedy of the shooting of the two National Guard troops and stated that they were doing everything they could to assist with the investigation. Councilmember Pinto introduced her Prosper DC Plan, including 23 bills that aim to deliver economic opportunities, promote positive youth development, support businesses, and strengthen affordable and healthy communities. Diya Mehta highlighted some of the 23 bills, including a bill to address the prevalent rat problem, a bill to support young people by establishing a partnership program for specific industries, a bill to establish four teen centers with a youth advisory program, and other bills to make it easier to permit special events. A community office hours event will be hosted at Café Joy on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Shankle asked about the status of the Sound Mitigation Act and whether funds had been allocated. Diya Mehta reported that they were looking into it and were cautiously optimistic that the funds would be allocated. Commissioner Shankle asked whether the money returned to Congress from the budget would be sufficient to fund the act. Diya Mehta stated that they would look into it further and follow up.

**6. DowntownDC BID, Ellouise Johnson, Deputy Director of Public Space Operations, Lukas Umana, Director of Public Space Operations, [lukas@downtowndc.org](mailto:lukas@downtowndc.org), 202.270.0366.**

Lukas Umana presented the Clean and Safe Data for October and November 2025, noting that over 21,000 bags and 128,000 pounds of trash were collected in November. There was a lot of graffiti and stickers removed. Part of the 2026 Safe Corridors Grant included two personnel for six hours a day. A lot of time was spent in the Chinatown corridor, at nearly 15 hours per month. A digital app allowed the team members to check in. Business wellness checks were also conducted to gain insight into the challenges businesses were facing. The other daily functions of the BID included were discussed, including leaf collection.

The ongoing and upcoming activations included the Holiday Market, a world record attempt for the most kisses under a mistletoe on December 13, Frosted at Franklin Park, and the Skate Activation at the National Building Museum. Lukas Umana discussed the large amount of foot traffic the events were drawing. He noted that 1,700 couples were expected at the most kisses under a mistletoe world record attempt and invited everyone to participate. Lukas Umana provided Safety Team updates, highlighting that the team had operated for 19 months.

Commissioner Shankle commended the BID for their work on removing graffiti and stickers.

Commissioner Lee asked whether the BID could work to bring back the International Horse Show to DC. Lukas Umana stated that it was something that they could work on and discussed that similar ideas were helpful in driving people to DC.

Commissioner Swart commented on how great the Holiday Market was.

#### **GRANT AND FUNDING REQUESTS**

- 1. Thomson Elementary School PTO 1200 L Street, NW: International Baccalaureate (IB) Program Support \$5,000 for the 2025-2026 academic year. Kapra McMichael, IB Program Coordinator, 404-838-1712, [Kapra.McMichael@k12.dc.gov](mailto:Kapra.McMichael@k12.dc.gov)**

Denise Wiktor, the General Counsel of the Office of ANCs, reviewed both grants, and the proposed expenditures were in line with the grants from advisory neighborhood councils.

- 2. Thomson Elementary School PTO 1200 L Street, NW: Teacher Appreciation Grant \$1,000 for the 2025-2026 academic year. Hannah Putman, PTO President, 443-791-4708, [hjputman@gmail.com](mailto:hjputman@gmail.com)**

**MOTION:** Groth moved to approve the grants to the Thompson Elementary School PTO as written. Seconded by Swart. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

It was noted that the goal was to provide two field trips at each grade level from kindergarten through fifth grade.

#### **NEIGHBORHOOD COLLABORATIONS FOLLOWUP**

None.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

## LOCAL EVENTS THAT IMPACT THE COMMUNITY (CONSENT AGENDA)

### 1. Proposal for downtown dog park at Hook and Ladder Alley at Massachusetts Ave NW, Ritanch Hans, ANC 6E09, 910-420-0018, [6E09@anc.dc.gov](mailto:6E09@anc.dc.gov).

This item was taken after the Office of Ward 2 updates.

Ritanch Hans reported that the dog park would be between 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> streets and had been operating as a quasi-dog park. DDOT had been maintaining the area, which was public, but it had not been used. He reported that the building across the street, the nearby building at 400 Mass Street, the nearby bar, and Present Company Public House were all in support. The Meridian and Judiciary House provided verbal approval. Ritanch Hans asked ANC 2C to encourage DDOT to transfer the land to Parks and Recreation and encourage DPR to create a dog park. The Department of Energy conducted an assessment of the area and concluded it was a good location for the dog park.

Commissioner Shankle noted that there had been significant challenges in the past with the plot due to dumping on the property. Many residents had also been asking for a dog park.

Commissioner Swart asked if the dog park would be gravel, grass, or other material. Ritanch Hans stated that they had not reached the planning stage, but it would be either wood chips or turf. Commissioner Swart asked whether it would be mixed-use for small and large dogs. Ritanch Hans confirmed that it would be.

Commissioner Lee asked about the homes that would be close by. Ritanch Hans reported that the Board of those apartments had approved. The business closest to the dog park also sent a signed letter in support.

**MOTION:** Shankle moved to send a letter asking DDOT to transfer the plot of land to Parks and Recreation and ask Parks and Recreation to make it a dog park for the neighborhood. Seconded by Groth. Approved unanimously. (Vote 4-0-0)

Commissioner Lee asked if there had been any interest in setting aside a portion of the area for a children's playground. Ritanch Hans reported that there had not been and there would be a new children's playground opening approximately a block away.

**2. EVENTS DC X KREWE OF PYROS SECOND LINE PARADE, Saturday, 31 January 2025, from 11:00AM to 2:00PM. Lukas Umana, Director of Public Space Operations, [lukas@downtowndc.org](mailto:lukas@downtowndc.org), 202-270-0366.**

Nicole Green, the Senior Director of Corporate Marketing and Creative Production, discussed Events DC and reported that the event would include a parade. JC discussed that Krewe's platform was for STEM education. Nicole Green asked for the Commission's support for the Mayor's Special Event planning for the parade. The parade was scheduled for January 31, 2026, and started in Chinatown Park, followed the Lunar New Year Parade route, and ended at Anthem Row. The first flag raising in DC would be held at the end of the parade route.

**MOTION:** Swart moved to send a letter of support for the Events DC X Krewe of Pyros Second Line Parade. Seconded by Groth. Approved with Commissioner Shankle abstaining. (Vote 3-0-1) Commissioner Shankle abstained due to not being present while working on technical difficulties.

**3. The Residences at Metropolitan, 1518 M ST NW, For Formerly Unhoused Veteran, Metropolitan AME Church Pastor William H. Lamar IV to announce their faith-based development initiative. Charles Breece, Project Lead, [cb.breece@gmail.com](mailto:cb.breece@gmail.com), Janice Ferebee, Community Outreach Lead, [jferebee@janiceferebee.com](mailto:jferebee@janiceferebee.com), 202-213-5646.**

Bill Lamar reported that their goal was to help unhoused veterans and that they had been planning for years to erect 27 micro units with supportive wraparound services behind their church. He discussed their reasoning for their goal of helping veterans and the history of serving veterans.

Charles Breece reported that their organization had been developing affordable housing for 25 years, as well as STEM programs and financial workshops. The project began with a grant from Enterprise Community Partners, Inc., and support from the DC Department of Housing and Community Development. Architectural drawings showed that the space behind the church could be used to build a 12-story tower with 27 micro-unit apartments. They were currently looking at the feasibility of the drawings and were in the early stages. The zoning issues were being examined.

Janice Ferebee, the Community Outreach Lead for the project, discussed the importance of hearing the voices of the neighbors and residents in the ANC. She noted that the project was a faith-based commitment to veterans and the community, focused on a compassionate mission to strengthen the neighborhood. The ultimate vision was to provide dignified permanent housing to veterans while preserving safety and harmony for all. The plan was to develop a building operations plan that included professional property management, maintenance protocols, and lease enforcement policies to provide comprehensive customized support services, including staff, regular communication, skill-building workshops, and community events.

Zach Bradley, Zoning Counsel, provided information on the zoning relief being sought. He stated that they would return to the ANC for a more in-depth presentation and a later vote. Three areas of relief were sought: the rear-yard setback, the penthouse setbacks, and long-term bicycle parking. He noted that the footprint was small and that the limited space in the building envelope informed the design. The Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) had consented to the application and was looking to add the zoning request to its agenda after finding that it had little impact on the historic resource and the visual street view.

Charles Breece reiterated that they were committed to being good neighbors and invited partnership.

Commissioner Swart commented that it was a wonderful plan and hoped that counseling services would be available to veterans. Mr. Breece reiterated that the development will provide full wraparound services to their residents.

Commissioner Lee asked whether the money had been raised and when they planned to open. It was reported that they were in the process of getting details together to put proposals out for raising funds. There had been conversations with other similar institutions to learn about what had worked well and what had not.

Commissioner Groth expressed her excitement about the development and offered her assistance if needed.

**4. Chinese Lunar New Year with the Chinese New Year Parade. Sunday, 22 February 2026.**  
**Hon Yuen Wong, 301-529-3888, [yunyunmedicalclinic@hotmail.com](mailto:yunyunmedicalclinic@hotmail.com) and Rita Lee, [ritacrlee5168@gmail.com](mailto:ritacrlee5168@gmail.com).**

Commissioner Shankle reported that the event would occur on February 22, 2026. The festivities would include folk dance, musical bands, various vendors, local high schools, a cultural exposition, and a parade. The estimated attendance was 30,000 to 40,000, and the event would celebrate the Year of the Horse. The parade route would begin on H Street and end there.

**MOTION:** Shankle moved to send a letter of support for the Chinese Lunar New Year with the Chinese New Year Parade. Seconded by Lee. (Vote 4-0-0)

Commissioner Swart asked whether information about the event and similar events could be added to the website. Commissioner Shankle welcomed the opportunity if someone could assist.

**MOTION:** Swart moved to add information on the events to the website. Discussion ensued about getting Commissioners trained in updating the website, as we currently lack the capacity to do so. Seconded by Lee. Commissioner Groth abstained. (Vote 3-0-1)

[https://dc-gov.zoom.us/w/83427267503?tk=HdJ8UvYgXm2IWKGc2ZxVTDdcTyIoh9kcUUd2qac.DQkAAAAATbKcTrxY5QzZ6R21RaVNvcXM0bC1fb1xM2ZRAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA&pwd=Vk1Y55k19sZZeNt96JbS7tIYV4kOzd.1](https://dc-gov.zoom.us/w/83427267503?tk=HdJ8UvYgXm2IWKGc2ZxVTDdcTyIoh9kcUUd2qac.DQkAAAAATbKcTrxY5QzZ6R21RaVNvcXM0bC1fb1xM2ZRAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA&pwd=Vk1Y55k19sZZeNt96JbS7tIYV4kOzd.1)

## **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS LICENSING (ABC)**

**1. VPC Washington DC Pizza, LLC, Trade Name: Giordano's, License Class: Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant, (ABRA-134195), 600 14th Street, NW. Jennifer Gallery, 312-658-2200, jennifer@smlaw.org.**

No one was in attendance for VPC Washington, DC Pizza.

## **TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SPACE**

**1. Installation of Diplomatic Parking Zone along the 1000 Block of 16th Street NW. DOTT: NOI# 25-282-TOA. Earl Boyd, RDPP Parking Program Manager, District of Columbia Department of Transportation, 202-741-5341, earl.boyd@dc.gov.**

This item was tabled since no one from DDOT was in attendance.

## **PLANNING, ZONING, ENVIRONMENT, and HISTORIC PRESERVATION**

**1. Monumental Sports and Entertainment – Update on Cap One Arena Exterior Improvements, 601 F ST NW. Crispus Gordon III, Vice-President, Government Relations and Strategic Affairs, 202-661-5165, cgordon@monumentsports.com.**

Crispus Gordon III provided a brief background. The exterior transformation concepts remained solid, and the plans continued to be refined and advanced. A reduction in digital quality and ensuring that they were being a good neighbor had moved forward. The goal was to give the DC area its coliseum back. The textured façade on F Street was presented, and the textured material allowed the view to change throughout the day with the sun. The accessible entry to the metro was being cleaned up in preparation for an uplift across the board. The northwest lounge on the corner remained the same, except for an added canopy. The lighting of the veil stopped short of the corner. The veil had previously stopped short on 6<sup>th</sup> Street, but the expression fabrications would continue for structural reasons.

The streetscape overview had been worked on in tandem with DDOT and DEMPED. The goal was to adhere to all new Chinatown guidelines while also staying consistent. The Chinatown guidelines shifted from a red brick to a scored concrete for maintenance and safety reasons, which would also improve the aesthetic. A hardened, structurally reinforced bollard would be installed along the curbline, largely hidden within the landscaping. The number of trees would not change. There would be no parking on the north side of F Street and no bike lane. Seventh Street was expanded by 10 feet for pedestrian safety and ease of use. Sixth Street would remain the same in terms of size but would be beautified as much as possible. The lettering was updated to Chinatown standards. Renderings were presented.

Will Pepperman reviewed the temporary construction. DDOT was being coordinated with to finalize the traffic control plan, and the plan was to start establishing overhead protection on January 12 for pedestrians exiting the metro station. The traffic control plan had pedestrians shifting to the south side of F Street. Canopy removals would then proceed in January, and scaffolding around all sides of the arena would begin in March.

Commissioner Swart asked where traffic would move when the roadways were reduced after the project was completed. It was explained that the goal was to encourage more metro access and ride-sharing and to reduce the number of vehicles coming through.

**MOTION:** Shankle moved to send a letter of support for the Monumental Sports and Entertainment exterior improvements and public space proposal. Seconded by Groth. (Vote 4-0-0)

Commissioner Lee asked about the position on the buskers. It was reported that the residents at Gallery Place were being worked with, and more internal conversations were needed.

**2. 725 12th Street NW - DDOT Public Space Permit #476143 and BZA Case #21395. Sean Sullivan, bxp, VP Development, 202-585-0845. [ssullivan@bxp.com](mailto:ssullivan@bxp.com).**

Sean Sullivan reported that they were seeking support for the proposed public space improvement plan submitted to DDOT. The plans were reviewed by DDOT staff, who encouraged the submission of the formal public space application, which was in process. Images of the site were provided, including the metro canopy and the old entrance to the plaza before construction. The building footprint was changing, but how it operated remained largely the same. The largest differences were in the plaza and the metro escalator and elevator. The planting plan was reviewed, and it was noted that it was coordinated with Urban Forestry and DDOT. The size of the existing curb cut was being decreased, and the below-grade structure remained the same. There would be five parking levels with 340 parking spaces. There were some projects in public space, but they were in conformance and added architectural interest to the facade. There was outdoor seating, and the area was opened up to make it more walkable. Renderings of the area were presented.

Commissioner Shankle commented that he liked the plaza's openness.

Sean Sullivan noted that they had saved the statues and were on their way to the Artist Foundation in Chicago.

**MOTION:** Shankle moved to send a letter of support for DDOT Public Space Permit #476143. Seconded by Swart. (Vote 4-0-0)

**3. Woodies Building - 1025 F Street - Zoning Commission (ZC 00-33B) PUD Modification. Netflix is actively seeking space to create an experiential destination that combines viewing**

**and event space with supporting office uses. They've identified the Woodies Building as their preferred location; however, the existing use restrictions from the early-2000s PUD will need to be modified to allow this concept to move forward. Drew Turner, Douglas Development Corporation, 410-507-6190, dturner@douglasdev.com Dennis Hughes, Holland & Knight, Dennis.Hughes@hklaw.com and representatives from Netflix**

Drew Turner reported that the the building is connected to a Planned Unit Development (PUD), and there were some requirements and preferred uses for the lower through the second floor. On the second floor, a PUD modification to allow office space was brought forward and ultimately granted. The ground floor of the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> and F Street would be used for Netflix, and a modification to the PUD to allow office use in conjunction with the arts and entertainment was being sought.

Dennis Hughes explained that they were requesting a change to the existing PUD order to provide some flexibility regarding the ground-floor use of the southwest corner of the building.

Genoveva Camona provided an overview of the plans for the ground floor, highlighting that they intended to make the corner visually interactive. The space would be carefully renovated to remain compatible with the historic building. Renderings of the building exterior were presented. On the interior, the goal was to keep an open space and co-working environment. The screening lounge could be used for screenings, town halls, and lunch-and-learns.

Commissioner Shankle asked about the current PUD restriction. Drew Turner reported that office use was restricted and that the PUD required entertainment or retail use. Commissioner Shankle asked if the change was asking to expand or remove the retail component. Dennis Hughes explained that the change requested was to add flexibility for an arts and entertainment organization. Commissioner Shankle asked what public accessibility meant. Genoveva Camona clarified that it would be private-invite-only at the current time. The space would be office space for Netflix, and the public would be allowed in by invitation. Commissioner Shankle discussed that the PUDs were put in place for the community's benefit and raised concerns that the potential for public space was being removed. Drew Turner acknowledged the concerns and discussed the challenges of maintaining a single footprint type. He stated that it would be a public benefit to have a retail space activated and occupied, as it would create good momentum in the area. Jeff Utz, Land Use Counsel for Netflix, noted that the PUD designated the ground floor as a special use that did not necessarily require public access but did celebrate a special use. He stated that they hoped that Netflix could be the special use that would add interactivity. Genoveva Camona discussed the capacity issue and the reason for the invite-only policy.

Commissioner Lee echoed some of Commissioner Shankle's concerns and acknowledged Jeff Utz, Drew Turner, and Genoveva Camona's comments. He discussed the Capital One café, which allowed the public to use the co-working space, and wanted to ensure that the space remained open to the community as an interactive space that Netflix could program.

Commissioner Groth asked about unique spaces that Netflix could provide for students at the Duke Ellington School for the Arts, various parts of the arts community, the Chinatown community, and others. She discussed that the PUD was a public benefit, and the property still carried that requirement.

Genoveva Camona discussed that they did not have space for events at the location, but leaned heavily into being involved and inspiring young filmmakers across their other locations. They wanted to be mindful of capacity but remained very open to engaging with the community.

Commissioner Shankle asked when the PUD hearing was scheduled. Drew Turner reported that their meeting was on December 18.

Dennis Hughes clarified that the PUD was under the 1988 regulations, and one of the permitted uses was administrative offices of an arts organization, which was the direction they were going.

Commissioner Shankle asked why the office spaces could not be located on the upper floors. Drew Turner discussed the uniqueness of the space and the goal to use the space for both offices and entertainment for the public.

Commissioner Swart discussed the lack of concrete plans to keep the space open to the public and recommended waiting to vote.

**MOTION:** Shankle moved to oppose the proposal to modify the PUD until an alternative public benefit is identified. Seconded by Groth. (Vote 4-0-0)

**4. National Geographic Society (1145 17th St. NW) BZA Application for Time Extension of BZAO 20968 and Historic Preservation Review Board Application for a two-year delay of rooftop restaurant and entertainment venue Cary Kadlec [ckadlec@goulstonstorrs.com](mailto:ckadlec@goulstonstorrs.com), 202-721-1113**

This item was tabled due to time constraints.

**5. 608-624 Eye Street NW, Eye Street Residential. DDOT Streetscape Permit. AJ Luce, MRW Gallery Place Eye LLC, [aluce@monumentrealty.com](mailto:aluce@monumentrealty.com), (202) 777.2014.**

This item was tabled due to time constraints.

## **OTHER**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Swart moved to Adjourn at 9:07 pm. Seconded by Shankle. (Vote 4-0-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 pm.

**Minutes Submitted by:** Minutes Services

**Minutes Approved by:** Nancy Groth, Secretary

**Next Meeting:** January 13, 2025, 6:00 pm. It will be a hybrid format.

**ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION**

Sincerely,

*Nancy Groth* electronic signature

Nancy Groth, Secretary, ANC 2C