



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

March Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 18th, 2025; 6:30 p.m.
Online via Zoom and In-Person at Stead Park

Call to Order

The regular March 2026 meeting of the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (Commission of ANC 2B) was called to order by Chair Adams at 6:31 pm.

Introduction of Commissioners

The Commissioners identified their single member districts (SMDs). Present were Andrew DeFrank (2B01), Jeffrey Rueckgauer (2B02), Alex Marshall (2B05), Libby Franklin (2B07), Zach Adams (2B08), and Lynn Thompson (2B09).

Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Adams moved to adopt the ANC's March 2026 meeting agenda. Commissioner Thompson seconded the motion. Lynn moved to add "approving two committee members to the Licensing and Permitting Committee" to the Administrative portion of the agenda. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. The agenda was passed with unanimous consent (VOTES: 6-0-0)

Announcements and Public Comments

Public announcements and general comments or future agenda items

Steph Costa thanked the ANC for holding the meetings. Two members of DCCA thanked the Commission for passing the resolution about DCCA. Bill McCloud from the Dupont BID announced that the outer ring of benches in Dupont Circle will be repaired beginning in April and their annual meeting will be April 29th.

Commissioner announcements

Commissioner DeFrank made an announcement on the Office of Planning's release of the first draft of their new zoning map. Commissioner Marshall announced that Commissioner Sprowls, 2B04, announced his resignation today.

Presentation from DDOT on the M St NW Corridor Safety Project

Marris Fry provided a presentation on the M St NW Corridor Safety Project.

Reports from DC Government representatives

Brian Romanowski provided an update on behalf of Councilmember Pinto's office. Lt. Sakulich provided an update from the Metropolitan Police Department. Tiffany Wimenta from the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services provided an update on behalf of the Mayor Bowser.

Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board Agenda

Mikko Nordic Fine Food requesting a substantial change to restaurant alcohol license for a streatory endorsement with 20 seats (ABRA-109951) (2B03)

Commissioner Adams moved to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Mikko Nordic Fine Food is requesting a substantial change to restaurant alcohol license for a streatory endorsement with 20 seats (ABRA-109951).

WHEREAS ANC 2B supported Mikko's prior permit request. During discussion, its representative promised that Mikko would apply for a Streatory Design Permit in TOPS

WHEREAS Mikko's requested exterior dining hours exceed those of other businesses in the area along 17th St NW, which were negotiated to support a balance between businesses and neighbors

WHEREAS litter and food refuse conditions have allowed for the growth of evident rat colonies

WHEREAS these conditions above are a risk to the peace, order, and quiet of the neighborhood.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B protests the application, and will retract the protest pending the negotiation of a settlement agreement

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Commissioners Zachary Adams (2B08) and Vincent Slatt (2B03) are the Commission's representatives on this matter.

La Merna application for a tavern alcohol license with sidewalk cafe (ABRA-135262) (2B02)

Commissioner Rueckgauer moved to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Adams seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS, Winter Hill DC, LLC trading as La Merna has applied for a new Class C Tavern license (ABRA-135262) at 2153 P Street NW, located in Single Member District 2B02 of ANC 2B.

WHEREAS, the Establishment will have inside seating for 55 and total occupancy of 75 persons.

WHEREAS, Endorsements are requested for a Sidewalk Cafe with seating for 24 and total occupancy for 25; Carry-out and Delivery; and Holiday Hours Extension.

WHEREAS, the premises formerly was home to the Fairfax Delicatessen from the 1980s until the early 2000s; and has housed a succession of restaurants with sidewalk cafes since without disturbances or other neighborhood complaints.

WHEREAS, placarded hours are as follows:

Operation Inside the Premises and Alcoholic Beverage Sales, Service, and Consumption Inside the Premises:

Sunday through Saturday 10:00AM -- 12:00AM (Midnight)

Friday and Saturday 10:00AM -- 3:00AM

Hours of Operation, Alcoholic Beverage Sales, Service, and Consumption for the Sidewalk Cafe:

Sunday through Saturday 10:00AM -- 12:00AM (Midnight)

Hours of Alcoholic Beverage Carry-Out and Delivery

Sunday through Saturday 10:00AM -- 12:00AM (Midnight)

WHEREAS, La Merna's request to participate in ABCA's Extended Holiday Hours programs is consistent with other establishments in the neighborhood and throughout ANC 2B.

WHEREAS, promoting and maintaining good relationships between residents and ABCA licensed establishments is a responsibility and priority of ANC 2B.

WHEREAS, ANC 2B welcomes and encourages activation of its public space, especially in the evenings, to benefit the vibrancy and appeal of the neighborhood and to support our local businesses.

WHEREAS, it is ANC 2B policy to require a Settlement Agreement for ABC licensees having ABCA Public Space Endorsements

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B *supports* the application of La Merna for a new Class C Tavern License, ABRA-135262.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B *supports* La Merna's requested endorsements for an ABCA Sidewalk Cafe; Holiday Hours participation; and Alcoholic Beverage Carry-Out and Delivery.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ABCA Sidewalk Cafe permit also requires a District Department of Transportation ("DDOT") Public Space Public, which shall be subsequently considered separately by the Commission.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B will file a pro forma protest on the basis of Peace, Order, and Quiet, to be withdrawn upon ABC Board Order that the Settlement Agreement has been accepted.

Commissioners Jeff Rueckgauer (2B02@anc.dc.gov) and Zach Adams (2B08@anc.dc.gov) are the Commission's representatives for this matter.

Lydia on Connecticut application for a new tavern alcohol license with inside live entertainment and sidewalk cafe (ABRA-134607) (2B05)

The commission took no action.

H3 amendment to Cannabis Settlement Agreement for summer garden (ABRA-129096) (2B04)

Commissioner Adams moved to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0). The resolution reads as follows:

WHEREAS H3 seeks to amend their Cannabis Settlement Agreement (ABRA-129096) to remove the reference to a sidewalk cafe and recognize that H3 has private, outdoor space that shall not be used for a summer garden.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED ANC 2B supports the Amended Settlement Agreement between itself and H3.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED Commissioner Zachary Adams (2B08) will be the Commission's representative on this matter.

Public Space Agenda

Presentation by Doobie District on proposed U Street Corridor Spring Block Party

The presenter did not attend the meeting.

Administrative Matters

Approval of the ANC 2B's regular February 2026 meeting minutes

Commissioner Adams moved to adopt the February 2026 meeting minutes. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Nomination of members to the Licensing and Permitting Committee

Commissioner Thompson moved to nominate Kevin Adubily and Madison Crumb to the Licensing and Permitting Committee. Commissioner Rueckgauer seconded the motion, which was voted on and passed (VOTES: 6-0-0).

Adjournment

Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 7:52 pm.

/s/ Libby Franklin

Prepared by: Anna Noakes

Approved on: 4/15/2026

Attested by: */s/ Libby Franklin*