



Government of the District of Columbia

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

SEPTEMBER 2019 Meeting Minutes

DATE: 10 September 2019

ANC-2C COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Michael Shankle, Jamaal Burton, Kevin Wilsey

PRESENT: Aungelic Nelson, Mark Namdar, Mike Brand, Wendy Caddell, Bianca Washington, Kate Gilbride, Michael Hemminger, Windy Abdul-Rahim, Sgt Erica Dortch-Jones, Nicole Goines, Elle Siebert, Rebecca Glander, Malin Pettersson, Andrew Gordon, Jo-Ann Neuhaus

ABSENT: NA

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Kevin Wilsey introduced himself and the other commissioners. Call to order made by Chair Kevin Wilsey at 6:37pm.
2. **OPENING REMARKS/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** A motion was made by Wilsey to approve the agenda with the following addition to the agenda as discussed by Shankle. Shankle said that a representative from the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial was present to discuss a 5K. Wilsey made the motion to approve the amended agenda and Shankle seconded (Vote: 3-0-0)
3. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Wilsey made a motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting; seconded by Shankle (Vote: 3-0-0)
4. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Shankle provided the treasurer's report. In August, there was one deposit for \$1,541.51 from the DC government. That brought the total ending balance to \$52,704.58 as of 30 August. There were no withdrawals.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

5. **Ward 2 Mayor's Liaison—Ms. Nicole Goines, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services:** Mayor released 54 month progress report citing changes and improvement since her first term. There are some upcoming events beginning 11 September at 11am at Fire Department Engine 16, 1018 13th St NW, a 9/11 Memorial event with Council members Jack Evans and Mary Cheh. There will be a Block Party for DCPS on 14 September at Roosevelt High School at 4301 13th St NW a community event. On Saturday, 14 September, at 7pm is the Art All Night at Dupont Circle. A housing carnival featuring housing agencies for owners and renters detailing services and available programs for prospective homebuyers—especially a new program for DC government employees. On 21 September is the Fiesta DC Parade (part of the Fiesta DC Latino Festival). She discussed the concern about the encampment at 5th and H St NW and reported that it had been cleared up. She provided her office number –202.805.7122—in case anyone needed to reach her about an issue.

6. MPD 2nd District Crime & Community Awareness, Sgt Erica Dortch-Jones, Erica.Dortch-Jones@dc.gov:

Sgt Dortch-Jones noted that there had been an increase in property crimes but not violent crimes. There has been an increase in stolen autos. Those are the only two areas where this area has seen an upward trend. Vehicles haven't been vandalized—just left unlocked. There was a discussion about the jurisdictional responsibility of the different police in the city. Sgt Dortch-Jones said that the first responder on the scene is responsible for handling the case. 911 operators should not be pushing responsibility onto another service. There is a lot of activity at all hours of the day and night in the park on Indiana and 6th due to the K2 epidemic and other issues. The feeling is that the Chinatown initiative has pushed some criminal elements further south into Penn Quarter. Sgt Dortch-Jones is going to look into that and see if more officers can patrol the areas. The different police agencies include FBI police, National Park Service Police, MPD, Metro Transit Police, Federal Protective Services, Protective Services Division, and Special Police Officers (under Security Officers Management Branch-SOMB). Sgt Dortch-Jones noted that SPOs do have arrest powers. Shankle moved to send a letter to all the agencies so that every agency is aware of their responsibilities to respond to issues and also provide more of a presence. He also recommended a letter be sent to the Office of Unified Communication addressing concerns that 911 operators are deciding who is to respond and who has jurisdiction. Wilsey seconded both motions. (Vote: 3-0-0)

There was a sidebar discussion of the sidewalks in Penn Quarter around the Navy archives metro station and the fact that WMATA and other vehicles are driving and parking on the pavers. The concern is that the sidewalks (built by the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation - PADCO) are being destroyed and will not be repaired by the perpetrators.

7. The Department of Public Works, Wendy Caddell, Inspector, Wendy.Caddell@dc.gov:

Caddell discussed the issue with 515 E Street NW. She said that the problem is that DPW does not have authority to make another agency give them priority. There was a work order (#616597 sent to Alante Tucker, DGS) the work had to stop because of drug activity which required a special cleaning crew to clean that. There is a problem with the individual who lives in that alley who does not wish to relocate. DPW did request a barrier but was rejected because of the type of property it is. Burton discussed the issue of the alley between 430 and 450 Mass Ave NW. There are cinderblocks and a homeless encampment. There's been a rodent increase between Ashton Lofts and Wise Guys Pizza.

Another issue is that no one knows what is happening with the development of the block between 4th and 3rd and Mass and G St NW. Additionally there is criminal activity at the back of Judiciary Metro and Judiciary Square to Indiana. Caddell noted that DPW is out to change behavior patterns—not just write fines. Fines are a last result.

There was also a discussion about food trucks and the trash that they leave behind. The park service comes to pick it up but it is left out too long. Additionally, the officers who are supposed to be ticketing the trucks (for being parked there for hours/days at a time) aren't. It's possible that they are foregoing ticketing because they receive free meals from the food trucks. The trucks (most of which are from Maryland and Virginia) park on 7th down by the National Mall. Caddell noted that DCRA does license the food trucks, but she will have to do a little research to find out which agency regulates the trash for the food trucks. Also, there is a lot of rodent

activity on Liberty Plaza because of the people who eat lunch there at the red tables and chairs. There aren't enough trash cans and they overflow. Food containers are left out in the open—which aggravates the rodent situation. Caddell said she will attend the next ANC-2C meeting to bring back answers to the queries she received.

LOCAL EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY:

- 8. National Race to End Women's Cancer, November 3, 2019. Elle Siebert—Brotman, Winter, Fried, a Sage Communications Company, esiebert@aboutbwf.com:** It's the 10th year for this event held on Freedom Plaza. Funds raised go towards researching women's gynecological cancers. It begins at 9:30 and ends at 11:30. The main stage is on Freedom plaza. It runs up Penn Ave towards the Capitol Bldg. They will begin setting up at 12:01am to 3am on 3 November. Then they come back at 5am to finish setting up water stops along the race route. They have responded to concerns from hotels and cut back sound volume and generator noise by half. Programming begins after the race ends so it's quieter on Sunday morning. They hope for 1500 participants. Burton moved to send a letter of support to the Mayor's office; Shankle seconded. (Vote: 3-0-0)
- 9. Indiana Avenue Block Party, October 2, 2019. Starbucks and the Penn Quarter Sports Tavern, along with MPD, are hosting a community meeting to hear concerns about crime in Penn Quarter. Michael Hemminger, Store Manager, Liberty Place Starbucks, US2462516@starbucks.com:** This will be the first annual block party in an effort to get the community together to explore ways to combat rising criminal activity in the area. The goal is to bring police agencies, mental health agencies, residents, ANC commissioners, and business owners together in a fun environment so that people can meet each other and bring attention to the issues—especially mental illness. The group asked for a contribution of \$5,000 from the ANC-2C. Wilsey noted that there is a DC government process for the organizers to apply for grants and that the commissioners can pre-approve an amount, however the most that ANC-2C could provide would be \$2,500. They will have to provide receipts and then an auditor decides what will be reimbursed. Wilsey moved to send the application package to the organizers. He also moved to write up a grant for the maximum amount allowed and send a letter of support, and Burton seconded. (Vote: 3-0-0)
- 10. SOME's Thanksgiving Day Trot for Hunger, November 28, 2019. Bianca Washington, Marketing & Communications Coordinator, SOME (So Others Might Eat), 202.753.4960** This is the 18th Annual 5K to raise funds for the non-profit SOME which assists DC residents with homelessness and hunger and clothing. There will be tents on Penn Ave, but not on Freedom Plaza. There is an affordable housing program for individuals, families, and seniors as well as employment training. The event is scheduled for Thanksgiving morning from 0830 to 1030 with a kid's fun run and a walk/run with a start time of 0900 for the timed participants and 0915 for the untimed participants. Cleanup will end at noon. Wash 99.5, DCW50, and I-heart radio are sponsoring the event. Shankle moved to send letter of support and Burton seconded. (Vote: 3-0-0).

- 11. The Navy Mile on Pennsylvania Ave, October 6, 2019. Rebecca Glander, Executive Director, National Capital Council of the Navy League, 202.304.4667, execdir@nccnl.org.** This is the fifth year for this event. The event launches the Navy's birthday celebration week and honors veterans, wounded warriors, and fallen heroes. It is a community fitness event since its only one mile. All proceeds benefit military non-profits. The roads will close from 0600-1300 with event from 0800-noon on 6 October, Sunday. The event opens with the Color Guard. Participants between 700-1000. There will be a band from 0900-1100 at the Navy Memorial. Shankle moved to send a letter of support and Wilsey seconded (Vote: 3-0-0)
- 12. Run for the Badge 5K, October 12, 2019. Kate Gilbride, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial. kgilbride@nleomf.org.** Gilbride said this is the 9th annual NLEOM 5K and begins at 0900 on 12 October. From 0400-noon, the roads will close. They estimate 500 participants. There will be five tents and a small stage. The National Law Enforcement will offer free admission to the museum on E Street. Shankle moved to send a letter of support and Burton seconded (Vote: 3-0-0)

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSING:

- 13. Spin DC LLC, at 1332 F St NW—ABRA 107858 – Substantial Change to Retailer's Class "C" Tavern. ABRA License request for approval of a substantial change to the license. Andrew Gordon, 917.742.7131, Andrew@wearespin.com.** Gordon noted that Spin opened in Jan 2019, and it is a bar and restaurant ping pong club. License didn't sync up with how business is run. They want a modification to the current liquor license that consists of three parts:
- a. Allow DJ to play to close of normal business hours (currently stops at midnight)
 - b. Add a potential cover charge for special events—i.e. a New Year's Eve Party
 - c. Addition of dancing as entertainment

Gordon emphasized that Spin is not, never has been and never will be a dance club, but patrons do occasionally dance while they are there. The modification lines up actual activities with the license so that they are in complete compliance with the law. He noted there have been zero issues at the business. They have nine locations and people who attend in one city, attend in other cities, so they want to keep a spotless reputation and be good corporate and community partners. Spin refreshes tier equipment annually and donates ping pong equipment every year to local schools. They also provide training to students. Wilsey noted there are no residential concerns in that area. Wilsey moved to approve all three changes to the license and send a letter of support and Shankle seconded (Vote: 3-0-0)

- 14. The Moxy Hotel, Washington DC at 1011 K St NW—ABRA—109673—Substantial Change to Retailer's Class "C" Hotel. ABRA License request for approval of a substantial change to the license and stipulated license. Mark Namdar, General Manager, mark.namdar@themoxydc.com, 703.328.18118.** Namdar requested a letter of support for a temporary license to operate the patio until the official approval from ABRA. Namdar had to request a separate sidewalk license as he didn't previously realized he needed that to serve outside. Wilsey discussed the settlement agreement with 1010 Mass and the hours were

different from the rooftop garden to the sidewalk café. He noted that it hasn't been placarded yet and he is concerned 1010 Mass might protest the sidewalk café. Namdar said Moxy resolved the issue with 1010 Mass about the rooftop by giving up the north side roof patio space of 35 seats. The Moxy shut the lights off in that area as that had bothered residents and also reduced the hours of music on the rooftop. He noted that the sidewalk café is in the front of the building and is completely opposite 1010 Mass and that there will only be five tables and 26 seats. Wilsey moved to send a letter of support for a stipulated license to allow liquor to be served until the placards are in place (week of 16 September). He also moved to send a letter of support for the sidewalk cafe. Shankle seconded both motions (Vote: 3-0-0)

TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC SPACE:

- 15. Commemorative Plaque of Project in Honor of Matias Romero, 130 I St NW and 1412 I St NW, Occupancy of Public Space (DDOT – 328857) Alejandro Gonzalez Ruiz, Applicant, consulwas@sre.gob.mx.** Wilsey provided an update on the plaque –it had already been voted on in a previous ANC-2C meeting. Initially it was supposed to be in Franklin Park, but ANC-2C has no jurisdiction over that park. ANC-2C sent a letter of support but the applicants can't put the plaque in the park; but they can put it on the sidewalk on 1300 I Street NW. Shankle moved to send a letter of support for the plaque to be placed on the sidewalk, and Burton seconded.(Vote: 3-0-0)

PLANNING, ZONING, ENVIRONMENT, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION:

- 16. Safety Issues at Intersection of 12th and Pennsylvania NW.** Shankle provided a report on the concern about the turning lanes from 12th onto Pennsylvania Ave. Some people don't feel the lanes are marked properly and people don't yield to pedestrians. The lanes shift and the light timing may be off. They contacted DDOT who told them to speak with ANC-2C and have the ANC send a letter to request a study on the safety of the area. Wilsey moved to research the area before the ANC votes on sending a request to DDOT. Shankle seconded (Vote: 3-0-0)

ADJOURNMENT: At approx. 8:37pm. Wilsey moved to adjourn. Shankle seconded. (Vote: 3-0-0)

Next meeting: October 8, 2019, 6: 30pm, Wilson Building, Room G-9.

ANC Secretary: Jamaal Burton

Minutes Prepared by: Aungelic Nelson

Next meeting October 8, 2019 6:30pm
ANC Commissioners and Website
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Minutes Approved: October 8, 2019