

Government of the District of Columbia

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

September 2021 Meeting Minutes

DATE: September 14, 2021

ANC-2C COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Commissioner Michael Shankle, Commissioner Gigi Nelson, and Commissioner Ellie Miske

1. CALL TO ORDER: Shankle called the meeting to order at 6:00pm over Zoom (available at <https://www.anc2c.us/video-recordings>).

2. INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS

3. QUORUM: A quorum of three of three commissioners present.

4. OPENING REMARKS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Shankle reviewed the agenda (available at www.anc2c.us). Approval of August 2021 minutes was removed from the agenda. Nelson made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Miske. (Vote 3-0-0)

5. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 2021 MINUTES: Miske made a motion to approve the July 2021 minutes, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 3-0-0)

6. TREASURER'S REPORT: Nelson provided the July and August treasurer's report. The July opening balance was \$56,228.34. There were two activities: the quarterly allotment in the amount of \$1,821.05, and the disbursement of \$175 for the June 2021 minutes. The July closing balance was \$57,874.39. In August there was no activity so the opening and closing balance remain the same at \$57,874.39.

7. 2022 ANC 2C Budget

Nelson received notice that the Commission will receive its last two allotments for FY21 before the end of this month. Whether the Commission actually receives the allotments will alter the balance going into FY22. Shankle recommended approving the budget as is. The budget can be altered to reflect the two allotments and/or other changes the Commission wants to make.

The current balance is \$57,874.39. The FY22 budget includes \$1,195 under "Purchase of Service" for the monthly meeting minutes; \$3,000 under "Communication" for the website; \$10,000 for the grants program; and \$176 under "Other" for the P.O. Box. No allocation was made for technology equipment for hybrid meetings at the MLK library starting in February 2022. Commissioners agreed to use their personal laptops for these future meetings; the library has all other necessary equipment. The total expenditures in the FY22 budget equal \$15,101 leaving a remainder of \$42,773.39.

Shankle made a motion to approve the FY22 budget as described by Nelson, seconded by Miske. (Vote 3-0-0)

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Ward 2 Mayor's Liaison – Joe Florio, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, Ward 2 Liaison, Joseph.Florio@dc.gov, 202-805-7122.**

Florio provided general announcements. First, Florio has been flagging trash issues within the community to DPW. Second, the Streatery program has been extended until February 28, 2022. Third, the Test Yourself program has been expanded. All DC residents are now within a 20-minute walk of a free, self-testing COVID-19 site. In Ward 2, the Test Yourself sites are the Georgetown Library, West End Library, and MLK Library.

2. **Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto Update -- Brooke Pinto Councilmember, Ward 2, bpinto@dccouncil.us, 202-724-8058 or Genevieve F. Hulick, Chief of Staff, ghulick@dccouncil.us.**

Hulick gave general updates from Councilmember Pinto's office. First, the Council is in recess until the first legislative meeting on October 5, 2021, and in August, the Council passed the \$17 billion FY22 budget and financial plan. Second, at the beginning of the school year, Pinto toured schools in Ward 2 and is working with DCPS and DGS to expedite outstanding work orders. Third, if constituents have problems filling out the Stay DC application, they should reach out Pinto's office. Fourth, there is a hearing on September 29, 2021 on redistricting. There will be a Ward 2 specific task force and Hulick is the point of contact on all redistricting matters. Finally, Councilmember Pinto will be holding office hours on the roof of the MLK library on September 22, 2021 from 4-6pm. She will also be hosting a telethon on Thursday, September 30, 2021 at 7pm.

Miske brought up a constituent concern regarding installing more speed cameras on Massachusetts Ave. Pinto has requested a speed camera on Mass Ave & 2nd. The constituent raised the need for speed cameras on the 3rd, 4th, and 5th Street intersections as well. Hulick will note that concern for DDOT.

3. **MPD 1st District Crime and Community Awareness, Lieutenant George Donigian, george.donigian@dc.gov, 202.815.1594 and Lendia S. Johnson, Community Outreach Coordinator, lenida.johnson@dc.gov, 202.299.3374,**

Lieutenant Donigian provided the monthly crime report. There has been a slight increase in crimes over the last 30-day period. There were 3 violent crimes. On August 24, 2021, there was an assault with a dangerous weapon on a DC Circulator bus in the 600 block of Massachusetts Ave NW. After being assaulted, the victim then assaulted the bus driver along with saying biased statements towards the bus driver. Both assaulters were arrested. On August 29, 2021 there was a robbery snatch in the 800 block of 5th Street NW. On September 9, 2021 in the 500 block of 7th Street NW there was an assault with a deadly weapon incident. The victim was making a food delivery when the suspects approached

swinging a big knife. The victim backed away and the suspect got on a bike and rode away. There were no injuries. The suspect was identified and arrested by the responding officers. Overall stolen autos are trending downwards for the past 30-day period.

- 4. MPD 2nd District Crime and Community Awareness, Lieutenant Michael Hamelin, michael.hamelin@dc.gov, 202.715.7340, and/or Sergeant John Sprague, john.sprague@dc.gov.**

Lieutenant Hamelin provided the monthly crime report. Crimes are slightly up; they are mainly theft from auto and theft from business. The areas of concentration for these thefts are I & 13th Street, below New York Avenue in City Center, and the F Street corridor. Property crimes are also slightly up; violent crimes are about the same as the same 30-day period as last year.

Shankle asked about the Justice for J6 protests this upcoming weekend. Lieutenant Hamlin said a Civil Disturbance Units would be deployed. Nelson confirmed that the DowntownDC on Wheels event is still on with security.

- 5. DC Board of Education. Allister Chang, Ward 2 State Board of Education Member, (202)-735-7062, Allister.Chang1@dc.gov, and Sandra Moscoso, a public school parent and member of Ward 2 Education Council**

Chang gave an update on the activities of the State Board of Education. The top priority is advancing literacy. Only 30% of D.C. fourth graders passed the literacy proficiency test, ranking D.C. 47th in the nation. This test was before the pandemic and literacy rates have only decreased during the pandemic. The Board is considering a 5-year literacy plan attached to a \$16 million federal grant.

Moscoso shared the priorities of the Education Council for Ward 2, which were included in a letter to the Mayor, State Board of Education, and other stakeholders. The priorities are: (1) Improving health and safety, including support for outdoor learning and lunch, improved COVID testing, confirmed cases transparency, vaccine mandates for students and teachers; (2) Transparency in the new budget framework; (3) Planning around buildings and space; (4) Strengthening feeder patterns; and (5) Expanding and protecting field space. Moscoso dropped links in the chat to be shared with the community.

LOCAL EVENTS THAT IMPACT THE COMMUNITY

- 1. Update on Capital One Arena and Events. Crispus Gordon III, Director, Government & Community Affairs Monumental Sports & Entertainment, 202-661-5165, cgordon@monumentalsports.com, and Amanda Tischler.**

The home opener for the Washington Capitals is on October 13, 2021. There is a special event before the game on F Street between the 6th and 7th block that includes a red carpet for the players to walk on, vendors, and place for fans to gather in a COVID-safe environment. The road will be closed starting at 2pm for the event.

2. **17th Annual Downtown Holiday Market, November 19-December 23 – closure of two entire blocks of F Street NW, from 7th to 9th Streets NW, Michael Berman, President, Diverse Markets Management, (202) 215-6993, mberman@his.com**

Berman began his presentation on the annual Downtown Holiday Market, seeking a letter of support for the event. In preparation for the event, F Street will be closed starting on November 14. The market is open to the public on November 19 and will close on December 23. F Street will reopen again on December 24. In addition to a closed F Street, 8th Street between E & F Street will not be accessible to traffic. It will be reserved for hotels, taxing, and valet. There will also be an MPD detail blocking the street between 7th & 9th Street and 8th & E Street to not allow any traffic. The hours of operation are 12-8pm everyday. The market will be closed on Thanksgiving and Monday, December 3, 2021 when new vendors are brought in. There will be 60 tents for the vendors, 6 tents for food vendors, and a stage on the sidewalk in front of the museum steps. There will be a bike rack barricade around the market and one entrance and exit like last year. In the center of the area there will be an audience tent for seating and eating. The stage will have live music twice a day during the week and three times a day during the weekend.

Shankle made a motion to send a letter of support for the 17th annual holiday market, seconded by Miske. (Vote 3-0-0)

3. **Run for the Badge 5K, Saturday, October 9, 2021. Margaret Mullins, Sr. Director of Events, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund, (202) 737-7137, mmullins@nleomf.org**

Mullins began her presentation about Run for the Badge, seeking a letter of support for a special license permit for the event. Set up for the event will start around 4am with the program beginning around 7:30am with a DJ at 5th and E Street. Clean up for the event will be done by 12pm. E Street will be closed between 4th and 5th Street starting at 4am and the remaining route roads will be closed from 8:30-10:30am. There will be water stations and bathrooms along the route and a trash company is contracted to do pick up. There are 1,000 runners expected. The event's estimated \$75,000 in raised funds will go towards the National Law Enforcement Officer Memorial and Museum.

Shankle made a motion to send a letter of support for Run for the Badge, seconded by Miske. (Vote 3-0-0)

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSING (ABRA)

1. **Slipstream, 1201 New York Avenue, NW, ABRA-118577 -- Retailer's Class "C" Tavern, Candace Fitch, (202) 258-8634 and Ryan Fleming, ryan@slipstreamdc.com**

Fleming started the presentation for a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern for Slipstream, seeking an ABRA letter of support. Slipstream is an all-day café open through happy hour. This will be Slipstream's 3rd location and it's first downtown location. Expected hours are from 7am-7pm. Slipstream is mainly a coffee, breakfast, and lunch location, but intends also to be a place for people to have a cocktail after work. They will have a limited alcoholic menu with four happy hour cocktails and a limited selection of local whiskey, gin, and vodka. Alcohol is

less than 15% of sales. The entrance to Slipstream is on I Street between 12 & 13th Street. There is limited inside and outside seating with free WIFI.

Shankle made a motion to send a letter of support to ABRA for Slipstream for a new retailers Class "C" Tavern license, seconded by Miske. (Vote 3-0-0)

2. **Luna Hall, 623-625 H Street NW, ABRA-119067 – New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant, Sidon Yohannes, Esq., (202) 686-7600, syohannes@theveritaslawfirm.com and Alexis Chen, co-owner.**

Yohannes began the presentation for a New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license for Luna Hall. There is no request for outside seating or for entertainment, just a request for inside seating and extended hours of operation until 2am or 3am. Chen gave an overview of the food hall concept for the restaurant. It will be a casual dining hall space for informal social dining with a variety of authentic Asian cuisine. The idea is to have a seven-foot stall aligned against the wall and open seating in the center. She provided an overview of the 5-7 food and drink vendors. The restaurant plans to open in March 2022.

Miske made a motion to send a letter of support to ABRA for Luna Hall for a New Retailers Class "C" Restaurant license, seconded by Miske. (Vote 3-0-0)

TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC SPACE

1. **Puro Gusto NA, LLC, 1345 F STREET NW (DDOT: 10884942) New Sidewalk Cafe Un-Enclosed. Matt Minora, (202) 635-7700, mminora@malliosobrien.com**

Minora began the presentation for a DDOT permit for the sidewalk café of Puro Gusto. The café's footprint and seating hasn't changed since he last presented to the ANC in June 2021 for the ABRA license. Puro Gusto is now seeking a DDOT permit to have the hours of operation match the ABRA license. The requested hours of operation are 8am-2am during the week and 8am-3pm during the weekend. Puro Gusto plans to open mid-October.

Shankle made a motion to send a letter of support for Puro Gusto, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 3-0-0)

2. **510 I ST NW (DDOT: 366237) New 7 ft tall non-standard height fence for 510 I St NW property to secure ADA chair lift. Jenkins Restoration, (202) 428-3002, permits@accupermit.com**

Shankle provided a quick recap of the plan submitted to DDOT for the location. There is a high fence area in front of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association building that needs to be replaced. Shankle reached out to DCRA to confirm that the fence is needed for the chairlift at the building. It will be a one-week construction period and there will be rerouting on the sidewalk.

Shankle made a motion to send a letter of support for the application to replace the fence, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 3-0-0)

3. **DowntownDC BID (DDOT: 377635) Install uniquely designed planter in public spaces -- 1275 K STREET NW, 1501 K STREET NW, 1400 M STREET NW, 815 16TH STREET NW, 725 16TH STREET NE, 1399 NEW YORK AVENUE NW, 1350 NEW YORK AVENUE NW, 1350**

PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE NW, 1201 F STREET NW, 1270 F STREET NW, 701 F STREET NW, 801 F STREET NW, 801 K STREET NW, 901 NEW YORK AVENUE NW, 641 INDIANA AVENUE NW, 4 F STREET NW, 400 NORTH CAPITOL STREET NW. Galin Brooks, (202) 270.0366, Galin@DowntownDC.org, and Maria Espinoza.

Brooks started a presentation about the DowntownDC BID's proposed 17 locations for planters in the downtown area. The idea is to bring nature into downtown and provide a place for people to sit. They hired a local firm—Parker Rodriguez—to do the planning. The final design is a custom 7ft metal planter with a long lasting powder coat finish. It includes a seating ring around the center that is detachable with two plant features. The planters are intended to be in high-commute areas where they are not blocking anything. Espinoza went over the 17 proposed locations. Shankle raised a concern about the planter located at the Carnegie Library. A constituent raised a concern about rodents burrowing in the planters. Brooks said that they were designed to not attract rodents, but they will be monitoring this factor. The planters will be installed in mid-to-late fall. Another concern was raised about the planters being knocked over. Brooks confirmed this factor would be considered with the design.

Shankle made a motion to send a letter of support for the DowntownDC BID's installation of 17 planters, seconded by Miske. (Vote 3-0-0)

PLANNING, ZONING, ENVIRONMENT, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

- 1. 1025 F ST NW (Woodies Building). Modification of PUD to add Office Use to second floor space. Drew Turner, Douglas Development. (410) 507-6190, dturner@docuglasdev.com**

Turner began his presentation about the modification of PUD to add office use to the second floor space in what use to be retail space. Forever21 used to occupy the space until they went bankrupt. The demand for retail space has declined with the rise of online shopping, so the modification is to allow the space to be used for additional tenants. Douglas Development sent a 45-day notice of intent a week ago and is shooting to be in the zoning commission in October.

Shankle made a motion to send a letter of support for modification of PUD to add office use to the second floor space, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 3-0-0)

- 2. WASAI Chinese Cuisine, 716 7th ST NW. Installation of main and blade signs. Charlene Tan, (301) 633-2065, Charlene.ene@gmail.com**

Miske presented the sign for the WASAI Chinese Cuisine. Miske made a motion to send a letter of support for the WASAI Chinese Cuisine sign, seconded by Shankle. (Vote 3-0-0)

- 3. Capitol Crossing Development Project, PUD Application (Z.C. Case No. 08-34L) Jessica Bloomfield, Holland & Knight LLP, 800 17th Street NW, Suite 1100, (203)469- 5272, Jessica.bloomfield@hklaw.com, Christine Shiker, Holland & Knight LLP, and Thomas Wong**

Shiker started the presentation on the Capitol Crossing Center Block. They presented the plan to ANC 2C in March 2021 before filing the PUD application in April 2021. The Office of Planning recommended set down and the zoning commission agreed. The PUD application is scheduled for a hearing in October 2021. They are seeking support for the second stage PUD, which is concerned with the design of the building and how the site plan

works within the approved first stage PUD. Wong previewed the site plan and the architectural design.

Shankle made a motion to send a letter to the zoning commission in support of the second stage PUD as proposed, Miske by Nelson. (Vote 3-0-0)

OTHER

Evelyn Moy gave an announcement about the Chinese American Congressional Gold Metal project. The metals will be presented at a multi-day event at the Marriott from September 28-30, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT: Shankle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Miske. All three members were in favor of adjourning meeting

Minutes Submitted by: Laura Stateler

Minutes Approved by:

Next Meeting: October 12, 2021, 6:00PM

ANC Commissioners and Website

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Meetings are scheduled for the Second Tuesday of each month.