

Government of the District of Columbia

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

January 2022 Meeting Minutes

DATE: January 11, 2022

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 6:01pm over Zoom (available at <https://www.anc2c.us/video-recordings>).
2. **INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS:** Commissioner Shankle introduced Commissioner Nelson and Commissioner Miske.
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). He added the Rock N Roll Half Marathon under “Local Events that Impact the Community.” Nelson motioned to approve the January 2022 agenda, seconded by Shankle. (Vote 3-0-0)
5. **APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 2021 MINUTES:** Nelson noted a change to the December 2021 Treasurer’s Report. An expense in the amount of \$33.00 was changed from a “stock payment” to a “stop payment.” Miske motioned to approve the updated version of the December 2021 minutes, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 3-0-0)
6. **TREASURER’S REPORT.** Nelson provided the following updates:
 - a. **Revision to FY2021 Q3 Financial Report.** Nelson revised the report to include a check for the minutes written on June 16, 2021, that had not been cashed. The closing balance for FY2021 Q3 was changed to \$56,228.34. This change was made by the ANC; Commissioners did not need to vote on the revision.
 - b. **FY2021 Q4 Financial Report.** There was a District allotment in the amount of \$3,642.10 and two disbursements each in the amount of \$175.00 (totaling \$350) for the meeting minutes during the quarter. The closing balance was \$59,520.44. The November 2021 Financial Report in Q4 was amended. Nelson originally put the \$33.00 charge for the stop payment of checks lost in the mail under the month of November, but it should have been included in the December 2021 report. The ending balance for November 2021 now reads \$62,812.54. Shankle motioned to approve the FY2021 Q4 Financial Report amended as Nelson has described, seconded by Miske. (Vote 3-0-0). Nelson will send the Report to the Commissioners for their signatures.

- c. **December 2021 Financial Report.** The opening balance was \$62,812.54. The stop payment for the checks lost in the mail cost \$33.00 and there were two disbursements each in the amount of \$175.00 for meeting minutes. The closing balance was \$62,429.54.
 - d. **ANC Security Fund Report.** Nelson said she sent the paperwork to the Commissioners for their signatures. To participate in the ANC Security Fund the Commission needs to fill out a form and send \$25 to the ANC. Shankle motioned to participate in the ANC Security Fund for FY2022, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 3-0-0)
 - e. **FY2022 Q1 Financial Report.** The Commissioners agreed to approve the FY2022 Q1 Financial Report during the February 2022 meeting.
- 7. ELECTION OF 2022 ANC OFFICERS:** The ANC annually elects officer positions. In 2021 Shankle served as the Chair of the Commission, Nelson served as the Vice Chair and Treasurer, and Miske served as the Secretary. The Commissioners elected to keep the same positions. Miske motioned to move forward the slate of officer positions consistent with the current positions, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 3-0-0) Miske will notify the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions regarding the elected positions and titles for 2022.
- 8. 2022 MEETING SCHEDULE:** The Commissioners agreed to move the meeting on November 8, 2022, which falls on Election Day, to November 15, 2022. They also agreed to cancel the August 2022 meeting (scheduled for August 9, 2022), unless a meeting is needed. Nelson motioned to approve the proposed 2022 meeting schedule, seconded by Shankle. (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 updates from the Mayor's office. First, A vaccine mandate for bars, restaurants, nightclubs, indoor cultural and entertainment facilities, indoor exercise and recreational facilities, and event meeting establishments goes into effect on Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 6am. At this time, everyone ages 12 years and older must have one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. On February 15, 2022, everyone ages 12 years and older are required to be fully vaccinated with a second dose. Acceptable proofs of vaccination include a CDC-issued vaccination card, an immunization record print out, and/or a COVID-19 verification app. Second, rapid COVID-19 tests are available for pick up at public libraries and PCR tests can still be picked up at the MLK Library. Third, the mask mandate went back in effect on December 21, 2021. On January 11, 2022 the Mayor declared a limited public health emergency.

Florio then provided updates regarding ANC 2C. He made note of a missing fire hydrant in 2C01. Florio flagged a repair to the Pat Handy shelter along with some other issues in the alleyway for DPW. He also flagged sidewalk issues in 2C01 for DDOT as well as faded traffic

roadway signs and damaged bike racks. In 2C03, Florio flagged illegal posters near the southern part of the SMD and graffiti to DPW.

2. Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto Update – Victoria Casarrubias, Executive Assistant and Scheduler

Casarrubias provided legislative updates from Councilmember Pinto. Last week the Council passed Councilmember Pinto's Expanding Student Access to Period Products Act. It requires DC public, charter, and private schools and post-secondary institutions to provide free period products in all women's and gender-neutral bathrooms. It will also require the Office of the State Superintendent of Education to develop comprehensive menstrual education health standards to be taught beginning in fourth grade.

Second, the Council passed legislation that provides the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development with grant making authority for small business pandemic relief. There is \$40 million in the FY22 budget for small business relief. Grantees have to be District-based small businesses that make less than \$5 million in revenue a year.

Third, the Council took the first vote on the Eviction Record Sealing Authority Amendment Act of 2021. The Act would make several reforms to protect tenants including prohibiting evictions if a tenant owes less than \$600, require housing providers to provide tenants with at least a 30-day notice before filing in eviction court, and require the Superior Court to seal eviction case records within 30 days if the housing provider does not win a judgment for repossession of the unit. If the Court rules in favor of the housing provider's repossession, then the case records would be sealed within three years.

Casarrubias then provided general announcements. First, Councilmember Pinto will hold a community budget forum on Thursday, January 13 at 6:30pm via zoom to discuss priorities for the FY2023 budget. Second, if a senior or person with a disability would like a volunteer to shovel their sidewalk, they can email Councilmember Pinto's office for help.

Shankle asked when the new Ward and ANC boundaries will go into effect. The Ward boundaries went to effect on January 1, 2022. The ANC boundaries remain intact until the next election. ANC Task Forces will be in charge of figuring out the ANC boundaries.

Shankle asked for updates on the Pat Handy shelter. Neither Casarrubias nor Florio had updates since the last announcement that the shelter will remain a men's facility through hypothermia season. Florio said he would ask DHS for a definitive date when construction on the shelter is slated to begin. Shankle said he would invite DHS to the next meeting to provide an update on their process. He also noted the tremendous concern within the ANC about the shelter.

3. Councilmember Charles Allen, Ward 6, callen@dccouncil.us, 202.724.8072

Councilmember Allen came to introduce himself and provide updates on the redistricting and new boundaries. The new Ward boundaries went into effect on January 1, 2022, but the ANC boundaries will stay intact through the rest of the year. As a result of the Ward redistricting, part of ANC 2C has moved from Ward 2 to Ward 6. He and Councilmember Pinto had a productive meeting to talk about the transition. For the time being, there will be two Councilmembers working on ANC 2C's behalf.

Each Ward will now create its own Task Force to redraw the ANC boundaries and the SMD boundaries. SMD boundaries are supposed to include about two thousand people; there is not a specific number for the ANCs. Councilmember Allen will ask people from the community to be part of the Task Force and it will meet during January, February, and March. Sitting commissioners cannot be on the Task Force but ANCs can make recommendations. Allen noted that he is open to a cross-Ward ANC and wants feedback from the community.

4. MPD 1st District Crime and Community Awareness, Lieutenant George Donigian, george.donigian@dc.gov, (202) 815-1594

Lieutenant Donigian provided the monthly crime report. There was a problem with violent crimes, including five robberies, in Chinatown within a block of 7th and 8th Street NW. There is nothing to indicate that it is the same group or actors conducting the robberies. MPD is sending more resources and police officers to the area.

Shankle asked if there is an explanation for the elevated crime. Lieutenant Donigian said the area brings a lot of traffic with the transit routes. Traditionally, there has also been a higher police presence than there is currently. Shankle asked if MPD has been impacted by Omicron to which Lieutenant Donigian responded that staffing has been impacted but things are improving. A constituent asked if the crimes are related to the drug market. Lieutenant Donigian said it is hard to differentiate between who is involved in illegal drug sales and other actors.

5. 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

No updates provided.

LOCAL EVENTS THAT IMPACT THE COMMUNITY

1. Rock N Roll Half Marathon. March 26, 2022. Diane Romo Thomas, dianeromothomas@hotmail.com 202.439.5104

Thomas began her presentation about the Rock N Roll Half Marathon. ANC 2C hosts the start line on 14th Street. The last Rock N Roll Half Marathon held on November 13, 2021 had 11,500 runners in total. The runners were clear of that start line at 9:30am and Constitution Avenue was open at 11:45 am. Thomas asked if the Commission heard concerns from the last event; Shankle said he heard no negative feedback. Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the Rock N Roll Half Marathon, seconded by Miske. (Vote 3-0-0)

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSING (ABRA)

Shankle provided two updates. First, regarding Tom's Watch Bar, there was a mediation held on January 11, 2022 to discuss a community settlement agreement. Second, there was a motion filed with ABRA to re-engage the protest against Ultrabar on F Street.

TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC SPACE

1. **Penn Social LLC, 801 E Street NW -- Change Cafe Hours of Operation (DDOT – 10898602). Matthew Minora, 202.625.7700, mminora@malliosobrien.com.**

No one from Penn Social showed up. Penn Social wants to change the hours of operation and expand the outside seating area. A constituent flagged a settlement agreement related to the establishment's hours of operations. The Commissioners agreed to table the item until the next meeting so they can review the settlement agreement.

2. **RPM Restaurant LLC, Occupancy Permit, Tracking # 10904661, Veritas Law Firm, akline@theveritaslawfirm.com, 202.686.7600**

No one from RPM showed up. RPM is asking to permanently enclose their sidewalk café. Shankle noted that an enclosed café would take up most of the sidewalk. The Commissioners agreed to table the discussion until the next meeting. They want to hear from a RPM representative to understand the establishment's request.

PLANNING, ZONING, ENVIRONMENT, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1. **Wah Luck Home Care Agency, 800 6th Street, N.W., Dr. Hon Yuen Wong, CEO and Medical Director, 202.738.0720, hywongmd@wahluck.org**

Dr. Wong seeks to open a home health care agency to help the elders in the community. Currently, there are 200 seniors living in the Wah Luck House and 90 participants in the daycare. Many of these seniors need some type of home care. His agency would help fill that need. He also hopes to hire as many bilingual or trilingual home health aides as he can. Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the certificate of need for Wah Luck Home Care Agency, seconded by Miske. (Vote 3-0-0)

2. **616 E Street NW. Application to Build Rooftop Antenna Facility (BZATmp1901). Douglas A. Sampson, 410.332.8661, Douglas.Sampson@saul.com.**

Sampson is an attorney at Saul, Ewing, Arnstein, & Lehr and represents AT&T. AT&T seeks approval to move a telecommunications facility to the rooftop of 616 E Street NW from a parking garage on the same block that is scheduled for demolition in 2022. Typically, a facility of this sort is permitted by right under the zoning code. However, because the facility is going more than 12ft above the rooftop of the building, it needs special approval. Sampson presented a map showing the loss of coverage that would occur without this facility. He also showed photo simulations of the facility.

Shankle asked if the building owner agreed to the facility. Sampson said the building owner entered into a lease agreement with AT&T, a requirement for an application to be submitted. Miske asked if radiation omitted from the facility would impact residents. Sampson said the FCC has requirements that emissions are below a certain level and AT&T facilities are well below the levels. Additionally, reputable research institutions have found no adverse health effects related to proximity near these facilities.

Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the application to build a rooftop antenna facility at 616 E Street NW, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 3-0-0) Shankle asked for the appropriate language for the letter of support, Sampson agreed.

OTHER

The Commission discussed the format for the meetings moving forward. Originally, in person meetings were slated to begin in February 2022. However, due to Omicron, the February meeting will be held virtually. Councilmember White is putting forward legislation to extend the virtual meeting option. Miske motioned to send a letter to Councilmembers Pinto and Allen requesting an extension for virtual ANC meetings, seconded by Shankle. (Vote 3-0-0) Miske will write the letter and Shankle will send it out.

ADJOURNMENT: Miske made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:52pm, seconded by Nelson. Commissioners were in favor of adjourning meeting (Vote 3-0-0)

Minutes Submitted by: Laura Stateler

Minutes Approved by:

Next Meeting: February 8, 2022, 6:00PM

ANC Commissioners and Website

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Elizabeth Miske 2C02@anc.dc.gov

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www.anc2c.us

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Meetings are scheduled for the Second Tuesday of each month.