

Government of the District of Columbia

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

May 2022 Meeting Minutes

DATE: May 10, 2022

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Shankle called the meeting to order at 6:05pm over Zoom (available at <https://www.anc2c.us/video-recordings>).
2. **INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMISSIONERS:** Commissioner Shankle introduced Commissioner Nelson.
3. **QUORUM:** A quorum of two of two commissioners present.
4. **OPENING REMARKS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Shankle reviewed the agenda (available at www.anc2c.us). Shankle made one addition to the agenda: Howard Marks will discuss the use of scooters on the sidewalks in downtown DC. Nelson motioned to approve the May 2022 agenda, seconded by Shankle. (Vote 2-0-0)
5. **APPROVAL OF THE MARCH AND APRIL 2022 MINUTES:** Nelson motioned to approve the March 2022 and April 2022 minutes, seconded by Shankle. (Vote 2-0-0)
6. **TREASURER'S REPORT.**

Nelson noted an error in last month's March 2022 Treasurer's Report. The bank service fee was incorrectly recorded as two charges of \$33.00 instead of one charge of \$33.00. The closing balance for March 2022 was corrected to \$61,846.54.

Nelson provided the April Treasurer's Report. The opening and closing balance were both \$61,846.54. There were no transactions.
7. **RESIGNATION OF COMMISSIONER MISKE.** Shankle reminded the Commission that Commissioner Miske resigned on May 1, 2022 per her relocation. Her ANC 2C02 position is looking to be refilled from June 2022 through December 2022. Anyone interested in filling the position can contact the Board of Elections or Commissioner Shankle or Nelson.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Ward 2 Mayor's Liaison – Julius Terry, Ward 2 Liaison Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), julius.terry@dc.gov, 202.805.7122**

Terry provided community updates. He is working to resolve a dumping issue in an alleyway on K Street. Shankle provided an additional update; there is a construction project

on F and 10th Street that will close streets at that intersection through September 2022. Shankle said he will try to get an update about the project for the next meeting.

2. Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto Update -- Brooke Pinto Councilmember, Ward 2, bpinto@dccouncil.us, 202.724.8058, Ella Hansen, Legislative and Community Coordinator

Hansen provided updates from Councilmember Pinto's office. First, the Council's initial vote on the FY2023 Budget was today. The second vote will be on May 24, 2022. Second, the Council is waiting on the redistricting subcommittee to schedule their vote on the proposed ANC boundaries. The Council will then take two votes on the subcommittee's recommendations by June 7, 2022. Third, the second annual community bike ride will take place on Saturday, May 21 at 10am.

Shankle asked whether the redistricting subcommittee has made changes to recommendations submitted by the Ward 2 Task Force. Hansen believes no changes have been made.

Shankle asked about the use and effectiveness of the DHS voucher program for people experiencing homelessness. He expressed concern about vouchers going unused and asked if Pinto would consider taking a vote of no confidence on the leadership of DHS. Hansen provided updates about the oversight measures Pinto's office is working on. Pinto's office has not discussed a vote of no confidence.

Shankle asked an additional question about the Streetscape project in Chinatown and Nelson asked about the grant funding for vacant downtown spaces included in the FY23 Budget.

3. MPD 1st District Crime and Community Awareness, Captain Jonathan Dorrough, Jonathan.Dorrough@dc.gov, 202.729.2179 , and/or Lieutenant George Donigian, Jr., george.donigian@dc.gov

Captain Dorrough provided the monthly crime report. There were three violent crimes involving robberies and 15 thefts (including 9 thefts from autos). Theft from autos are a particular problem in the Chinatown area.

Constituent Liz Gardner asked how the MPD manages auto thefts and preventative measures people can take. Captain Dorrough outlined MPD's process and said auto thefts are hard to prevent and hard to solve because the perpetrators are usually experienced actors.

Constituent Howard Marks expressed concern about the gun presence in Chinatown. Captain Dorrough said they are seeing more guns on the streets in recent years. The Chinatown Unit is focusing on gun recovery efforts.

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. Property crime is up to 44 cases for the year, up from last year. There were three violent crimes this past month.

5. Fire Safety. District of Columbia Fire & EMS, Jerome A. Young, 6th Battalion Fire Chief #1 Plt., 202-673-3386, jerome.young@dc.gov.

Chief Young gave a presentation about fire safety during the summer. First, regarding grill safety, people should not grill on balconies and should allow a three-foot safe zone around the grill. Grills should be cleaned after every use. Second, open fire pits should be 15 feet from any structure and should be on a non-combustible surface. Third, every household should have a home escape plan in event of a fire. The fire department also provides free smoke alarms for anyone who needs one. Fourth, people should only purchase and use legal fireworks from certified vendors. A list of legal fireworks can be found on the fire department's website.

LOCAL EVENTS THAT IMPACT THE COMMUNITY

1. Open Streets – June 4, 2022 closure of 7th ST NW between Florida and Pennsylvania Avenues NW, for a total of 1.6 miles in length, from 9:00AM to 3:00PM. Carolina Buitrago, Andra Roventa, and Donovan G. Boyd (he/him) | Community Engagement Specialist, District Department of Transportation, (202) 671-3248, donovang.boyd@dc.gov

Roventa gave a presentation about the Open Streets Event on 7th Street NW on June 4, 2022. Open Streets is an initiative with the DowntownDC BID for communities to experience city streets in a new way by temporarily closing roadways to vehicles to create safe places for walking and recreation. On June 4, 2022, 1.6 miles of 7th street will be closed for cars and open to the community and visitors from 7am to 4pm. There will be programming along the route. Businesses along the route will provide specials and their own programming. More information can be found on the website: www.openstreets.dc.gov

Shankle asked if the intersections along 7th Street will be closed. Roventa confirmed that there will be barriers at the intersections. MPD and traffic control will be present at the event to ensure road and pedestrian safety. If a resident needs to access the side streets, they will have to show proof of residency.

Constituent Howard Marks raised concerns about the disruptions that will be caused by the blockage on 7th Street, specifically about deliveries to his condo building. Roventa said a package pick-up/drop-off zone can be placed on 7th and H Street near his building. Other constituents with similar concerns can reach out to Roventa.

2. Marine Corp Marathon, Sunday, October 30, 2022. Charles W Harr, Marine Corps Marathon, Operations Coordinator, 571-238-4926, charles.harr@usmc-mccs.org.

Harr started his presentation about the Marine Corp Marathon on October 30, 2022 and displayed the course map. The biggest impact that the marathon, 50k, and 10k races will have on ANC 2C is where they enter the National Mall. Set up will begin during the days leading up to the event mainly on the Virginia side. Set up for the 10k on the National Mall will begin the Friday before. On the day of the event, the 10k and the wheeled division will start concurrently at 7:50am, the marathon will start at 7:55am, and the 50k will start at 7:15am. Cleanup will take place behind the runners. A total of 28,000 runners are

anticipated for the event. Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the Marine Corps Marathon, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 2-0-0)

3. Army Ten-Miler, Sunday, October 9, 2022. George Banker, Operations Manager, US Army, MDW, (301)537-6739, monkbank@comcast.net.

Banker started his presentation about the Army Ten-Miler on October 9, 2022. The event is set up similarly to the Marine Corps Marathon. The first runner is anticipated to enter ANC 2C around 8:25am; the last runner is expected to be out of ANC 2C at 10:30am. MPD will block off the streets and a trash truck will follow the entire course behind the last runner. A total of 26,000 runners are anticipated. Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the Army Ten-Miler, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 2-0-0)

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSING (ABRA)

1. The Smith, TS5 Hospitality, LLC, 901 F ST NW (ABRA-103680) – Protest of License

Shankle put this on the agenda. The ABRA license for The Smith is coming up for renewal. In light of numerous challenges with restaurant employees parking in the alleyway, Shankle wants to file a Letter of Protest against The Smith before the protest period ends on May 16, 2022. The protest would regard their impact on the community and the effect of establishment on peace and order and quiet, and the effect of the establishment on residential parking and vehicular and pedestrian safety. Shankle explained that the ANC has made ample attempts to address this concern with the restaurant without resolution.

Adam Burke, the Vice President of Operations for The Smith was present along with the restaurant's legal counsel. Burke said he had not been made aware of the problem and that he will work to resolve the issue. The parties agreed to work on a settlement agreement before the protest period ends. The settlement agreement would then be attached to the ABRA renewal license. If a settlement agreement is not reached before May 16, 2022, the ANC will file a Letter of Protest. Shankle motioned to send a protest letter to ABRA regarding The Smith if a settlement agreement regarding parking in alleyway is not reached by May 16th, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 2-0-0)

Shankle provided two additional updates. First, tomorrow is the ABRA hearing regarding Ultra Bar on F Street. Second, Shankle will bring a Letter of Protest to the ANC regarding the same parking issue at the restaurant next to The Smith.

TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC SPACE

Constituent Howard Marks started his presentation about the use of e-scooters on the sidewalks in downtown DC. He started an organization a couple years ago, Take Back Our Sidewalks, which aims to put controls on dockless e-scooters. He wants a Letter of Support from the ANC to ask for a test demonstration of technology that could prevent e-scooters on sidewalks when there are bike lanes available. The Commissioners were open to this idea and will discuss it further during the next meeting when Marks provides more information about the deadline and content for the letter.

PLANNING, ZONING, ENVIRONMENT, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

OTHER

With the resignation of Commissioner Miske, the Secretary position needs to be reassigned. Shankle moved to take over the Secretary position until another Commissioner is appropriately elected, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 2-0-0) Shankle will send a letter to the office of ANC detailing the reassignment of the Secretary role.

Additionally, the ANC's minute taker will be resigning in July 2022. This position will need to be filled.

ADJOURNMENT: Nelson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:18pm, seconded by Shankle. Commissioners were in favor of adjourning the meeting (Vote 2-0-0)

Minutes Submitted by: Laura Stateler

Minutes Approved by:

Next Meeting: June 14, 2022, 6:00PM

ANC Commissioners and Website

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www.anc2c.us

Subscribe to the ANC 2C listserve at www.anc2C.us.

Meetings are scheduled for the Second Tuesday of each month.