

Government of the District of Columbia
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C
September 2022 Meeting Minutes

DATE: September 13, 2022

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

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Shankle called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm 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 commissioners was present.
- 4. OPENING REMARKS / APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Shankle reviewed the agenda (available at www.anc2c.us). Shankle motioned to approve the September 2022 agenda, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 2-0-0)
- 5. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE AND JULY 2022 MINUTES:** Nelson motioned to approve the June and July 2022 meeting minutes, seconded by Shankle (Vote 2-0-0).
- 6. TREASURER'S REPORT.**

Nelson provided the July 2022 Treasurer's Report. The opening balance was \$66,744.71. There was one transaction in the amount of \$131.00 for a post office box that would be good for six months. The closing balance was \$66,613.71.

Nelson provided the August 2022 Treasurer's Report. The opening balance was \$66,613.71. In addition, there were two transactions in the amount of \$350.00 for the June and July meeting minutes. The closing balance was \$66,263.71.

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 updates from the Mayor's Office. On September 15, there will be a summit related to maternal health and discussions about reducing racial disparities in maternal health.
- 2. Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto Update -- Brooke Pinto Councilmember, Ward 2, bpinto@dccouncil.us, 202.724.8058, Victoria Casarrubias.**

Casarrubias provided updates from Councilmember Pinto's Office. She reported that all public school buildings were toured to ensure they were ready to welcome back students. Thompson still had several work orders that needed to be completed. Casarrubias reminded

everyone that there were COVID centers available and free monkeypox vaccines continued to be offered at Ward 2. She reported that there would be a bike ride on Saturday, October 1. On Friday, October 28, there will be a hearing about parking policy permits that would re-size boundaries and parking zones. Shankle asked if there was an adjustment for ANC 2C to include residential parking. Casarrubias reported that long-term parking would be allowed within certain zones, and parking would be limited to 2 hours outside those zones. From her understanding, she stated that if an individual lived in ANC 2C, they could park long-term, but she will check into this.

Casarrubias reported that the next legislative meeting was scheduled for September 20. The Council switched from .us to .gov.

Marks commented on the crime rate that was spilling into Chinatown. He wanted to alert Councilmember Pinto that this was a severe problem. He suggested that she should work with Superintendent Clark.

O'Connor asked what the office was doing about crime, sanitation problems, drug problems, and homelessness in the neighborhoods. Casarrubias reported that with homelessness, there were coordinating efforts when closing down specific encampment sites. With crime concerns, they are speaking regularly with MPD to get updates and get residents' concerns. Doug O'Connor asked what new actions were occurring. Casarrubias reported that this was something the office would be very focused on in the fall. She stated they are looking at how resources could be focused in the future for the FY24 budget season and how to change policies to address the issues at hand.

3. Chairmen Mendelson – Declan Falls

Falls reported that the Council was in recess, but they would soon be returning. He stated that one of Chairmen Mendelson's focuses was on education, and there would be a hearing on September 16. In addition, he reported that there was an act passed for early childhood educators last year, and that program was open for one more week.

Shankle raised concerns about noise pollution and asked if something could be done or if a meeting could be scheduled. Falls stated he would report back to Chairmen Mendelson and try to set up a meeting. O'Connor inquired about Main Street Grants, and Falls reported that he would follow up.

4. MPD 1st District Crime and Community Awareness, Lieutenant Philip McHugh, Philip.McHugh@dc.gov, 202.763.9936

Lieutenant McHugh reported that there were two recent events. The first event was a fatal shooting. Then a little over two hours later after this first event, another shooting occurred a block away as the second event. The investigation was still progressing, but that case should soon close. In August, compared to July, there were significant decreases in crime. Theft from automobiles was down 10%, and thefts overall were down 8%.

At the last meeting, residents' concerns were heard, and since then, some officers have been specifically asked to target specific crimes. First, warnings were given to individuals, and then over 25 arrests were made during the last week of August and the first week of September for those who did not respond to the warnings.

Shankle and Nelson said his efforts were appreciated.

- 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**

Lieutenant Hamelin reported that he would likely leave 2D when he becomes Captain on September 16. He reported that property crime was the main problem that was being addressed. He stated that there were flyers about theft given to businesses with suggestions to prevent theft. There was only one Part 1 crime, but there were no fatalities. He reported there were 16 property crimes over the last 30 days. He stated homicides had not occurred since some pop-up parks were shut down months ago.

- 6. District of Columbia Office of Human Rights, Interim Director Hnin Khaing, hnin.khaing@dc.gov, and Ajan Brown, Community Engagement Specialist, ajan.brown@dc.gov.**

Hnin Khaing introduced herself. She discussed their mission to eradicate discrimination, increase equal opportunity, and protect civil rights through enforcement. She stated that they prosecute cases that are not happening and provide education. She stated that they cover employment, housing, public accommodation, and educational institutions. The jurisdiction includes the private sector and government, not the federal government or courts. Khaing reported that some local laws were enforced, such as the DC Human Rights Act of 1977, the DC Family and Medical Leave Act of 1990, and the DC Parental Leave Act. There was also training that was beginning. She reported that there are 21 protected traits under the human rights act. The OHR Process involved intake and inquiry, mediation, investigation, legal review, conciliation, and COHR. There were special equity programs, including Language Access Program, Youth Bullying Prevention, and Creating Safer Spaces Program. For example, as part of the Language Access Program, OHR could reimburse ANCs for translation and interpretation services for residents and commissioners.

LOCAL EVENTS THAT IMPACT THE COMMUNITY

- 1. National Veterans Day Parade, Sunday, November 13, 2022**

No one was present to report on the National Veterans Day Parade.

- 2. Chinese Lunar New Year Parade, 2023, Sunday, January 22, 2023. Rita Lee, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of DC, Parade Committee, ritaclee5168@gmail.com, and Hon Yuen Wong, MD, Wah Luck Home Care Agency, hywongmd@wahluck.org.**

Rita Lee introduced herself and Dr. Wong. She reported that the parade would start the year of the rabbit. For the past years, there have been 30,000 tourists. The year of the dragon attracted 50,000 during most years. In 2023, around 20,000 tourists are expected. The assembly time is 1 pm, and it will end at 5 pm and follow the same path as previous years.

Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the Chinese Lunar New Year Parade, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 2-0-0)

3. Children's National Hospital 5K, Children's National Health System's Race for Every Child, Saturday, October 15, 2022, George Banker, Planning Committee, monkbank@comcast.net, 301.537.6739

Banker reported that the goal was to primarily help increase awareness of the service offered by Children's National Hospital. There will be overnight security as the setup will happen on Friday, October 14. Five thousand participants are expected, along with 300 volunteers. A street sweeper will go down the entire route once the event finishes.

Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for Children's National Hospital 5K, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 2-0-0)

4. More than Pink Walk, Susan G. Komen Foundation, Sunday, September 18, 2022, Lisa Brooks. Director, lbrooks@eventage.net.

Brooks reported that the setup would happen on Saturday, September 17, and road closures will end around 11:30 am. She anticipated 2,000 – 3,000 people.

Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for More than Pink Walk, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 2-0-0)

5. 2023 Holiday Market, Michael Berman.

Berman reported that the 2023 Holiday Market would operate in the exact figuration as in previous years. There will be food items and a stage. It will be open from November 18 to December 23, except for Thanksgiving and December 5, from 12 pm – 8 pm daily. The setup will begin one week prior. The fresh farm farmer's market's last day is November 17, and they will be accommodated for that day.

Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the Holiday Market, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 2-0-0)

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSING (ABRA)

1. La Grande Boucherie, 699 14th ST NW, New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant (ABRA-122175), Matthew Minora, 202.625.7700, mminora@malliosobrien.com.

Minora reported that La Grande Boucherie would have a total occupancy of 600 seats indoors and additional seating outside. It would be open from 10 am – 2 am, Sunday – Thursday, and from 10 am – 3 am on Friday and Saturday.

Nelson motioned to send a letter of support for the stipulated license, seconded by Shankle.
(Vote 2-0-0)

2. Washoku Room, 699 14th ST NW, New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant ABRA-122181), Matthew Minora, 202.625.7700, mminora@malliosobrien.com.

Minora reported that Washoku Room was a smaller concept restaurant located on the first floor. It would only have 35 seats, with no outside seating. It would be open from 10 am – 2 am, Sunday – Thursday, and from 10 am – 3 am on Friday and Saturday.

Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the stipulated license, seconded by Nelson.
(Vote 2-0-0)

3. Olio, 699 14th ST NW, New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant (ABRA-122182), Matthew Minora, 202.625.7700, mminora@malliosobrien.com.

Minora reported that the total occupancy was 280 and was an Italian concept. It would be open from 10 am – 2 am, Sunday – Thursday, and from 10 am – 3 am on Friday and Saturday. This restaurant would be on the ground floor.

Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the stipulated license, seconded by Nelson.
(Vote 2-0-0)

4. Rice Bar Market Place, 801 Pennsylvania AVE NW, New Retailer's Class "D" Restaurant (ABRA- -122151), Chrissie Chang, 703.992.3994, chrissiechang@yahoo.com.

On behalf of the applicant, Mr. Shin presented the application. The Rice Bar Market Place opened in 2021, and there were 40 seats in the dining room with no outdoor seating. The restaurant's hours were from 11-7, Monday-Saturday. There was no desire to extend the opening hours, so alcohol would only be served from 11 am – 7 pm.

Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the stipulated license, seconded by Nelson.
(Vote 2-0-0)

TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC SPACE

1. 9th Street Protected Bike Lane Project. Mike Goodno, Bicycle Program Specialist, Planning and Sustainability Division, District Department of Transportation, 202.671.0681, mike.goodno@dc.gov, and/or Donovan G. Boyd, Community Engagement Specialist, Community Engagement Division, District Department of Transportation, 202.671.3248, donovang.boyd@dc.gov.

Brayan reported that an NOI was issued on August 11 and will close in September. Construction is set to start at the beginning of October. Brayan stated that the protected bike lanes were important so individuals not used to biking on streets would feel safer trying them. Further, the mayor had set a sustainability goal to get 75% of all trips by walking, bicycle, or transit in 2023. The current percentage was 50%. The history of the project began in 2015. The parking was proposed to be pushed out to create room for the bike lanes. Left turns would not be allowed across two lanes of bike paths, and there would be lanes with arrows to allow turns. A new bike share station was proposed to be added, as well as raised crossing islands. Brayan confirmed that "Streeterys" would be preserved, such as the one at Cuba Libre.

Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the 9th street Protected Bike Lane Project, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 2-0-0)

2. Dos Toros Chinatown LLC, 700 7th St NW, New Sidewalk Cafe Un-Enclosed (DDOT#: 10956790), Jesse Tarr, info@citypermit.us, 202.769.1958.

No one was present for Dos Toros Chinatown LLC. Instead, Shankle presented the concept for Dos Toros Chinatown LLC. He stated it was located at the corner of 7th and G. They were looking to put it in a sidewalk café, but it looked like they wanted to put fencing anchored into the concrete.

Shankle motioned to reach out to an applicant about how the fencing was secured and to request a photograph of the fencing, seconded by Nelson. (Vote 2-0-0)

PLANNING, ZONING, ENVIRONMENT, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1. Howl at the Moon, 900 7th Street NW, Sign Application, Paul Holian, pholian@verizon.net, 617.470.0662.

Shankle presented the proposed sign. There would be Chinese lettering was required. Nelson asked if the lettering was correct, and it was confirmed. They would also place large signs outside of the establishment.

Nelson motioned to approve the Howl at the Moon sign application, seconded by Shankle. (Vote 2-0-0)

2. Tom's Watch Bar, 781-7th Street NW, Sign Application, Bob Biroonak, Bob@artdisplayco.com, 202.467.6735.

Bob Biroonak was present. He showed the previously approved signs from 2014. It would be a complete LED sign, so it would look similar to neon but would not be. Howard Marks voiced his concerns about using LED lights, and others had the same concerns. Bob Biroonak stated he

would be happy to keep the black and white that would be present during the day and not have the LED colors.

Shankle motioned to send a letter to the Office of Planning stating that the sign was not similar to other signs, and there were concerns that it would degrade the appearance in that neighborhood seconded by Shankle. (Vote 2-0-0)

ADJOURNMENT: Shankle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm, seconded by Nelson. Commissioners were in favor of adjourning the meeting (Vote 2-0-0)

Minutes Submitted by: Minutes Services

Minutes Approved by:

Next Meeting: October 11, 2022, 6:00 pm

ANC Commissioners and Website

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Gigi Nelson 2C03@anc.dc.gov

www.anc2c.us

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Meetings are scheduled for the Second Tuesday of each month.