Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2F
Government of the District of Columbia

Commissioners

2F01 David Rubenstein, *Treasurer*
2F02 Neil Rocklin
2F03 Joe Florio
2F04 Benjamin Dalley
2F05 Christopher Dyer, *Vice Chair*
2F06 John Fanning
2F07 Kevin Cataldo, *Chair*
2F08 Brett Beasley, *Secretary*
Stuart West, *Commission Administrator*

July 1, 2026, MINUTES	**Wednesday, July 1, 2026**	Virtual meeting via Zoom

PRESENT	**ABSENT**	**GUESTS AND PRESENTERS**
David Rubenstein (2F01), Treasurer Neil Rocklin (2F02) Joe Florio (2F03) Benjamin Dalley (2F04) Christopher Dyer (2F05), Vice Chair Brett Beasley (2F08), Secretary	John Fanning (2F06) Kevin Cataldo (2F07), Chair	Lieutenant Harrell, Metropolitan Police Department, Third District Hannah Ames, Office of Councilmember Brooke Pinto (Ward 2) Tiffany Wimenta, Executive Office of the Mayor Biva Ranjit and Christopher Lynch, Owners, Barrel House Cafe & Bar

Vice Chair Dyer, serving as Acting Chair in the absence of Chair Cataldo, called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM EDT and called roll. A quorum was established with six of eight Commissioners present.

Reports from the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD)

Second District (2D)

- No representative from the Second District was present, and no report was delivered.

Third District (3D)

- Lieutenant Harrell delivered the report for Patrol Service Area (PSA) 307, comparing crime statistics for June 1 through June 30 against the same period in 2025.
- Violent crime: PSA 307 recorded two Assaults with a Dangerous Weapon (ADW), both involving knives and both domestic in nature. The first occurred June 3 at 3:16 AM in the 1200 block of 11th Street NW, where the suspect punched the victim, grabbed a kitchen knife, and attempted to cut them. The suspect has been identified, and an affidavit in support of an arrest warrant has been forwarded to the warrant office. The second occurred June 14 at 2:40 AM in the 1100 block of 12th Street NW, where one party choked the other, and the choked individual responded by grabbing a kitchen knife and cutting their partner on the head. Both were treated for non-life-threatening injuries and arrested.

- Burglaries: Zero burglaries occurred during the period. Lieutenant Harrell noted burglaries typically spike in winter and spring.
- Motor vehicle thefts: One theft occurred, down from three during the same period in 2025. The presence of the National Guard was cited as a potential deterrent.
- Theft from autos: Nineteen instances, up from 12 last year, a 58 percent increase. Lieutenant Harrell characterized this as a crime of opportunity targeting items left in plain sight, such as money in consoles.
- General thefts: Twenty-four thefts, a 25 percent decrease from 34 in 2025. These include porch pirate package thefts and retail theft at locations such as 7-Eleven and CVS.
- July 4 posture: MPD is on all hands on deck status with officers working 12 to 16 hour shifts. Dedicated officers are responding to firework complaints, focusing on illegal items such as cherry bombs and roman candles. Numerous fireworks have been confiscated from juveniles and stored in the 3D property room for destruction. Civil Disturbance Units will be fully deployed before, during, and after July 4 to manage protests and high-density crowds downtown. The primary focus remains violent crime prevention and protecting public officials around the National Mall festivities.
- Community members were encouraged to report suspicious activity immediately. The 3D watch commander can be reached at (202) 276-7462.

Hannah Ames, Office of Councilmember Brooke Pinto, Ward 2 DC Council

- FY 2027 Budget: The Council has taken two of three required votes, with the final vote scheduled for July 7. Chairman Mendelson added $400 million to the budget through federal tax decoupling funds and $150 million from reserves. These funds will reverse cuts to daycare worker pay equity, housing vouchers, access to justice, and insurance for residents who do not qualify for Medicaid. Funding of $25,000 was secured for the Clean Team for mulch, tree beds, and community maintenance. Revenue raiser discussions are tabled until the fall recess.
- National 250th and July 4 events: Heat wave precautions are in effect, and residents should visit 250.dc.gov for road closures and parking restrictions. Fireworks are scheduled to start later than usual, approximately between 10:00 PM and 11:00 PM.
- Department of Public Works: Trash and recycling collection will begin at 6:00 AM throughout the summer to avoid peak heat.
- Rat legislation: Councilmember Pinto's rat bill and a similar bill by Councilmember Lewis George remain in the health committee. Councilmember Henderson is exploring a pilot program for specialized trash cans.

Tiffany Wimenta, Executive Office of the Mayor (EOM)

- An Extreme Heat Alert is active through Sunday. Cooling centers near ANC 2F include Stead Recreation Center, Bethany Day Center, Kennedy Recreation Center, and the Downtown Day Services Center.
- Homeless outreach: Requests for transport to low-barrier shelters, including the Pat Handy women's shelter and the Emory men's shelter, can be made through the shelter hotline or 311. Animal concerns should be reported to the Brandywine Valley SPCA.
- Grant and scholarship opportunities: The Department of Parks and Recreation Play It Forward Scholarship offers up to $5,000 for young adults in postsecondary education, with a July 10 deadline. The FY 2027 Violence Prevention and Response Team Grant supports victim services and outreach, also due July 10.
- The Department of Buildings is hosting virtual listening sessions through September regarding construction code updates.

- Local infrastructure: A potential sinkhole on a residential block is being monitored with caution tape, and a joint DDOT and DOH inspection is planned regarding the R Street condominiums.

Business Agenda

Approval of Consent Agenda

- Approval of the meeting minutes, January through June 2026.
- Approval of the Treasurer's report.
- The motion to adopt the consent agenda was moved by Commissioner Rubenstein and seconded by Commissioner Rocklin.

VOTE: [6 - 0 - 0] Motion Passed.

Committee Reports

Community Development Committee (CDC)

- No meeting held in June; no report provided.

Alcohol-Cannabis Policy Committee (APC)

- No meeting held in June; no report provided.

Public Space and Transportation Committee (PSTC)

- No meeting held in June. A July meeting is being planned for the third Tuesday of the month.

Public Safety Committee (PSC)

- No representative present; no report provided.

New Business: Barrel House Cafe & Bar Substantial Change Application

- Commissioner Florio introduced a request for a substantial change to the liquor license for Barrel House Cafe & Bar.
- Application details: The request seeks a sidewalk cafe endorsement with 72 seats. Proposed hours of operation are Sunday through Thursday, 7:00 AM to 11:00 PM, and Friday through Saturday, 7:00 AM to 12:00 AM. Proposed alcohol service hours are Sunday, 10:00 AM to 11:00 PM; Monday through Thursday, 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM; Friday, 11:00 AM to 12:00 AM; and Saturday, 10:00 AM to 12:00 AM.
- Presentation by owners Biva Ranjit and Christopher Lynch: The establishment has operated since December 2024 and launched its current brand 10 months ago. The owners invested in rat-proofing by installing a mesh barrier beneath the outdoor pavers. Landscaping plans include arborvitae trees to absorb sound. The owners are seeking ironwork fencing to prevent unauthorized use of the space after hours; Commissioner Rubenstein cautioned that any fencing must comply with historic preservation hoop-style requirements. The owners agreed to no external speakers or amplified sound in the sidewalk cafe area. At closing times for the outdoor space, 11:00 PM or 12:00 AM, gates will be locked and all patrons will enter and exit through the 14th Street entrance.
- Motion: Commissioner Florio moved that ANC 2F protest the substantial change based on concerns regarding peace, order, and quiet, with Commissioner Dalley serving as the representative to negotiate an amended settlement agreement. Commissioner Dalley emphasized that the owners are good actors and that the protest is a procedural step to allow for formal negotiation.

VOTE: [4 - 1 - 1] Motion Passed.

- Deadlines: The protest deadline is July 6. The roll call hearing is scheduled for July 27.

Questions and Discussion

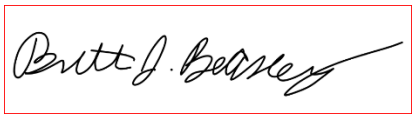
- Commissioner Rocklin asked what outreach has been done to neighbors regarding noise and how increased trash will be handled. The owners responded that they have provided business cards to nearly all unit owners in the adjacent building at 1322 Rhode Island Avenue NW, are transitioning from Waste Management to a new provider, Good Friends, for better reliability, and are exploring a trash compactor pilot program.
- Commissioner Rubenstein asked whether the fencing design has been cleared with the historic committee. The owners responded that historic preservation staff participated in the public space permit call and approved the rail, and they will confirm the specific aesthetic requirements for the Rhode Island Avenue side.
- Commissioner Florio asked whether there will be harsh lighting in the evening. The owners responded that they intend to use low-voltage LED garden lighting to maintain a specific atmosphere.
- Commissioner Beasley asked whether there will be a bar or service area within the sidewalk cafe. The owners responded that there will not; service will be handled through a QR code system with staff running food and drinks from the interior bar, similar to the existing summer garden operation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by motion at 8:15 PM EDT.

Minutes approved by VOTE: [8 - 0 - 0] Motion Passed, 09/02/2026





Kevin Cataldo, Brett Beasley