



Government of the District of Columbia

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

April 2020 Meeting Minutes

DATE: 14 April 2020

ANC-2C COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Michael Shankle, Jamaal Burton, Kevin Wilsey

ABSENT:

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Commissioner Wilsey called the meeting to order at 6:33PM
2. **INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS**
3. **QUORUM:** Three of three Commissioner present
4. **OPENING REMARKS/APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:** Wilsey moved to accept the agenda as presented. Second Shankle. (3,0,0)
5. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** Shankle made the motion to approve the March 2020 minutes as presented. Wilsey second. (3,0,0).
6. **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Shankle provided the March treasurer's report. The current balance as of end of March was \$54,999.99. There had been one disbursement of \$150.00 for the prep of March minutes.

FY2020 Q2 Financial Report For the period of Jan-Mar 2020, Shankle noted Q2 is now due for filing. He stated quarter began with \$53,649.94, with a District Allotment of \$1,821.05 for Q1 FY20. There were disbursements with a total \$475.00, the majority of which were meeting minute preparation, with \$25 for ANC security fund. The balance at the end of the quarter was \$54,995.99. Shankle made a motion to approve ANC Quarterly Filing, FY20 Q2, and was seconded by Burton. (Vote 3-0-0).

BRIEF COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS:

7. **Ward 2 Mayor's Liaison, Nicole Goines, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, Ward 2 Liaison, Nicole.Goines@dc.gov:** Ana Noakes filling in for Goines provided updates. There is a new hotline for residents that are homebound because of Covid to request food and other essential items. The number is (888) 349-8323.

Starting this week, 10 schools across the district are going to serve as grocery sites for shelf stable and other essential grocery items available on first come first serve basis.

The Mayor has closed Anacostia Park, Rock Creek Park and Fort Dupont Park to vehicle traffic to allow for essential exercise during the pandemic.

The Mayor has issued an order regarding grocery stores, pharmacies, markets, other stores like Target and Wal Mart requiring customers to wear face masks while in stores, asks the stores limit the number of customers, that social distancing and disinfectant protocols are taken, and encourage use of online and curbside shopping.

DC has issued a rent freeze, halt to eviction and late fees. The rent freeze prohibits landlords from increasing rent during the public health emergency through 30 days post the end of the public health emergency.

Shankle noted that the Commissioners have been participating in the Mayor's press conferences and meetings, and commented on the proactivity and thoughtfulness of the Mayor and her staff.

8. Linda from Pepco

Pepco issued a press release in early March suspending disconnections for lack of payment through May. The council subsequently passed a bill extending the time period. Pepco has other programs available like the Gift of Energy, where anyone can make a payment on behalf of someone. Anyone interested can call Customer Care at (202) 833-7500. Name and service address are needed to set up. She will look into additional information about the program and get back to the ANC.

Pepco issued a second press release regarding scams that have increased with Covid-19. The webcam with AARP reminds the public of security tips to raise awareness.

Pepco has started construction with Capital Grid and are expecting to be working in the Federal Mall Area in Sept-Oct building manholes.

LOCAL EVENTS THAT IMPACT THE COMMUNITY

9. United States Department of Agriculture, Farmers Market, Re Closure of Portions of 12TH St. NW. ToiAyna Thompson, Farmers Market Manager, USDA, Toiayna.Thompson@usda.gov:

Thompson stated they would like to follow previous years' plan in closing 12th St. NW for the Farmers Market. Noting that the season is going to be different, an email was sent to all vendors / applicants today to let them know that the market opening (May 1) will be delayed. They are waiting on further guidance from the Department overall. Since most customers are employees and tourists, they are not anticipating a large customer base this year, but still want to move forward with the permit so they are ready as things shift. Wilsey stated that private markets are required to provide a detailed plan about social distancing and how they will protect customers. Thompson noted a Decision Memo has been submitted to Secretary Perdue for a change in operation. If the market does open, it would be following all guidance from the CDC, considering

pre-orders, etc., keeping employee and customer safety in mind. A response hasn't been received yet; the only info provided is that market will not start on May 1. This is the 25th anniversary of the Farmers Market.

Wilsey noted that understanding it's up to other agencies as to whether or not the market can happen, the ANC is in support of the market and closure of 12th St. provided things are back to normal. Shankle seconded motion. (Vote 3-0-0) Following the vote, Wilsey agreed to provide letter of support.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSING (ABRA)

10. Farmbird Restaurant 2, LLC, 401 9th St. NW (ABRA-116661). New Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License. Matt Minora, mminora@malliosobrien.com. Minora announced the following changes to the initial placard: Petition Deadline date now June 1, 2020 per Mayor's order extending the deadline. License class changed to "D" instead of "C," there will be no spirit service, only beer and wine. Minora asked for ANC support of the "D" License for the restaurant with seating 80 inside and sidewalk café for 12. Hours of operation and alcohol sales, service and consumption are 8a-12a daily inside and for the sidewalk café. Requesting the ANC's support for a stipulated license Minora noted that if things are back to normal, they plan to open the restaurant by Mid May.

Minora confirmed for Wilsey that ABRA is approving stipulated licenses. The issuance is dependent on the government opening back up, business license being issued, the DOH unsuspending routine health inspections, and things going back to normal so they can get records and documents required. Wilsey asked if the entire café is on 9th St. and noted concern with the apartment building next door being disturbed, no issue with staying open until midnight on the weekend. Minora confirmed it is on both 9th and E St. Application hours are based on café businesses nearby that are all open until midnight during the week. Minora noted they will be happy to change hours to 11:30pm to conform if there are concerns or complaints. The café only 6 seats on E St NW. Wilsey confirmed that this location is not as large as some of the other cafes in the area, that no spirits will be served, that the location is more of a restaurant than a bar. Farmbird's other location at 6th and H St NW is open 11am-10pm. Minora stated that they are flexible, and that the application asked for longer hours. They will adjust hours to sales. They assume this location will follow those hours or something close to it.

Shankle made motion to approve the ABRA Class "D" License, and Burton seconded. (Vote 3-0-0)

Follow up regarding stipulated license. Wilsey asked if the Farmbird will be doing delivery and / or pickup. Minora says they cannot do either until they can get a DOH health inspection. Wilsey made motion to send letter requesting a stipulated license, and Shankle seconded. (Vote 3-0-0)

TRANSPORTATION / PUBLIC SPACE

11. Guardian Management Services, LLC, 700 K St. NW (DDOT – 10777834) Trulucks' Valet Staging Zone. Christopher E. Bystryk, Sr, President, Guardian Management Services, LLC, gpms1@verizon.net. Bystryk, Sr. notes they are requesting a Valet Staging Permit at 700 K St NW from 5pm-1030pm, 7 days a week for Truluck's. The valet staging area will be on K St NW. Truluck's front door is right on the (rounded) corner. The parking garage is on 7th St. From the staging area on K St, valets will turn right onto 7th into the underground garage on 7th. On return path, cars coming out of the garage will turn right on I, right on 9th, right on K back to the staging area. Capacity of the restaurant is 225-250 at any one time.

Shankle confirmed location and that there was street parking before construction staging began. Shankle made motion to approve, and Burton seconded. (Vote: 3-0-0)

12. Inter-American Development Bank, 1350 New York Ave NW – (Public Space Permit Application #347576). PS Rental: Parking on Public Space. Paul Cavanaugh, Project Manager, Mona Electric Group, Inc., Paul.Cavanaugh@getmona.com. Juan from IADB was present in Cavanaugh's place. IADB owns the building and need to replace the emergency generator, which Mona Electric will do. To complete the project, they need to use space behind the facility to install a temporary generator for about a month while they do the replacement. Cavanaugh / Mona had submitted request for approval and permits. The space is at the end of the alley which is public property. Shankle made motion to approve the Permit, and Wilsey seconded. Wilsey will send a letter to DOT Department of Public Safety regarding approval. (Vote: 3-0-0)

13. Urban Roast Café, 916 G St NW (DDOT – 10780689) New Sidewalk Café UnEnclosed. Kamal Azzouz, azzouzkamal@gmail.com. Sedona states café hours have been reduced since January meeting. Once open, they will serve until 11pm. Had to file separately for café itself. They are requesting the ANC support their application for the public space committee. Updated layout was submitted a few days ago to DDOT. Update includes current CDC recommendations. No umbrellas will be in the area, only 2 seat tables. Planters are removable and will be moved inside at the end of service. Shankle previously checked with board at Mather Studios and they had no objections. Shankle moved to send letter of support, and Wilsey seconded. (Vote: 3-0-0)

OTHER:

14. Covid Concerns

Howard: Noted that it's great to have a virtual meeting, easier than the

Wilson Building, and can see documents more easily in this format. Notes an issue in Chinatown area regarding Electric Scooter users. He has asked DDOT to ground the fleet during the crisis due to the number of traumas that occur to scooter users, and the tripping hazard they create, but has not heard back. States that a large number of scooters are on the sidewalk outside his condo building East side of 7th between G and H. A blind pedestrian has tripped over one near Dupont Circle and required elbow surgery. Scooters are blocking passage to bus stops. Requests a letter be written to DDOT by ANC regarding hazards. Wilsey notes he thought they were going to put in scooter corrals.

Shankle – believes that the BID identified locations for corrals. ANC had suggested a location that did not meet the current standard as roads that have T's are not being considered presently. Shankle asks if residents can call scooters into 311. Noakes confirms that reports can be called into 311. There is a time frame in which scooters can be called in if they haven't moved. Wilsey agrees that scooters being left on the sidewalk is a concern, and notes that they are highly used in that area. Scooters shouldn't be on sidewalks but shouldn't be in road either. No corrals in ANC 2C that he or Shankle are aware of. Howard was in area a few weeks ago that had corrals but did not see effective usage of them. He is concerned that there is no requirement that scooters be put in corrals, is all discretionary. Requests again that Commissioners reach out. Shankle notes DDOT should be asked about current status with corrals in the area. There is a new liaison with DDOT, so want to reach out and discuss how corrals can be implemented and incentivized, and that an educational component be implemented as well.

Noakes will discuss with Goines and get back to Commissioners. Shankle states will follow up once have more information on resolving issue. Understand they are a nuisance but also that they are heavily utilized, need to find a balance or process.

Wilsey notes that construction still going on in the city. Not sure what DCRA is doing to enforce social distancing with construction workers. Some masked, some not, some distancing, some not. Concern that employees that have required jobs are being put in situations by their employer where they are spreading the virus because they want to get the jobs done. Shankle stated that the Mayor is encouraging people to call 311 and DDOT would go out to those locations and make sure social distancing, etc., is being followed. However, there is now a significant number of absences so shortage of employees to get work done (as recent after hours permit requests show).

Noakes emphasizes 311, understanding that won't always be the best solution. Some construction is contributing different recovery efforts like affordable housing or underlying structural issues. Linda from Pepco requests to be contacted if anyone sees any of her crews out not following guidelines for social distancing or masks, etc.

ADJOURNMENT: Wilsey moved to adjourn, and Burton seconded. (Vote: 3-0-0)

Minutes Submitted by: Gayle Gardner

Minutes approved by: ANC 2C Commissioners

Next meeting: 12 May, 6:30pm

Minutes Approved: August 11, 2020