

Government of the District of Columbia

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

September 10, 2024, 6:00 p.m. Meeting Minutes

DATE: September 10, 2024

ANC-2C COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Commissioner Michael Shankle, Commissioner Rebecca Strauss, Commissioner Thomas Lee

ANC-2C COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Shankle called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm over Zoom ([2024 August 13 ANC 2C Community Meeting \(youtube.com\)](#)).

2. ROLL CALL:

Three out of the three commissioners were present.

3. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS:

The commissioners introduced themselves.

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: Shankle motioned to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Strauss. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

MOTION: Shankle motioned to approve the agenda as published. Seconded by Strauss. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

6. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION: Strauss motioned to approve the August 2024 meeting minutes as amended, to reflect that it was not designated a "Special Emergency Meeting," and spelling corrections. Seconded by Shankle. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

7. TREASURER REPORT:

Commissioner Lee delivered the Treasurer's Report, noting that the OANC requested the ANC-2C's May meeting minutes as well as the Q2 financial report approval to be reflected in the September minutes. Shankle stated that Lee will upload Q3 to the portal and be taken up at the next ANC-2C meeting along with Q4.

Lee spoke of the 2025 budget needing to be addressed prior to any expenditures. He noted a grant request made by a parent-teacher organization at Thomspson Elementary. Lee will investigate the process.

Shankle referenced the \$350 needed for Internet connectivity.

MOTION: Lee motioned to approve the FY2024 Q2 financial reports. Seconded by Shankle. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. MPD 2nd District Crime and Community Awareness, Captain Sharde Harris, shared.harris@dc.gov, 202.821.8414, Sargent Philip Robinson, or Lieutenant Sylvester Garvin, Sylvester.garvin@dc.gov, 202.774.6866

Lieutenant Garvin addressed civil unrest that occurred last night at several stores in the H Street area. He talked about various robberies. Property crime remains steady. Community outreach has been ongoing with stores lacking alarm systems.

Lieutenant Garvin addressed several drug free zones that will be set up beginning tomorrow.

Commissioner Strauss asked about possible patterns to the crime sprees. Garvin referenced a police-involved shooting that may have spurred the unrest. Strauss also asked about the nature of the alarm systems.

Commissioner Lee inquired as to how many arrests were made. Garvin responded that he believes two arrests occurred.

Commissioner Shankle thanked the police for their service.

2. MPD 1st District Crime and Community Awareness, Captain Paul Hrebenak, Paul.Hrebenak@dc.gov, 202-729-2179 or Lieutenant Jeremy Kniseley, jeremy.kniseley@dc.gov, 202.839.1357.

Lieutenant Alali talked about a continued high police presence owing to last night's events. He referenced a Nicki Minaj/Pink concert at the Capital One Arena that did not end until after midnight when the Metro was closed. Police maintained as strong posture and there were no incidents.

Lieutenant Alili spoke of a 75 percent decrease in robberies from last year, and a drop in homicides. Overall, there are steep declines in crime numbers. Shankle referenced the HUBs and drug-free zones, and additional officers as being productive measures in this crime reduction.

A resident talked about the HUB being poorly marked.

3. Office of Mayor's Office Ward 2 Mayor's Liaisons – Christopher Powell, Ward 2 Liaison, Christopher.powell2@dc.gov, 202.805.7122 and Grace Reeder, Ward 2 Liaison Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), grace.reeder@dc.gov, Ty Abilla, Ward 2 Manager, Tadai.Abilla@dc.gov, 202-297-6566.

A representative from the Office of the Mayor, Ward 2 Manager, Ty Abilla talked about the role of MOCRS and the various services provided. She addressed various job opportunities as well as upcoming job fairs. Abilla talked about September being Suicide Prevention Month. Shankle noted an Asian Pop-up Market Night being held on September 19.

Abilla referenced a few of the mayor's priorities such as with public safety and education. She also noted that the HUB is in a privately owned building.

Commissioner Lee inquired about any progress on an agreement between the major and Monumental Sports. Abilla said that she didn't have anything at this moment but give her an email address and she will follow up.

4. Office of Ward 2 Councilmember Brooke Pinto -- Brooke Pinto Councilmember, Ward 2, bpinto@dccouncil.us, 202-724-8058, Maddy White, mwhite@dccouncil.gov, Brian Romanowski, Constituent Services Director, bromanowski@dccouncil.us, 202-285-9195.

Maddy White spoke of various events attended by the councilmember. She said the Council's fall session will be busy before it concludes in December. There will be one new councilmember at the start of the next session.

Critical priorities include addressing the charges against the Ward 8 councilmember. The Committee on the Judiciary & Public Safety will also take up oversight and legislation relating to the 911 Call Center. Unannounced visits will be had to check on operations. A resident applauded Councilmember Pinto's efforts on the 911 Call Center issue.

Noise issues continue to be a concern. The councilmember has introduced two bills addressing amplified sound in public places and a Harmonious Living Act meeting that is upcoming.

5. DowntownDC BID, Lukas Umana, Director of Public Space Operations, lukas@downtowndc.org, 202.270.0366.

Elloise Johnson talked about a BID conference where ideas were presented. Washington D.C. confronts a lot of issues that other BIDs do not. She spoke of Chinatown safety saying the task force has cultivated strong partnerships with the community. Johnson discussed efforts to beautify the District of Columbia, such as with planters in the Penn Quarter area.

Commissioner Lee spoke of tree blocks looking in need of replacing and harboring rodents. Johnson said many of these are owned by stores and a pilot program is underway to address this matter. The large planters are being addressed before the onset of winter.

A resident talked about the positive resolution of the undesirable situation outside the Wawa store. Johnson addressed getting the help these individuals (and dogs) need. Another talked about rodent problems, especially surrounding a bin at the site of the former Matchbox

restaurant. He stressed that this needs to be fixed. Johnson said she will conduct a walkthrough upon her return to Washington.

6. District of Columbia Office of Human Rights, Language Access Program, Rosa Carrillo, Director, rosa.carrillo3@dc.gov, 202-727-3942.

Rosa Carrillo provided information on the Language Access Program that works towards equal access via language translation and interpretation services. ANCs can be reimbursed for costs they might incur for these services.

A resident asked if American Sign Language is included in the list of languages covered, which it is not, though equipment is covered.

LOCAL EVENTS THAT IMPACT THE COMMUNITY

1. National Veterans Parade, Sunday, November 10, 2024. Francis Ventura, executive director, National Veterans Parade Foundation, fventura@nationalveteransparade.org, 800-942-1960.

2. 7th Race for Every Child 5k sponsored by the Children's National Health System, October 19, 2024. George Banker, committee member Race for Every Child, monkbank@comcast.net, 301-537-6739

3. National Portrait Gallery Light Installation, on the sidewalks, October 16, 2024 to July 24, 2025. Lucas Umana, DowntownDC BID director of public space operations.

MOTION: Shankle motioned to approve the consent agenda as published. Seconded by Strauss. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS LICENSING (ABCA)

1. The Continent DC, LLC, Trade Name: The Continent DC, (ABRA-128701), Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant, Substantial Change, Jeff Jackson, jjharlem112@gmail.com, 202-251-1566.

Commissioner Shankle said this is for a change in hours and the addition of a sidewalk café endorsement for 60 seats. No one from the restaurant was available to present. Commissioner Strauss underscored that they are seeking a live entertainment endorsement.

MOTION: Shankle motioned to approve a letter of support. Seconded by Strauss. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

2. **Gursha 2023, LLC, Trade Name: Gursha Ethiopian Cuisine, (ABRA-127797) Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant Substantial Change, 1195 20th Street, NW. Endale Ashagre, gurshadc@gmail.com, 240-887-5541.**

Commissioner Shankle said this involves a change in hours.

MOTION: Strauss motioned to approve a letter of support. Seconded by Shankle. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

3. **Green Cross, LLC, Trade Name: EasyDay Edibles, (ABRA- 126412) Medical Cannabis Manufacturer, 1915 Eye Street NW. Alan Manstof, amanstof@gmail.com, 240-462-4913.**

Alan Manstof introduced himself as owner of Green Cross, LLC. He noted a zoning change that allowed for manufacturing. Green Cross makes gummies and is now looking to provide for the medical cannabis market. He underscored that this will be a quiet, odor-free manufacturing operation.

MOTION: Shankle motioned to approve a letter of support. Seconded by Strauss. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

MOTION: Shankle motioned to approve a letter of support for a stipulated license. Seconded by Strauss. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

4. **SK Quality Services-US Corp., Trade Name: Cannabliss, (ABRA-127801) Transfer of Location, 1606 K Street NW. Michael Rothman, mike@rothmanlegal.com, 202-903-1059.**

Michael Rothman introduced himself and the company plans to become a destination museum two blocks from the White House. A stipulated license is being sought. He referenced placard hold up. There will be an interior window where people can see the manufacturing process. The museum will have history of prohibition section and a mural at some point in the future.

MOTION: Shankle motioned to approve a letter of support. Seconded by Strauss. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

MOTION: Shankle motioned to approve a letter of support for a stipulated license. Seconded by Lee. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

TRANSPORTATION/PUBLIC SPACE

1. **Restriction of left turns on 11th Street NW, (NOI# 24-248-TDD).** Andrew Grinberg, Transportation Planner, Transit Delivery Division, District Department of Transportation, Andrew.grinberg@dc.gov.

Andrew Grinberg noted safety measures associated with this change. He said this is a unique situation on the 11th Street NW corridor, between K Street and New York Avenue, and a left turn restriction that would better accommodate traffic. This will increase overall safety.

Commissioner Shankle noted there is no existing center turn lane. Grinberg spoke of poor sight lines. Shankle said he likes the purpose but not the concept as presented. Shankle asked how many accidents have happened here, to which Grinberg says crash data exists but he does not have it on hand.

MOTION: Shankle motioned to table until the next meeting an a church and area businesses can be consulted, though he understands the safety challenges. Seconded by Strauss. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

PLANNING, ZONING, ENVIRONMENT, and HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1. **901 New York Avenue NW., Update PUD Modification of Consequence (ZC 01-01B).** Lawrence Ferris, goulston&storrs, lferris@goulstonstorrs.com, 202-721-1135

Lawrence Ferris outlined the change within the overall scope of the modification of consequence. This is a minor change to the design. A new architect has taken over and mild, thoughtful changes have been made.

MOTION: Shankle motioned to send a letter of support for the new design direction. Seconded by Strauss. Approved. (Vote 2-0-1)

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Shankle motioned to Adjourn at 8:29 pm. Seconded by Strauss. (Vote 2-0-1)

Next Meeting
Tuesday, October 8, 2024, 6 p.m. (Tentative)

Minutes Submitted by: Minutes Services

Minutes Approved by: MDS

Meetings will continue to be held on the second Tuesday of each month throughout 2024.

ANC Commissioners and Website

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www.anc2c.us

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

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