



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

Michael Shankle 2C01, Chair
Jim Swart 2C04, Vice Chair
Thomas Lee 2C03, Treasurer
Nancy Groth 2C02, Secretary
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Government of the District of Columbia

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2C

October 2025 Meeting Minutes

DATE: October 14, 2025

ANC-2C COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Commissioner Nancy Groth, Commissioner Thomas Lee, Commissioner Jim Swart

ANC-2C COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Commissioner Michael Shankle

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Commissioner Swart called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm ([2025 October 14 ANC 2C Community Meeting \(youtube.com\)](#)).

2. ROLL CALL:

Three out of the four commissioners were present when the meeting was called to order.

3. INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSIONERS:

The commissioners introduced themselves.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: Swart moved to approve the agenda as amended. Seconded by Groth. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

August 20, 2025, August 28, 2025, special, and September 9, 2025:

MOTION: Swart moved to approve the August 20, 2025, August 28, 2025, and September 9, 2025, meeting minutes. Seconded by Lee. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

6. TREASURER REPORT:

Commissioner Lee reported that he wrote two checks as of September, one for reimbursement for software expenses to Commissioner Groth and the other for the notetaking company. There was \$1,135 in expenses, leaving \$60,498.82. A finalized Q4 fiscal report would be provided at the next meeting to be approved after the checks are through. Commissioner Groth noted that invoices needed to be uploaded for the Office of ANCs. Commissioner Lee confirmed that he

uploaded them and needed to work on the close-out reports for the grants provided to the Thompson Parent Teachers' Association.

7. OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

1. Website Refresh: Commissioner Groth reported that she hoped the administrative support person would be able to assist with the website refresh once hired.

2. Admin Support: Commissioner Groth reported that the job posting needed to be completed. She would follow up with Commissioner Shankle when he returned.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. MPD 2nd District Crime and Community Awareness, Captain Michael Hamelin, Michael.hamelin@dc.gov, 202.698.1405, or Lieutenant Sylvester Garvin, Sylvester.garvin@dc.gov, 202.774.6866

Lieutenant Garvin reported that there was a robbery snatch on October 4, in which the suspect snatched a cell phone out of the victim's hand and tried to wire money from the victim's phone. Money was wired from the bank account, which was traceable, so the case was expected to be closed shortly. Overall, property crime was down 78%, and retail thefts were down by 40%. Some of the stores that had ongoing issues had several arrests, including a repeat CVS offender. Several arrests were made on the 1300 block of New York Avenue for the distribution and possession of cocaine, but there were other issues ongoing. There was a meeting scheduled for October 16 with the Downtown BID to address the issue collectively. The Department of Public Works and other organizations would be included in the meeting to help the affected individuals. Federal partners were being worked with for crime suppression, and success was seen in multiple years. The thefts may increase as the holiday season starts. The security teams at Macy's, Lululemon, and Sephora were being worked with in preparation. Lieutenant Garvin provided some tips, including to park in well-lit areas, not leaving valuables visible, and securing vehicles properly. There was a decline in crime and complaints, partially due to the partnership with the Secret Service and Metro Transit.

Commissioner Swart thanked Lieutenant Garvin and the Commander for the walkthrough held in September.

Commissioner Groth asked if there would be any report out after the meeting with the organizations. Lieutenant Garvin reported that Lukas Umana with the DC BID would be the best contact, and he would have notes. Commissioner Groth reported that, on October 2, there was a political protestor, who has lived unhoused near McPherson Square for some years, who was in passive non-resistance for an FD12 detainment and MPD was seen dragging him across the sidewalk. A passersby posted video on social media, where multiple passersby could be heard advocating for the protestor's safety and dignity. Groth raised concerns about MPD having enough training for safe lifting practices. Lieutenant Garvin stated that he would have to see

the video to get a better understanding; Commissioner Groth will forward the video to MPD 2D officers including Lieutenant Garvin.

2. MPD 1st District Crime and Community Awareness, Captain Paul Hrebenak, Paul.Hrebenak@dc.gov, 202-729-2179 or Lieutenant Araz Alal, Araz.Alali@dc.gov, 202.698.0066.

No one was present from the MPD 1st District Crime and Community Awareness.

3. Metro Transit Police Department, Deputy Chief Stephen Boehm, SBoehm@wmata.com, Captain Aaron Donald, Adonald@wmata.com, District 1 Commander, Lieutenant David Barga, dbarga@wmata.com, District One Evenings, 202-306-5783.

Lieutenant Barga reported that there were no specific crime spikes. They had coverage at all times at Gallery Place.

Commissioner Swart asked about the National Guard and how everything was working out. Lieutenant Barga reported that the National Guard was in a number of metro stations, and they were mostly just a presence. There had been some assaults against the Guard.

Commissioner Lee asked if the National Guard was still carrying long arms in the metro system. Lieutenant Barga reported that they requested that side arms be carried in the stations, but some were only qualified on their long arms. Their directive was to be armed, so that was how some individuals were showing up. The Guard seemed to be doing their best to respect the request to carry sidearms.

4. Office of Mayor's Office Ward 2 Mayor's Liaisons – Tadai Abilla, Ward 2 Liaison, Tadai.Abilla@dc.gov, 202.805.7122 and Adriana Macedonio, Ward 2 Liaison, Adriana.Macedonio@dc.gov.

Adriana Macedonia welcomed the new team member, Charity Beam, as the new faith community liaison. She introduced herself. Adriana Macedonia reported that leaf collection would start on November 3, and an email would be sent to all ANCs once the website was live with the information. She reported that streetery closures were coming into effect starting in November. There were ongoing incidents that they continued to follow up on.

Commissioner Swart asked how the budget funding for the Amplified Sound Mitigation Act looked at the current time. Adriana Macedonia stated that the Mayor was strategically trying to put money where it was needed. She noted that declines were seen in tax revenues from businesses and restaurants. She stated that she would send an email with all resources by the end of the week.

Commissioner Groth asked when the FY25 books would be closed to see if there was additional revenue for the list of 'next priorities' including the implementation of the Amplified Sound

Mitigation Act. Adriana Macedonia reported that she was unaware of a specific date, but she would follow up and get an answer to Commissioners Swart and Groth by October 15.

Commissioner Groth encouraged Charity Beam to follow the work of the Washington Interfaith Network. Charity Beam stated that they were on her radar.

Commissioner Groth asked for any assistance with the Department of Health because she believed the FD12 detention of her unhoused constituent was politically motivated and a pretext for the DPW clearing of his belongings from public space. Adriana Macedonia stated that she would connect her with someone who may be able to help.

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

Diya Mehta introduced herself and reported that she was the new Constituents Services Coordinator. She discussed that the federal government was shut down, which had major impacts on the local economy. The Council allowed the Mayor to issue marriage licenses for the duration of the shutdown while the courts were closed, and guidance was available. Many residents were facing hardship, and everyone was reminded that they could contact the office for assistance with services. Councilmember Pinto was meeting with members from Congress from both parties to prevent many bills attacking DC home rule from passing. At the September legislative meeting, they voted to finalize the RFK Stadium deal and to approve a 13% pay increase to the local MPD officers and recruits to help with recruitment efforts and retention challenges. At the recent legislative session, the bill for juvenile curfew was postponed until later in October. Councilmember Pinto remained focused on improving public safety, including continued oversight of the 911 call centers at the Office of Unified Communications. On October 23 at 9:30 a.m., Councilmember Pinto will be holding a roundtable for emergency planning and response with the recent incident in Ward 2. Additional public safety-related hearings were being explored in the coming months. DDOT's permanent streaterly regulations were going into effect in November.

Commissioner Groth asked if there was a list of which streateries would remain and which would not. Diya Mehta stated that she would communicate with DDOT about it.

Commissioner Swart stated that he heard that Councilmember Pinto was considering a run for political office and discussed that her influence and work in Ward 2 had been very good for the ward.

6. DowntownDC BID, Ellouise Johnson, Deputy Director of Public Space Operations, Lukas Umana, Director of Public Space Operations, lukas@downtowndc.org, 202.270.0366.

Ellouise Johnson presented the Clean and Safe Data for August and September 2025, highlighting that trash collection was relatively high, the safety team completed close to 720

hours in September, and they were able to connect with police regarding some individuals who were antagonizing businesses and restaurants. Ellouise Johnson noted the uptick in the unhoused community, and they were making efforts to engage with the individuals. The other daily functions of the BID operation team included a coat drive to support the unhoused community, maintenance of parks to make them inviting, and activation of Anthem's Row as a result of the Streets for People Grant. On October 16, there would be a festival to highlight all of the action taken to highlight Anthem's Row.

Ellouise Johnson notified everyone that there would be an upcoming activation for Howard Homecoming on Anthem Row on Friday, October 24. The other upcoming activations were presented. Over the past month, efforts to bring more creativity were made, including a mural in partnership with the Westin Hotel on Anthem Row and Anthony James sculptures. City Tap House was an integral part of the activation of Anthem Row. Ellouise Johnson confirmed that the grant was back in place for FY 2026. The smart tags that had been providing updates were a major component of the Safety Team.

Commissioner Groth noted that the ANC 2C was trying to do more partnerships with Thomson Elementary School, and they would like more partnerships with the business community. She asked who at the BID would be the best contact. Ellouise Johnson suggested reaching out to Gerren and Rachel.

Commissioner Swart invited Ellouise Johnson to stay for the next set of presentations. He commented on the recent successful events at Anthem Row.

Commissioner Lee asked for an update on the Holiday Market. Ellouise Johnson reported that they had another meeting to discuss the logistics on October 14. The Market expanded its footprint, and they were narrowing down the vendors and the type of vendors to ensure that there was not too much overlap. The road closures would begin on November 9, and the operator would remain the same as in 2024.

COMFORT BREAK

NEIGHBORHOOD COLLABORATIONS FOLLOWUP

1. Chinatown revitalization effort, successor to Task Force. ANC 2C liaison Commissioner Swart 703-622-3187 2c04@anc.dc.gov.

Commissioner Swart discussed the Chinatown revitalization effort. The task force was made up of Tim Ma and Winston Lord, and they were very dedicated to items that would help the community, as well as being open to speaking to people about the items. They were invited to speak at the November ANC meeting to discuss their goals and responsibilities. He invited anyone with any ideas or issues to let him know and encouraged everyone to attend the next meeting.

It was asked if there was a timeline for expansion and goals, and if questions for the November meeting could be submitted. Commissioner Swart reported that they would learn about those types of things when they came to the ANC meeting in November. He encouraged submitting questions in advance.

2. Thomson Elementary School PTO support for DDOT safety, access to business partnerships. ANC 2C liaison Commissioner Groth 771-209-4799 2C02@anc.dc.gov.

Commissioner Groth reported that she had a Zoom meeting with some parents from the PTO and was in contact with the Principal and Vice Principal. The main goals were pedestrian safety and having a more systemic response and business partnerships.

Ellouise Johnson suggested using Anthem's Row or Franklin Row to do something festive for the holiday for students and parents. Commissioner Groth stated that she would take that suggestion back to the group.

Commissioner Swart agreed that safety was important and thanked Commissioner Groth for her efforts.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Senior Wellness Center Task Force for Ward 2 and Ward 3. Final Town Hall held in Ward 2, Mt. Bethel Baptist Church, September 16, about findings of the Task Force, moving to recommendations for site selections. Commissioner Groth 771-209-4799 2C02@anc.dc.gov.

Commissioner Groth announced that the Senior Wellness Center Task Force had wrapped up at the end of September. There was a well-attended town hall on September 16 at New Bethel Baptist Church in the Shaw neighborhood, and many good relationships were formed. It had become clear that the funding was for a Ward Two senior wellness center.

LOCAL EVENTS THAT IMPACT THE COMMUNITY (CONSENT AGENDA)

1. Lunar New Year Parade, February 22, 2026, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association of Washington DC, Hon Yuen Wong, MD, and Rita Lee, ritacrlee5168@gmail.com

Rita Lee reported that the Lunar New Year Parade would be held on February 22, 2026. For the year of the dragon, there were over 40,000 people in attendance. For 2026, the year of the horse, over 20,000 people were anticipated. There was a task force to help bring more people to the neighborhood and make it like it used to be. Rita Lee stated that they were looking forward to working with Commissioner Swart and the community. The documentation was submitted. The parade would occur at 2:00 p.m. and a ceremony would be held at 3:00 p.m., followed by firecrackers at 4:00 p.m.

Commissioner Swart commented that they looked forward to the event every year and would be working with the Chinatown Revitalization Task Force.

Commissioner Groth stated that she would be happy to send any information needed while Commissioner Shankle was away for 10 days.

2. National Veterans Parade, November 11, 2025, Francis Ventura, Executive Director, National Veterans Parade Foundation, 202-674-8490, fventura@nationalveteransparade.org.

Francis Ventura reported that the parade would be held on Sunday, November 9. There were over 100 units, 20 marching bands, 35 veterans service organizations, plenty of media, and more. Upwards of 40,000 attendees were expected. There were no charges to the veterans, and they relied solely on sponsors. The platform for the current year was veteran suicide awareness. There was a spike in the hotel rates for that weekend, so it was expected that many were coming from outside of the area. He stated that anything that the Commission could do to help promote the event would be great.

Commissioner Swart stated that they would look into putting information on the website. Francis Ventura stated that they could share their website, which had all of the information regarding the event.

MOTION: Swart moved to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Lee. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE AND CANNABIS LICENSING (ABCA)

1. Le Midi, Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant, 1100 New York Avenue, NW, ABRA-133012, Matthew Minora (202)625-7700, mminora@malliosbrien.com

No one was in attendance for Le Midi.

2. The Continent, DC, LLC, Trade Name: The Continent, Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant, 1110 Vermont Avenue, N.W., ABRA-128701, Jeff Jackson (202)251-1566, jjharlem112@gmail.com. Applicant requests a Class Change from a Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant to a Retailer's Class "C" Tavern. Additionally, Applicant requests to change the Hours of Live Entertainment inside the premises only.

Commissioner Groth reported that she sent information, including a draft of the protest letter, that protested the class change. The Continent wanted to change their license class from a restaurant to a tavern. Commissioner Groth noted that she had expressed her concerns to attorney of record Jeff Jackson, and he had stated that he would draft a community agreement, but he had failed to. He said that they only wanted to change classes to avoid the paperwork and having to show that 45% of their receipts were food-generated. Commissioner Groth discussed her concerns about the opening in Spring 2026 of an office-conversion project, to

become a 264-unit residential building that would have balconies backing to the restaurant. She stated that her purpose in issuing the protest was simply to get a response from Jeff Jackson in order to create a Community Agreement with articulated boundaries for operations and impact on future residential neighbors.

MOTION: Groth moved to issue the protest letter as drafted. Seconded by Lee. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SPACE

1. Safety Treatment at 9th ST and Constitution NW Intersection, NOI-25-212-MSED. Christine E. Mayeur, Associate Director, Multimodal Safety Engineering Division, Traffic Safety Administration, DDOT, K. Kelly Jeong-Olson, Communications Manager, 202-345-7105, Kelly.jeong-olson1@dc.gov.

Kelly Jeong-Olson reported that there was a severe injury crash, so quick action was taken to improve pedestrian safety. There was currently a no left-turn sign, but the sign was being improved, and bumps were being added to make it harder to make an illegal left turn. It also slowed down traffic to improve pedestrian safety. There would be signs added to disallow turning right on red.

MOTION: Groth moved to send an email or letter of support for the safety treatment at the 9th Street and Constitution NW intersection. Seconded by Lee. (Vote 3-0-0)

Commissioner Lee stated that he would send the letter or email.

PLANNING, ZONING, ENVIRONMENT, and HISTORIC PRESERVATION

1. BZA Application for 1128 16th St. NW (BZA Application No. 21380) Cary R. Kadlecek, Goulston & Storrs, 202-721-1113, CKadlecek@goulstonstorrs.com.

Cary Kadlecek presented an overview of the application. The location was near Stanford University's DC building for the occupancy of the Hoover Institution. The Hoover Institution was a leading public policy think tank looking to establish its presence. The property location was reviewed. The building was a four-story historic building constructed in 1906, and it was the only building in the neighborhood from that time still around. The site plan was presented, and the non-conforming yard was noted. The plan was to renovate the building, bring it up to code, modernize it, and utilize it for offices, researchers, and meetings. A new penthouse and stairway would be added to make it more accessible and modern. There were three areas of relief exemption being sought: one for the penthouse setback of the elevator, for the rear yard, and a small variance for the non-residential FAR due to the stair addition. It was a minor variance, but it had to be requested due to the already non-conforming parts of the building. Cary Kadlecek discussed the importance of the multipurpose space to host the events. The multipurpose room drove the need for the stairway and the requested relief. Renderings of the

building were reviewed. Approximately 17 feet of relief were being sought in relation to the elevator. The stairwell was shifted to be inside the building so that only the minimum amount of relief was needed. The project had been approved by the HBRB.

Commissioner Groth asked if there were any impacts to or from National Geographic. Cary Kadlecek explained that all of National Geographic's projects would not conflict with the Hoover Institution's construction. It was also anticipated that there would be very little overlap with construction time. Commissioner Groth asked if any sidewalks would have to be closed. David Coxson reported that they were still finalizing plans, but all of the staging would occur in the front yard, and a minimal amount of work would be done during work hours in the alley. They were strategizing how to best minimize the impact.

Commissioner Swart asked if after-hours work permits would be requested. David Coxson stated that they would not be in order to minimize the impact on the community.

Commissioner Swart asked if there would be freight elevators. David Coxson stated that they were not in the plan, both within and on the exterior of the building.

MOTION: Groth moved to send an email or letter of support for the BZA Application for 1128 16th St. NW. Seconded by Swart. (Vote 3-0-0)

2. BZA Application for 725 12th ST NW (DDOT Public Space Permit #476143) and BZA Case Number 21395. Sean Sullivan, VP, Development, bxp, 202-585-0845, ssullivan@bxp.com.

Sean Sullivan and David Avitable presented on the new office building at 725 12th Street NW. Sean Sullivan presented the rendering of the building and the site context of the building. He noted that there was a small, four-story projection within the property line that would serve a law firm. The fifth floor included an entertainment deck. He reviewed the fifth-floor terrace, highlighting that their goals were shade and privacy from both the 6th floor above and the above balconies. There were 72 square feet that were in violation of the one-to-one setback requirement. It was largely unseen from the street level and was relatively small, so relief for that area was being sought.

David Avitable noted that the requirements were met and highlighted that it was a lower roof that was not discordant with the intent of the regulations. There were no meaningful adverse impacts, and it resulted in a better, more consistent design. A case hearing was set for January 21, 2026, and the Office of Planning provided initial support.

Commissioner Swart asked if the roof would mainly be a rectangular look rather than a curve. Sean Sullivan explained that the area could be squared off, but having the curve addressed the privacy concern as well as being more consistent with the rest of the design.

It was noted that it was in Commissioner Shankle's area.

Sean Sullivan stated that he would be happy to do a short presentation in November when he was present for a separate item.

Sean Sullivan confirmed that he would email the slide deck to Commissioner Groth so that she could attach it to the minutes.

MOTION: Swart moved to table the BZA Application for 725 12th St. NW. Seconded by Lee. (Vote 3-0-0)

OTHER

1. Project at 722 7th ST NW, Raising Cane's Sign. Office of Planning, Chinatown Design Review Application. Kandyn Leach, Senior Permitting Manager, Signage Solutions, kleach@agi.net.

Kandyn Leach reported that Raising Cane's previously got approval for several signs. She presented the phase two signage, including an artistic rendering. The Raising Cane's cabinet sign with Raising Cane's letters, the open sign, and two projecting flag signs were included. There were other signage options in an effort to bring the Chinatown design and vibe to the specific location. A mix of direct translations with both English and Chinese, and just incorporating the Chinese copy, was the option. In the first application, the sign only said Raising Cane's, but they wanted to incorporate the full name of Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers as well for the primary sign on the storefront. Images of the proposed signs were presented. There was a clear backer panel with faux neon letters to incorporate the bright letters of the Chinatown district. The open sign had been approved and installed and had no changes. The chicken fingers sign, the sauce sign, and the fresh-squeezed lemon signs were presented.

Commissioner Lee asked if an expert had worked with them on the translations. Kandyn Leach confirmed that they had, and Leon, with the Chinatown review board, had approved it as well. It was confirmed that it translated back to chicken strips rather than actual fingers.

Commissioner Swart commented that he appreciated that locals were involved.

Kandyn Leach stated that their grand opening was scheduled for later in October, so they would like the approvals as soon as they could.

MOTION: Lee moved to approve sending a letter of support for the project at 722 7th St NW for Raising Cane's signage. Seconded by Swart. Approved unanimously. (Vote 3-0-0)

Commissioner Lee stated that he would write the letter of support. Commissioner Groth stated that she could sign it.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Swart moved to Adjourn at 8:35 pm. Seconded by Groth. (Vote 3-0-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Minutes Submitted by: Minutes Services

Minutes Approved by:

Next Meeting: November 4, 2025, 6:00 pm. It will be a hybrid format.

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed public meeting held on December 9, 2025, with a quorum of 4 of 4 commissioners being present, Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC”) 2C voted to approve these Minutes by a vote of 4-0-0.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION

Sincerely,

Nancy Groth electronic signature

Nancy Groth, Secretary, ANC 2C