

Minutes
Membership Meeting
January 16, 2014

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:10pm.

We began the meeting with presentations from owners and/or partners of **New Town** (Tabaq) and **Amsterdam Falafel**. Mr. Howsoon Cham (202-265-0965, 63?) managed Red Ginger in Georgetown for 9 years. Aileen Johnson expressed dismay at current events at New Town such as the noise, colored lights from the balcony, DJ “set up”, etc. A Motion to Protest was made and seconded, and carried unanimously to a submit letter with these concerns to the City Council. Mr. Cham seemed surprised that there were any objections but said he would make himself more available by phone and email to discuss our concerns.

Mr. Dane Sloan explained that he was manager of the franchise for Amsterdam Falafel and that the only beer served there will be Dutch beer in cans. Mr. Sloan stated that Amsterdam is designed to cater to people who have already been to other establishments in the area to drink and eat, and that he hopes his restaurant will provide a place for quiet relaxation before heading home. He was not aware of the rat problem and the popularity of trash compactors to combat this. He said that he did not believe in Voluntary Agreements, and Ramon added in a diplomatic way the need for amicable discussion of issues in order to increase understanding of all parties concerned in the neighborhood and future businesses. A Motion to Protest was made and seconded and carried unanimously. Mr. Sloan gave his contact information to Joan Sterling which included telephone (202-329-9410) and email (dane@falafelshop.com).

The Treasurer’s Report indicated we have \$1,129.21 currently which should increase upon receiving dues for 2014. A motion was made and carried to donate once again \$100 to the Thurgood Marshall Center where our meetings are held every third Thursday of the month unless otherwise indicated.

Ramon mentioned that owners of 1442 T St, NW will be petitioning for permission to erect a roof deck, a third floor, on their house, and that he hopes the developer will be persuaded to re-design the plan; a plan to set the development back far enough so the proposed third floor cannot be seen from the street was one suggestion. None of the private dwellings on T Street have third floors.

Although there were other topics for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15pm, due to inclement weather and work obligations for the following day.