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Support for voluntary agreement terminations

Passed by 4 to 0 vote at the legally noticed, public meeting of ANC1D on June 5, 2007, with a quorum present.

Resolved, that ANC1D advises the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board to approve the requests by the NHV Corporation (Haydee's Restaurant), Don Juan Restaurant, Inc. (Don Juan's Restaurant), and Jaime Carrillo (Don Jaime Restaurant), for termination of their voluntary agreements.

Why: The demographics of Mount Pleasant have changed very substantially during the past decade, as rapidly increasing property values and rents have brought about a great change in the average income level of residents.

Mount Pleasant is currently developing innovative procedures for dealing with the consequences of restaurants on the area, including the creation of a Neighborhood Hospitality Council to address any problems, without resorting to calling on ABRA inspectors. Problems of peace, order, and quiet in the community will be more quickly and effectively dealt with by direct action via such a Council, than by calling in inspectors, whose punishment restaurants for actions which take place outside their places of business are ineffectual, as evidenced by current complaints of public disturbances, despite the current voluntary agreements. A better method must be found, and ANC1D believes that neighborhood Councils will be a much more effective solution to the problem.

The termination of the current voluntary agreements will be temporary, as new agreements will be written as part of the license renewal process.

The existing voluntary agreements were developed by a secretive and discriminatory neighborhood organization. The Mount Pleasant Neighborhood Alliance develops its voluntary agreements behind closed doors, excluding not only the public but its own membership from participation. Residents of Mount Pleasant report that their attempts to join this organization are denied, with no explanation, not even an acknowledgment.