

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Minutes
Miner Elementary School
March 8, 2018**

Present: Commissioners Phil Toomajian (Chair), Marie Claire Brown, Sondra-Phillips-Gilbert, Patrick Malone, Mike Soderman, Amber Gove, Stephanie Zimny and Calvin Ward

The meeting convened at 7:05 pm.

Chairman Toomajian called the meeting to order and announced the presence of a quorum. The minutes for the ANC February 2018 meeting were accepted as amended, and the agenda for the February 2018 meeting was accepted without changes or objection. Chairman Toomajian introduced Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen.

Community Presentations

Charles Allen, Ward 6 Councilmember, Council of the District of Columbia

Councilmember Charles Allen provided an overview of activities, programs and initiatives of the DC Council affecting Ward 6. He spoke about upcoming budget hearings and announced a Ward 6 Town Hall meeting to review budget issues with the public, to be held April 23, 2018, from 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm at Watkins Elementary School. He also spoke of pushing to prioritize the modernization schedule of the schools in Ward 6, particularly of the middle schools over the last three years. He was able to add over \$200 million dollars to the modernization effort and commented on the continuing effort to improve play spaces, citing Miner and Tyler Elementary Schools. Councilmember Allen addressed public safety initiatives, providing comments about the NEAR Act, housing initiatives for police officers and firefighters, and the Office of Safety Engagement (ONSE). He answered questions on the resignation of the D.C. Schools Chancellor, and about Dr. Amanda Alexander, the interim Chancellor, in addition to speaking about graduation rates and residency fraud issues. Councilmember Allen provided comments on the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (TOPA), and addressed the plan to shutter DC General by the end of the year, and the plan to replace it with 8 emergency family style housing buildings. Councilmember Allen commented on Linden Court and safety issues of its use by larger vehicles servicing businesses and residential needs.

Michelle M. Garcia, Director, DC Office of Victims Services and Justice Grants (OVSJG)

Director Michelle Garcia described the mission of the OVSJG, which includes coordinating funds and developing programs that increase public safety, enhance the administration of justice, and create continuums of care for victims of crime. She spoke about their Truancy Reduction Program, including "Show Up, Stand Out," (SUSO) which works with elementary and middle school students to address the underlying reasons for absences and removing barriers to school attendance. In ANC 6A, this program is active at Eliot Hine Middle School, and had previously been active at Miner Elementary, but due to a successful drop in truancy rates, the program is no longer operational there. She announced a pilot program that focuses on high schools, including Eastern High School. Director Garcia spoke about private security camera incentive program and the DC Victim Hotline. Director Garcia answered questions regarding eligibility for the camera voucher program, and also clarified that the camera program is not a surveillance program and that the resident or business owner owns the footage and is not required to provide it to MPD.

Amy Mauro, DC Fire and EMS

Ms. Amy Mauro announced a new initiative, "Right Here Right Now," that will be launched on April 19, 2018 to address the high rate of using 911 for non-emergency medical issues. The program will connect non-emergency callers to 911 to a trained nurse located in the emergency center who will refer the caller to a community clinic or nearby urgent care facility.

Officer Reports

Chairman Toomajian announced that Gerard Brown of the Department of Health (DOH) Rodent Abatement program will be in attendance next month. He also announced that the Kingman Park Historic District application hearing will resume before the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) on April 26, 2018.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Stephanie Zimny presented the Treasurer's Report, which included an amendment. Check #1826 for the DC Treasurer for \$845.28 for the use of Miner Elementary will be reissued to the DC Treasurer rather than to DGS as it was initially drafted. There were disbursements of \$849.50 for webmaster, agenda, notetaking and FedEx expenses, leaving a balance of \$6,883.88. There is a balance of \$13,771.35 in the savings account.

The report was approved by unanimous consent.

Committee Reports

Community Outreach Committee (COC)

The February 2018 report was accepted by unanimous consent.

Motion: The Committee recommended, and Ryan Iwai of the Ludlow Taylor Grant Committee presented the recommendation that ANC 6A approves the Ludlow Taylor Parent Teacher Organization (LTES PTO) grant application for \$966.50 for the purchase of sixteen (16) Chromebooks and a charging cart for its third grade classrooms. Chairman Toomajian seconded the motion.

Chairman Toomajian asked to confirm that DCPS will not fund this directly, and this was confirmed. The motion passed 7-0.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, March 19, 2018.

Alcohol Beverage Licensing (ABL)

The ABL did not meet in February 2018.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, March 20, 2018

Transportation and Public Space (TPS)

The February 2018 report was accepted by unanimous consent.

Motion: Chairman Toomajian moved and Commissioner Mike Soderman seconded the motion to send a letter to Councilmember Allen in support of naming an alley in the 600 block of Eleventh (11th) Street NE as "Bruce Robey Way." The motion passed 7-0.

Motion: Commissioner Soderman presented and Commissioner Sondra Philips-Gilbert seconded the motion to send a letter to Councilmember Allen in support of a ceremonial renaming of

the 200 block of Tenth (10th) Street NE as “Outlaw Way” in honor of Pocahontas Outlaw. The motion passed 7-0.

Motion: The Committee recommended, and Commissioner Toomajian seconded the motion to send a letter to the DDOT Public Space Committee in opposition to an application for a street fixture on public space at 809 Twelfth (12th) Street NE. After discussion, the motion failed 3-4.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, March 19, 2018.

Economic Development and Zoning (EDZ)

The February 2018 report was accepted by unanimous consent.

Motion: The Committee recommended, and Commissioner Amber Gove seconded the motion to send a letter of support to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) for a special exception under Subtitle E § 5201 from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E § 304.1 and from the nonconforming structure requirements of of Subtitle C § 202.2, to enclose a rear, third floor deck in an existing one-family dwelling in the RF-1 Zone at 1226 North Carolina Avenue NE (BZA #19593), on the condition that the applicant make best efforts to provide the underlying information from their shadow study to their immediate neighbor who is currently opposed to the request. The motion passed 6-0.

Motion: The Committee recommended and Commissioner Patrick Malone seconded the motion to send a letter to DC Council Chair Phil Mendelson to oppose the current draft of the proposed Framework Element of the DC Comprehensive Plan. The motion passed 7-0.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, March 21, 2018

New Business

Chairman Toomajian stated that, a couple of years ago, ANC 6A sent a letter to the DC Council requesting funding for sign language interpreters to be used to accommodate hearing impaired residents at ANC meetings. Councilmember Allen was able to incorporate funding for this purpose. That funding has now expired and there is no funding currently for ANCs; they must fund those services themselves.

Motion: Chairman Toomajian moved and Commissioner Marie Claire Brown seconded the motion to send a letter to the DC Council requesting reinstatement of the ANC sign language interpreter fund, in addition to authorizing Commissioner Brown to represent the ANC to the DC Council on this matter. After some discussion, the motion passed 7-0.

Single Member District Reports

Commissioner Soderman (6A03) announced that he testified in front of DC Council Chairman Phil Mendelson’s committee on behalf of legislation to designate the alley located between Tenth (10th) Street NE and Eleventh (11th) Street NE as Al and Mary Arrighi Way.

Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert (6A07) announced that she will hold a Public Safety Walk on Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at 2:00 pm.

Commissioner Malone (6A05) spoke of alleys in poor condition, and he is continuing efforts to organize people as much as possible to address that issue. He encouraged residents to enroll in the Books from Birth program at www.dc.org/freebooks.

Chairman Toomajian (6A02) described walking with rat terriers in Sherwood, and extolled their efficacy in rodent abatement. He stated that rat terriers (small dogs) are especially helpful in areas where the more commonly used snap traps would not be appropriate, such as schools are areas with children present. They are controlled by contractors who assist the Department of General Services (DGS) in rodent abatement.

Commissioner Brown (6A01) reminded everyone to sign the petition “Save the DC Tuition Assistance Grant Program (DC TAG)”. She also gave a reminder that thousands of people, a lot of them youth that are unfamiliar with the city, are expected for the March for Our Lives event, as well as normal tourist activities associated with the cherry blossoms. She asked that residents be alert and helpful.

Commissioner Gove (6A04) announced that active demolition is underway at Maury Elementary School. She also announced that there is a community meeting on March 21, 2018, at 6:00 pm at the Maury Village site (1840 Constitution Avenue NE). She reported that there is a new speed camera at that location to catch eastbound drivers on the 1800 block of C Street NE. She announced the first of the community litter clean-ups at Eliot Hine Middle School and Maury Middle School on March 9, 2018, and it is a joint project between the two schools. Commissioner Gove has worked with Commissioner Zimny on a joint litter clean-up project, gloves and trash bags are provided to volunteers, and area businesses agree to place the trash in their dumpsters. Approximately 6-8 businesses have been identified as participants, and on April 7th, 2018, at 10:00 am volunteers and businesses will meet at the 7-11 on Fifteenth (15th) Street SE and Independence Ave SE, where they will fan out to pick up litter. Councilmember Allen will be in attendance to provide remarks.

Commissioner Gove gave Commissioner Zimny’s (6A06) report due to her early departure. Commissioner Zimny has been working on a similar litter clean-up, with Tony’s Breakfast supporting that effort, and is still working out a date.

Commissioner Ward (6A08) reported that there has been an uptick in stolen vehicles being parked in the alleys by D Street NE and E Street NE, and Seventeenth (17th) Street NE and Eighteenth (18th) Street NE. He asked that if anyone sees a car dumped in that alley, to contact him so he could report it to DDOT. He also reported receiving complaints about stolen packages, and recommended installing cameras or sending packages to an alternative location, such as a place of work.

Community Comments

A community member presented comments of support for efforts by the DC Council to end its relationship with Wells Fargo based on violations of the Fair Housing Act, fraud scandals, and their failure to maintain a satisfactory rating on its Community Reinvestment Act Exam. She asked that ANC 6A assist in placing pressure on the DC Council and the Mayor’s Office to end the relationship with Wells Fargo and Proposed Resolution 188, or the Sense of the Council Urging Reassessment of Relationship with Wells Fargo.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.