

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Minutes
Miner Elementary School
May 10, 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 Phil Toomajian called the meeting to order and announced the presence of a quorum. The minutes for the ANC April 2018 meeting were accepted, and the agenda for the May 2018 meeting was accepted without changes or objection.

Chairman Toomajian introduced Derek Voight (Traffic Operations and Safety Division) and Lee Goodall (Community Engagement Manager) of the District Department of Transportation (DDOT), who were present to report their findings after completing traffic studies on specific blocks and intersections that the ANC had previously flagged for safety concerns, namely 400-600 blocks of Tenth (10th) Street NE and the intersection of Eighth (8th) and D Streets NE. The ANC had requested that this intersection be converted into an all-way stop. Mr. Goodall distributed the DDOT Intersection Investigation Report on Eighth (8th) and D Streets NE for reference.

Community Presentations

Derek Voight, Traffic Operations and Safety Division, DDOT

Mr. Voight presented the Intersection Investigation Report on Eighth (8th) and D Streets NE to the Commission. He began by presenting crash history data of the intersection between January 2015 and March 2018, which indicated a positive, downward trend in police-reported crashes. DDOT performed a site visit on March 9, 2018, to view the intersection's geometry and operations. They concluded that the sightlines approaching the intersection were adequate, with the exception of illegally parked cars and a bush on the northeast corner. Mr. Voight stated that improving parking compliance through engineering countermeasures and discouraging illegally passing of vehicles, pedestrians will be more visible to motorists. He announced that DDOT will be conducting a "step out" survey using trained observers to determine the percentage of motorists that yield to pedestrians in the crosswalks at this intersection. Mr. Voight reported that following an all-way stop investigation, that the intersection did not meet the criteria to warrant an all-way stop as a traffic control device. Specifically, the intersection did not meet the criteria for volume thresholds (inclusive of pedestrian, bicycle, and vehicle volumes) and the historical crash data did not form a pattern where an all-way stop may ameliorate the issue. He clarified that volume threshold data was collected in July 2017 over a period of six (6) hours over one day. Mr. Voight put forth several engineering countermeasures, both near-term and long-term, that could be implemented to address the safety issues at the intersection in lieu of an all-way stop. Mr. Voight responded to numerous questions from the Commissioners and residents alike, including Lindy Campbell, owner of Music on the Hill, whose business is located at the intersection. Many questioned the logic behind gathering volume data during the summer season, when nearby schools are not in session, considering a major safety concern includes children utilizing the intersection, and that a one (1) day survey was insufficient to accurately capture volume data. It was also noted that "near misses" and unreported collisions or traffic incidents are not captured in the report's crash data. Both Commissioners and residents stated that their anecdotal, first hand

experiences as neighbors and residents who use the intersection are in opposition to DDOT's findings; and most still support the creation of an all-way stop at the intersection. A number of Commissioners asked that DDOT reconsider the all-way stop, and Chairman Toomajian asked that an additional survey be executed when school is in session. Mr. Voight agreed, and moved on to another traffic issue in the area, Tenth (10th) Street NE. Mr. Voight stated that they just got data back from studies of this street, and still must analyze it before addressing the 400 and 500 block of 10th Street. They are looking at raised crosswalks and speed humps for the 600 block of this street where they are able to take immediate action due to the presence of the school and recreation center. DDOT will return with full recommendations at the Commission's June 2018 meeting.

Anthony Hall, Director, Pre-Arrest Diversion Program, Department of Behavioral Health

Mr. Hall presented the mission and goal of the Pre-Arrest Diversion Program, which seeks to assist vulnerable individuals, such as those experiencing substance abuse or mental health disorders, with the opportunity to get assistance who may otherwise be arrested for low level crimes. The program empowers law enforcement to divert these individuals to the services that they need, and helps to break the cycle of arrest, release, and re-arrest. Mr. Hall described the pilot program and the use of Crisis Intervention Officers, who are trained to address psychiatric crises and partner with behavioral health providers. He stated the grim fact that the three largest behavioral health providers nationwide are prisons; more pre-arrest diversion programs are being piloted across the country in response to the opioid crisis and lawsuits related to low access to services. He stated that, with this program, the city is seeking to be proactive. The remaining fiscal year will be dedicated to developing and refining their processes and gathering data from Police Service Areas (PSAs) where the program is being piloted. They are concentrating on the Starburst Plaza area. Mr. Hall expressed a desire to receive feedback and also make residents aware of the program.

Officer Reports

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Stephanie Zimny presented the Treasurer's Report for April 2018 and announced one amendment, in the amount of \$966.50 (Check 1836), for the purchase of Chromebook laptops for Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School. Including this amendment, there were disbursements totaling \$1,885.50: \$450.00 to Irene Dworakowski (Check 1831) for agenda/web master services; \$200.00 (Check 1833) for the April 2018 minutes; \$97.00 (Check 1818) for FedEx printing; \$22.00 (Check 1835) for ANC6A's post office box; and \$150.00 (Check 1834) for website update services, leaving a balance of \$8,568.88 in the checking account. There is a balance of \$13,771.79, including a \$.022 interest deposit, in the savings account. The April 2018 report was approved by unanimous consent.

Commissioner Zimny also presented the first Quarterly Report. The total funds available during the quarter amounted to \$15, 872.47, the total disbursements amounted to \$8,636.56, and the ending balance was \$7,235.91.

The Quarterly Report was accepted by unanimous consent.

Committee Reports

Community Outreach Committee (COC)

The April 2018 report was accepted by unanimous consent.

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

Alcohol Beverage Licensing (ABL)

The April 2018 report was accepted by unanimous consent.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, May 22, 2018

Transportation and Public Space (TPS)

The Committee did not meet in April 2018.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, May 21, 2018.

Economic Development and Zoning (EDZ)

The April 2018 report was accepted by unanimous consent.

1. The Committee moved and Commissioner Mike Soderman seconded the motion to send a letter of support to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) for a special exception under Subtitle H-1109.1(a), to operate an animal boarding use in an existing building in the NC-15 District at 1371 - 1375 H Street NE (BZA #19746). The owners were present at the meeting. The motion passed 8-0 on the condition that animal waste of those on the premises will be properly disposed of at the facility.
2. The Committee moved and Commissioner Calvin Ward seconded the motion to send a letter of support to BZA for special exceptions under Subtitle E § 5201 from the nonconforming structure requirements of Subtitle C § 202.2, from the rear yard requirements of Subtitle E § 306.1, and from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E § 304.1, to construct a two-story addition to an existing one-story rear addition to an attached principal dwelling unit in the RF-1 Zone at 121 Tennessee Avenue NE (BZA #19728), on condition that the applicant make best efforts to get signed letters of support from neighbors of 121 Tennessee Avenue NE.

The applicant and owner of the property, Patrick McGeehan, was in attendance, along with the architect for the project and a neighbor who supports the application. Many other neighbors in opposition to this project were also in attendance. The architect presented photos from a light study, which showed the neighboring residences would minimally impacted (about two feet extended shadow) in the afternoon in the summer. Many neighbors spoke in opposition to the addition, citing visual changes to the historical nature of the neighborhood, and the disruption that construction, including carting construction materials in the narrow alley, would make for neighbors. One neighbor spoke in support of the project, stating that Mr. McGeehan and his family are great neighbors and members of the community looking to provide for a growing family. Mr. McGeehan answered questions from the Commissioners about what compromises could be achieved in terms of construction materials, and Mr. McGeehan stated that he is open to using different materials. However, some opposing neighbors stated this would not be acceptable and not much could be done to change their minds. Mr. McGeehan stated that he has made best efforts to secure letters of support from neighbors and spoken with many.

After robust conversation, the motion passed 4-1 with 3 Commissioners abstaining.

3. The Committee moved and Commissioner Marie-Claire Brown seconded the motion to send a letter of support to the Zoning Commission for Gallaudet University's request to amend their 2012 Campus Plan to remove the Ballard North dormitory so that it can be demolished. The motion passed 8-0.
4. The Committee moved and Chairman Toomajian seconded the motion to accept the resignation of Michael Hoenig from the EDZ committee. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
5. The Committee moved and Chairman Toomajian seconded the motion to appoint Laura Gentile as a new member of the EDZ committee. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, May 16, 2018

New Business

There was no new business.

Single Member District Reports

In the interest of time, there were no SMD reports presented.

Community Comments

A climate economist asked that the ANC consider supporting the carbon fee and rebate legislation sponsored by DC Councilmember Mary Cheh.

Elizabeth Nelson, President of the Capitol Hill Restoration Society (CHRS), announced that the 61st Annual CHRS House & Garden Tour will take place on May 12 -13, 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm.