

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Minutes
Miner Elementary School
June 9, 2011

Present: Commissioners Alberti, Healy, Holmes, Hysell, Lawler, Ronneberg and Veenendaal-Selck
Absent: Commissioner Mack

The meeting was convened at 7pm

1. Agenda

Dr. Ronneberg asked that two resignations be added to the Economic Development Committee report. The agenda as amended was approved by unanimous consent.

2. Minutes

The minutes were accepted by unanimous consent.

3. Community Comment

There was no community comment.

4. Officer Reports

Chair

The Chair reported that the community was successful in its fight to retain Rosedale in Ward 6, and the efforts of the residents of Rosedale, the ANC Commissioners and the residents of Kingman Park reporting on their bad experience were enormously helpful.

Treasurer

Mr. Alberti presented the Treasurer's Report. It showed that the opening balance in the checking account was \$22,329.83 and the savings account balance was \$4,204.71. There was an allotment from the District of Columbia government of \$4,836.27, and an interest payment to the savings account of \$.17. There were disbursements of \$200 to Heather Schoell for the May agenda package (Check #1512); a voided check (Check #1513); \$263.31 to FedEx Office for May 2011 copying (Check #1514); and \$180 to Roberta Weiner for April 2100 minutes (Check #1515), leaving a balance of \$22,329.83 in the checking account, and \$4,204,8i8 in the savings account.

Motion: Mr. Alberti moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to approve the disbursements. It passed without objection.

Motion: Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. It passed without objection.

5. Single Member District Reports

Mr. Healy reported that there had been a walk-through of Wylie Street, H and 14th Streets, to assess the state of the alley, and it had been very productive.

Dr. Ronneberg said he had met with owner of Smith Commons to discuss complaints of noise and street activity on their patio and they had agreed on shutting down the patio at 11pm on weekdays and at midnight on weekends.

He also reported on a transportation study of Maryland Avenue, and they are putting stop signs at 10th Street and 7th street where there are problems.

He also said he has received more petition signatures from residents who want residential parking regulations on their street.

Mr. Hysell reported that there are delivery trucks blocking 13th and H St., and he is working with Mr. Healy and DPW on solutions. He is also working on the abandoned gas station to find solutions for that problem.

Mr. Alberti reported on a June 23rd walk-through on 17th Street and Constitution Avenue which had been good.

He reminded people that the trees are thirsty and should be watered. He also mentioned that there are street repairs going on, and while the signs read No Parking for 60 days, in reality they will be shut down in small sections and for a short while over the 60-day period.

Ms. Veenendaal-Selck reported that she had been working on fighting to remain a part of Ward 6, and is excited that it's happening.

Ms. Lawler reported that the Options School was having its first graduating class and Mayor Gray would be there.

Mr. Holmes offered thanks to Councilmember Wells for keeping the east end of the ward in Ward 6. He also reported that the dead trees in his SMD had been removed.

6. Transportation and Public Space Committee

Mr. Holmes reported that the Transportation and Public Space Committee did not have a quorum at its last meeting and motions will have to come from the full ANC.

Entrance to H Street Connection

Mr. Mahmud said a resident, Randy Brandt, brought to the committee the idea of an 8th Street driveway entrance to the H Street Connection development at 8th and H Streets. Mr. Brandt has a preference for "option two" of those presented, which moves the driveway a little further from the side of his home, which is directly adjacent to the site. Councilmember Wells has already written a letter of support for the option. Mr. Mahmud said that option two does not seem to have a substantial impact on the design or traffic flow at the site. **Motion:** Mr. Holmes moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion to send a letter of support similar to Councilmember Wells 'to DDOT and the developers of the project. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Sidewalk Patio at Khan's Barbeque

Mr. Mahmud reported that Khan's Barbeque, 1125 H Street NE, is seeking an outdoor dining patio on the wide sidewalk adjacent to its property on 12th Street. He said that the space is specifically designated in the H Street plan and streetscape redesign to be used for that purpose and it is very appropriate use. He said the Committee had seen the plans. **Motion:** Mr. Hysell moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion to support the public space application for Khan's Barbeque. It passed by unanimous consent.

Mr. Alberti asked how it will be used; and Mr. Mahmud said he would suggest incorporating a closing time for the patio. Mr. Holmes asked whether it is in the VA for Khan's. Mr. Hysell responded that it is in VAs for rooftop patios, with a three-month trial period. Mr. Holmes said he had asked for a list of public space requests on H Street, as well as valet parking permits.

Another issue that arose is the overnight storage of the tables and chairs, and whether they can be left outside. Elizabeth Nelson said that she doesn't like the idea of storing furniture outside, but Mr. Hysell mentioned that many places don't have the space to store street furniture indoors overnight and it's very complicated.

The report of the Transportation and Public Space Committee was accepted without objection.

7. Economic Development and Zoning Committee

818 C Street NE

This is a request for support for a historic preservation review for a two-story addition to a property at 818 C Street NE in the Capitol Hill Historic District. The architect of the project had presented plans and letters of support from neighbors to the Committee and Dr. Ronneberg reported that the motion to support the project had passed the committee 5-0. **Motion:** Dr. Ronneberg moved for the Committee that the full Commission accept its recommendation and send a letter of support to the HPRB for the addition to 818 C Street NE. The motion passed 7-0.

1231 F Street NE

This is a request for support of a BZA application for a special exception for lot occupancy requirements to construct a new garage with a basement and "pop-up" stair structure for roof access. The variance is required because the height of the garage exceeds the 15' specified in the code. The grade in the back yard is 6.7 feet lower than the grade in the alley, and the structure will cause an increase in the lot occupancy from 59.2% to 65.9%. They presented letters of support from their neighboring properties.

Mr. Alberti said that he did not believe the "pop-up" meets the conditions for a special exception, and he doesn't see anything that creates uniqueness—and a roof deck, he said, does not meet the standards. **Motion:** Dr. Ronneberg moved/Mr. Hysell seconded a motion to send a letter to the BZA in support of the garage and a pop-up staircase. The motion passed 6-1, with Mr. Alberti in opposition.

701 10th Street NE

This is a request for support of a BZA application for a variance from the requirement that two-unit structures (flats) have one on-site parking space. The site does not have alley access, but was granted a curb cut and driveway by DDOT in 2005 over the strenuous objection of the ANC. If the variance is granted, the curb cut will be removed. The discussion was tabled until next month at the request of Dr. Ronneberg.

Historic District Expansion Meetings

Dr. Ronneberg said that the committee has been planning to have two public meeting regarding whether the ANC should seek to have the Capitol Hill Historic District extended to H Street in the north, 15th Street to the east, and East Capitol Street to the south. This would not include any commercial properties on H Street.

The committee agreed that a series of two or three public meetings in quick succession, and they should take place in September. The early meeting(s) would focus on public officials and provide factual information; the later meeting (s) will allow residents to express their views. **Motion:** The Committee moved/Ms. Lawler seconded a motion to allocate up to \$600 for fliers to disseminate information as broadly as possible. Dr. Ronneberg, responding to a question from Mr. Alberti, said

there were approximately 2,000 households. He said they would leaflet for both meetings and not pay anyone to do it. The motion was adopted without objection.

Committee Resignations

Motion: Dr. Ronneberg moved for the Committee to accept the resignations of members Bill Schultheiss and Julie Santoboni. He thanked them for their service to the Committee and the ANC. The motion passed without objection.

The report of the Economic Development and Zoning Committee was accepted without objection.

8. New Business

Raze Permit for 1310 East Capitol Street

Mr. Holmes said that 1310 East Capitol Street, a former stable, is located within the historic district. A request for a raze permit has been filed and was scheduled to come before the HPRB later in June. The ED&Z Committee had discussed the issue last year, but no action was taken because nothing was pending at that time before the HPRB or DCRA. He said there has been outrageous owner neglect of a contributory structure, and the lack of maintenance should not be rewarded, and that the HPRB staff and the CHRS ha both recommended against the permit. Reconstruction and repair is the appropriate remedy. Elizabeth Nelson added that it is an egregious example of demolition by neglect. **Motion:** Mr. Holmes moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to ask the HPRB and DCRA to deny the raze request and require the owner to stabilize the structure and return it to habitable condition. The motion passed 7-0.

Cap on H Street Liquor Licenses

Motion: Mr. Healy moved/Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to allocate up to \$600 to produce fliers for ABL Committee meetings to consider whether or not to impose a cap on the number of alcohol licenses on H Street. First, dates had to be locked in.

There was a discussion on how broadly the fliers should be distributed. Dr. Ronneberg suggested they should be circulated at least to F Street on the south, and two blocks north of H Street. Mr. Holmes said he agreed with that, and that he doesn't have a dog in this hunt. Ms. Lawler said that her SMD should be included, and a lot of people are interested in the issue. Ms. Nelson said that the topic is of interest to anyone in the ANC, and it really an economic development issue. Certainly people who live more than two blocks away need information on the issue. Mr. Alberti asked whether there had been any discussion of alternative means of getting the word out—e.g. the Hill Rag, listservs, etc. Mr. Holmes said the Committee was having that conversation. The motion passed without objection.

Street Sweeping for 10th Street NE

Mr. Holmes said that there was a street sweeping request for the 600 block of 10th Street and that they had gotten enough signatures on petitions to forward the request to DPW. **Motion:** Dr. Ronneberg moved/Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to convey the petitions for street sweeping in the 600 block of 10th Street to DPW. The motion passed without objection.

9. Community Presentation

Carolyne Albert-Garvey, principal of Maury Elementary School, gave a presentation on the renovation of the school that is taking place over the summer. She apologized for being late, which is why the presentation was at the end of the meeting.

Ms. Albert-Garvey enthusiastically announced that the school is finally getting a do-over, and that it had already gotten new doors. They have started a major renovation, and the school offices are being moved to Eastern High School for the duration. They are re-doing the classrooms, hallways, and providing a new entrance. The offices will be totally glass-enclosed, and they are tearing down walls and widening the entrance. Another significant component of the entrance will be that there will be steps on two sides, and there will be an off-street seating space where children will be able to wait for pick-ups.

The early childhood classrooms, which are currently not in compliance with regulations, will be brought into compliance—they will have bathrooms and new furniture. Each classroom will have its own library, and there will be an outdoor classroom on the second floor. She said the basketball court will be closed for the summer, as it is being used as a staging area for construction materials. The entire campus will be shut down for the summer. They are planning to use the blacktop for worker parking.

In answer to a question from Mr. Holmes, she said there were 241 people on the out-of-area wait list and 81 on the in-boundary list. She said that 60% of the parents are currently members of the PTA and her goal for next year is 75%.

Finally, she said that in three years there will be a Phase 2 of the renovation, which will provide an ADA-compliant elevator, among other things.

10. Community Comment

Charmaine Josiah made a plea for including Kingman Park in Ward 6. Mr. Holmes said that the ANC should ask that SMD 7D01 be included in 6A. He said that currently there are three other similar situations, and we could try to do it. Mr. Alberti asked whether it would be better to reach out to them and ask if they want to do that, and added that appears presumptuous to include them without discussing it with them first. Mr. Holmes said he would attend the ANC 7D meeting and ask what their views are.

Gottlieb Simon of the ANC Office gave a brief run-down of the redistricting process, saying that once the Mayor signs the legislation, he starts a 90-day clock running to have Ward committees develop plans. There will be hearings in October and final ANCs by the end of the year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.