

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Minutes
Miner Elementary School
December 11 2014

Present: Commissioners Nick Alberti, Andrew Hysell, J. Omar Mahmud, Sondra Phillips-Gilbert, Calvin Ward, Chris Ward

Absent: Commissioners Gloria Nauden, Jay Williams

The meeting was convened at 7:00 pm.

1. Minutes

The November 2014 minutes were accepted without objection.

2. Agenda

The agenda for the December 2014 was accepted without additions or changes, and with no objections

3. Community Presentation

Pepco Merger with Exelon

Rob Robinson, a representative of the Grid 2.0 Working Group, made a detailed presentation on why the proposed merger of Pepco and Exelon Energy would not benefit the people of the District of Columbia. The proposal will come before the Public Service Commission in February 2015. Citing examples such as Exelon's takeover of the Baltimore electric system and the ways it has not benefited that city, Robinson offered a sample resolution to the PSC for possible consideration by the ANC. The Commission decided by consensus to take no action at the present time.

4. Officers Reports

Chair

Mr. Alberti congratulated ANC resident John Hill, who often attends Commission meetings, for receiving a "brickie" Good Neighbor Award from Councilmember Tommy Wells.

Vice Chair

Mr. Mahmud thanked Mr. Alberti and Ms. Elizabeth Nelson for their major contributions to the ANC.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Alberti presented the Treasurer's Report at the request of Mr. Mahmud. He reported that the opening balance in the checking account was \$22,315.77 and the savings account balance was \$13,719.87. There was an interest deposit of \$.23 to the savings account. There were disbursements of \$565.86 to FedEx Office for the Nov. 1. 2014 invoice (Check #1675); \$200.00 to Irene Dworakowski for the November 2014 agenda package (Check #1676); \$200.00 to Roberta Weiner for transcription of the November 2014 minutes (Check #1677); \$3,828.00 to Capitol Community News for advertising (Check #1678); \$1,760.00 to Keifer Swim Shop for sporting equipment for a grant for Serve Your City (Check #1679); and \$299.46 to Gopher for a grant for Miner School PTO (Check #1680), leaving a balance of \$15,461.45 in the checking account, and \$13,720.10 in the savings account.

Motion: Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Mahmud seconded a motion to accept the disbursements. The motion passed 5-1-0, with Ms. Phillips-Gilbert in opposition.

Motion: Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Mahmud seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion passed 5-0-1, with Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert abstaining.

5. Committee Reports

Community Outreach (COC)

The report of the committee was accepted without objection.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Hysell seconded a motion that the ANC accept the COC's recommendation to approve the following changes to the Grants Program:

- a. Keep the current grant application cycle, with smaller grants considered monthly and larger grants considered two (2) times a year.
- b. Publicizing grant opportunities: Commissioners will be asked to reach out to eligible organizations operating within their Single Member Districts (SMD). A reference to the availability of grants will be added to the ANC's regular advertising.
- c. A cover sheet to the grant application with additional instructions would be helpful to potential applicants and will be developed if approved by the commission.
- d. Future grant applicants will be asked to provide a brief "statement of compliance" upon completion of the project.
- e. The ANC will continue to require a representative of the organization requesting a grant to attend both the ANC and the COC meetings. If the applicant fails to appear at two (2) consecutive ANC meetings, they will be expected to re-apply.
- f. The ANC will require that any applicants be locally-based organizations.

The motion passed 5-0-1, with Ms. Phillips-Gilbert abstaining.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Calvin Ward seconded a motion that the full ANC approve the Committee's recommendation that it accept the best proposal (as evaluated by the Committee) submitted in response to the RFP for website conversion. The proposal selected was submitted by Max Kukoy.

Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert reiterated that she wanted to advertise the opening for a longer period of time, and she was concerned about spending government dollars. Mr. Alberti thanked Ms. Jean Kohanek for her efforts in reviewing the proposals. He commented that Mr. Kukoy discusses building a new platform, recognizes the large number of files the ANC has, and plans a robust management scheme, including training. Mr. Mahmud added that it is important to move forward now. Finding additional candidates would take time, which the Commission does not have. The incoming commissioners present at the meeting (Dr. Matthew Levy, Ms. Stephanie Zimny, Mr. Phil Toomajian) expressed their support for engaging Mr. Kukoy's services. The motion passed by a vote of 5-1-0, with Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert opposed.

Motion: Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Mahmud seconded a motion to confirm the appointment of Dana Wyckoff and Raphael Marshall as members of the Community Outreach Committee. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

Transportation and Public Space

The report of the committee was accepted without objection.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Mahmud seconded a motion that the Commission send letter of support for the Capitol Hill Classic Race, pending receipt of information regarding

engagement with churches on the course and race logistics. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

Economic Development and Zoning (EDZ)

The report of the committee was accepted without objection.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion that the ANC approve the Committee's recommendation and write a letter to the Bureau of Zoning Authority (BZA) regarding the requested zoning relief for 1401 H Street NE: 1) in support of the requested variances from lot occupancy and on-site parking, provided that there be covenants recorded in the District land records for each unit stating that it is not eligible for Residential Parking Permits (RPP), that the by-laws for the homeowner's association provide for enforcement mechanism should any homeowner obtain RPP, and that a separate covenant be recorded in the District land records providing that this by-law provision may not be amended or removed; 2) in support of the requested special exception necessary because of the size of the lot in the H Street overlay; and 3) in opposition to the requested variance from the floor-to-area ratio (FAR) requirements. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion that the ANC approve the Committee's recommendation and write a letter of support to the BZA regarding the requested relief from the on-site parking requirements for 1251 F Street NE. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

Motion: The ANC continue to support its pending application before the Zoning Commission (ZC) for the rezoning of the northwest portion of Square 1070 (bounded by East Capitol Street, Fifteenth (15th) Street, A Street and Sixteenth (16th) Street NE) from commercial to residential (R-4).

The ANC took no action on this motion, announcing that the Zoning Commission is still seeking comments on the issue.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion that the ANC approve the Committee's recommendation and write a letter to the Zoning Commission in connection with its upcoming hearing of a ZC 14-11 to consider amendments to the Zoning Code: 1) in support of the proposal to reduce maximum building height in the R-4 district from 40' to 35', with 40' permitted by special exception; 2) in support of the proposal to amend the definition of "mezzanine" to state that a mezzanine shall be counted as a "story;" 3) in support of the proposal to reduce the permitted height of a roof structure from 18' to 10'; and 4) to no longer permit by right and to require a special exception for the conversion of an R-4 structure to an apartment house (provided there is at least 900 square feet of lot size for each unit in the apartment house). The motion passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion that the ANC approve the Committee's recommendation and take no action on the request for an extension of the variance from the lot size and lot width requirements previously granted for 257 Warren Street NE. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

Overview and Update of ZC 14-20 – The application for the rezoning of Square 1070. The ANC will take public input on the application.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Calvin Ward seconded a motion that they designate Commissioner Calvin Ward, Commissioner Alberti and Todd Sperry, as well as the ANC Chair and Vice Chair, as representatives of the ANC in this matter. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0-1, with Ms. Phillips-Gilbert abstaining.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Calvin Ward seconded a motion that the ANC approve the Committee's recommendation and write a letter to DCRA asking that they suspend, until the ZC rules, the processing of any permit applications for properties affected by the rezoning application other than those for construction that complies with R-4 matter of right uses. The motion passed unanimously, 6-0-0.

6. Single Member District Reports

Mr. Calvin Ward told Mr. Alberti how much his services will be missed, and that there will be no replacement for him.

Ms. Phillips-Gilbert congratulated John Hill, who is her constituent, on receiving the Good Neighbor Award from Councilmember Tommy Wells. She also reported that the coat drive in her community was very successful.

Mr. Andrew Hysell said that "it has been great" serving as a Commissioner for four years, and congratulated his successor. He also wished the new Commissioners good luck, and thanked the Chair for inspiring him to work.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.