Report of the Economic Development and Zoning Committee of ANC 6A August 17, 2011

Present: Members: Phil Toomajian, Dan Golden, Jeff Fletcher, Charmaine Josiah, Cody Rice Commissioners: Drew Ronneberg, David Holmes, Nick Alberti

Drew Ronneberg chaired the meeting

Community Comment

Phil Toomajian reminded the committee that the Chalk Walk Art Project would take place on September 10 and the H Street Festival would take place on September 17.

Status Reports

Resolution of Previously Heard BZA/HPA Cases: David Holmes reported that the AppleTree appeal would be heard by the BZA in September. In addition, the he will be meeting with DCRA to discuss the procedures for addressing reasonable accommodation requests.

Vacant Properties: Phil Toomajian reported that 914 H St NE was the only H St. property that went to tax sale, despite the fact that only occupied properties were supposed to be excluded from the tax sale. He also said that DCRA has added 8 new H St. properties to their vacant property list.

Zoning Rewrite: None

H Street Business Liaison Report: None

Old Business

1350 Maryland Ave.: Jeff Goins of PGN architects presented revised drawing for the proposed development at 1350 Maryland Ave. The Committee felt that the revised drawings addressed the massing and design concerns raised at the July meeting and that the project would fit very nicely into the architectural fabric of the Eastern End of Maryland Ave.

In order to ensure that the project would be built, Valor committed to a deed restriction (for approximately 10 years) that would restrict any development to 3.4 FAR (the density of the proposed structure). In addition, Valor would enter into contract with the ANC that would ensure that the proposed design would be built. Because the building will be made out of wood, it physically won't be able to be enlarged by adding more floors after it is constructed. Will Lansing of Valor also stated that they were committed to funding the installation of a CaBi bike station and an application to extend the Historic district to the commercial properties on H St.

The following recommendation was pass on a 7-0 vote.

Recommendation: The ANC write a letter to the Zoning Commission supporting the request to exclude the NW corner of 14th and Maryland from the proposed C-3-A to C-2-A downzoning in the ZC Case #10-19.

New Business

ANC Redistricting: The committee discussed whether it would be beneficial from a zoning and economic development perspective if H Street was within the boundaries of a single ANC. The committee discussed whether it would be better to have a uniform approach to the H Street Overlay, how an H Street ANC could be created (extending ANC 6A west, having properties north of Maryland Avenue be part of ANC 6C and moving 3 ANC 6A SMDs to 6C). It was also discussed whether it was good for the ANC to have more than 8 or 9 commissioners and whether such a large change in the boundaries would create an overwhelming workload. Jeff Fletcher said that he was opposed to having the one ANC for H Street.

Next Scheduled ED&Z Committee Meeting: Wednesday, September 21, 2011 7-9pm 640 10th St NE Sherwood Recreation Center, 2nd Floor