

**Email communication:**

**From: David Holmes**

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July 27, 2012

Dear Mr. Rosenbaum,

Please understand that we value the Ptones at Sherwood; we just granted it all of the grant funds available for the remainder of the year. The students appreciate the program, and we're glad that the Recreation Center and Director Marshall have been able to provide the program with a reserved room and other support. Everyone local associated with the program, including the Director at Sherwood, has only good things to say about it. We would be very sorry to see you reduce or eliminate this great training tool.

But we have a problem with the grant. District law requires that the benefit of an Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A (ANC) grant be directly beneficial to the residents of ANC 6A and be made for products to be used in 6A or for activities within ANC 6A. This is indicated on the grant application form you filled out and is posted on the ANC 6A website. The Commission is required to uphold the law; we cannot be expected to do otherwise. I don't believe any municipal or state government is likely to provide funds for activities that will take place in another state or city.

We discovered the situation because, unless the Commission purchases equipment directly on your behalf, we only disburse grant monies upon receipt of a invoice marked “Paid” and on confirmation of the delivery of the purchased goods to the sponsoring organization within ANC 6A. Because you didn’t have this documentation, we discovered that the materials were not actually intended for Sherwood.

Your representative to both the Community Outreach Committee meeting and to the ANC 6A meeting explained that the funds were needed to purchase software and hardware upgrades to keep the equipment at the Sherwood Recreation Center relevant to industry standards – that the existing equipment, while usable, had become obsolete. At no time did you, or any representative of your organization, tell us that the materials to be purchased were not actually intended for Sherwood, but instead for a site in New Jersey. In fact, it was clear that the equipment was to be replaced by combining our grant with other funding.

Acting as Chair, and in consultation with Treasurer Nick Alberti, we have placed this grant on hold, pending further discussion and a vote by the Commission. Be advised that you may submit a new grant application. The Community Outreach Committee will review the application and make a recommendation to the full ANC. That is likely to be after the new fiscal year when grant funds are replenished.

Re your comment about compensation, all Commissioners, though elected City officials, serve without compensation. ANC committee members and chairs also serve without recompense. As chair, I spend about 25-50 hours/week unpaid time on Commission business. Mr. Alberti also donates many hours/week to his position as Treasurer.

Respectfully,

David Holmes

Chair and Commissioner, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A  
Online at [www.anc6a.org](http://www.anc6a.org)