



District of Columbia Government
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
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Washington, DC 20013



January 19, 2012

David Maloney
State Historic Preservation Officer
1100 4th Street, SW, Suite E650
Washington, DC 20024

Nicholas Majett
Director, DCRA
1100 4th Street SW
Washington, DC 20024

Gentlemen:

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A opposes the raze application for 1402-1406 Maryland Avenue on the grounds that it has had insufficient time to consider the application and cannot make a decision until after its February 9th meeting. Commissioners Ronneberg and Holmes are authorized to act for the Commission with respect to this issue and to withdraw the Commission's objection if it appears to be in the best interest of the community.

The vote on this motion was taken at a regularly-scheduled and publicly-noticed meeting of the Commission on January 12, 2012. With five required for a quorum, the vote was 7-0.

As you may know, the Mayor, the Council Chair and the Ward 6 Councilmember together presented the C.A.T. Walk Boutique, at 1404 H Street, NE, with an \$80,000 grant. The award ceremony was held on January 9, 2012 at the Atlas Theater on H Street.

To quote *Dcist.com*, "Carolyn A. Thomas, the clothing shop's eponymous owner, was visibly moved as she accepted her \$80,000 award, which she said will help make her store more hospitable. She described a recent day in which two of her employees left early because the store was too drafty in the cold weather.

'This grant is going to make me be able to put in new heating and flooring and make it more welcoming,' she said."

Jose C. Sousa, the communications director for DMPED, said the grant applicants needed to "demonstrate what they'd be spending it on" and that the amounts awarded are just a fraction of any expansions or improvements the winning businesses are seeking to make.

Obviously there is a potential embarrassment here if the raze moves forward without further analysis and discussion with the property owners.

The ANC invited both of the principal owners to meet with our ANC's Zoning committee this past Wednesday, January 18, to discuss their plans. Neither attended.

Consequently I strongly urge the Historic Preservation Office and the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs to accept the ANC's resolution and postpone approval of this raze for 45 business days to allow ANC 6A and your offices to fully consider and discuss the owners' plans for development and raze.

For the Commission.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Holmes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D".

David Holmes
Chair