

Minutes
Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis (ABC) Committee
Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
May 27, 2025, 7:00 pm
Virtual Meeting—Held on Zoom

Pursuant to notice duly given, a meeting of the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis (ABC) Committee (“Committee”) of ANC 6A was held commencing at 7:00 pm ET on May 27, 2025, on a publicly posted Zoom event.

Committee Members Present: Erin Blumenthal, Eric Lockett, Monica Martinez

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Velasquez, Spires, and Shapiro

Establishment Representatives Present: Amy (Feru), Steve (Montana Liquors)

- I. Call to Order/Approval of Agenda/Approval of Minutes
 - Commissioner Velasquez asked for and received unanimous consent to amend the agenda to include Feru.
 - Commissioner Spires expresses support for Feru, noting that it is a good fit for the location and referencing prior unsuccessful tenants who took years to open before closing quickly.
- II. Community Comment
 - Steve, the owner of Montana Liquor, speaks up to request to amend his settlement agreement. He indicated there was a typographical error on the signed agreement, and ABRA (sic) asked him to correct.
 - The commissioners agree it was a clerical mistake and vote to recommend the ANC authorize a renegotiation of Montana Liquor’s settlement agreement to correct it.
- III. New Business
 - Discussion of the renewal of a Class C restaurant license with Focus DC 1348 H Street NE (ABRA-118015)
 - The committee discussed the renewal of Focus DC’s Class C restaurant license, noting a lack of recent contact and an outdated settlement agreement from 2013.
 - Commissioner Spires reports no complaints or concerns from residents and praised Focus D.C. as successful and organized.
 - On Commissioner Shapiro’s inquiry, Commissioner Velasquez notes that the current settlement agreement is with Red Rocks, the previous owner who transferred the liquor license.
 - Commissioners express support for the business but agree to recommend that the ANC protest the renewal unless a new settlement agreement is reached.
 - The Vote is unanimous 6-0
 - Discussion of a request for a stipulated license for Feru at 1128 H St NE
 - The representative of Feru requests a stipulated liquor license to serve traditional Ethiopian wine and beer with meals. She states customers expect alcohol options, and lack of them causes business loss.
 - Commissioner Spires moved that the committee recommend ANC 6A issue a letter of support for Feru’s stipulated license request and expressed hope for a long-term positive relationship with the new establishment.

- The committee unanimously votes to support FERU's request for a stipulated liquor license, confirming that the establishment's operations align with standard ANC conditions, including limited hours and no amplified patio music.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 29, 2025 at 7:00 pm

The meeting was adjourned around 7:25 pm.