

Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Minutes
Miner Elementary School
February 13, 2020

Present: Commissioners Amber Gove (Chair) Phil Toomajian (Vice Chair), Mike Soderman, Marie-Clair Brown, Brian Alcorn, Sondra Phillips-Gilbert and Stephanie Zimny. Commissioner Ruth Ann Hudson was absent.

The meeting convened at 7:02 pm.

Chairwoman Amber Gove called the roll and announced the presence of a quorum.

The Agenda Package was amended to change its date from January 9, 2020 to February 13, 2020. The minutes for the ANC December 2019 meeting were accepted, and the agenda for the December 2019 meeting was adopted by unanimous consent.

Community Presentations

Chairwoman Gove introduced Chris Wade of the US Attorney's Office for DC who had to leave early and left handouts for the group.

Commissioner Gove introduced Dr Lewis Ferebee, the Chancellor for District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS). Dr. Ferebee stated that DCPS has seen its largest growth in over 50 years; between the 2018-19 and current school years, DCPS saw a 4% increase in enrollment, a trend that is predicted to continue into next school year. PARCC assessments have increased. There will be 6,000 students in Early Childhood Education (ECE) and DCPS will be opening a new ECE campus at Thaddeus Stevens School in Northwest DC where they will offer programming for 3 to-4-year-olds and eventually have facilities for infants and toddlers.

DCPS is in the initial phase of establishing a budget for the next school year. He advertised the use of Mayor Bowser's recently introduced Pocket Budget Guide for fiscal year 2021. The guide, along with an explanation of its purpose, can be found by visiting www.dcps.dc.gov/release/mayor-bowser-launches-mobile-dcps-pocket-budget-guide-school-communities.

Dr. Ferebee announced that Spingarn Senior High School and Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School, located in Ward 5, will act as the swing space for the School Within School at Goding during its renovation and that transportation will be available to and from the swing space. He apologized for any confusion felt by the community during the decision-making process, citing the complexities in choosing an appropriate site owing to factors such as ADA compliance, budgeting, suitability for future use and transportation of students. This swing space will also be utilized for schools up for modernization.

Commissioner Phil Toomajian asked whether Brown and JO Wilson remain on the modernization schedule and will also use this nearby swing site. Dr. Ferebee responded that both schools are on the schedule for SY23-25. DCPS will host a meeting for the school community of Goding for the week of Feb 24 that will discuss playgrounds, security, transportation for the swing space.

Commissioner Mike Soderman asked whether DCPS is considering life skills and trade training programs for students that are not college bound. Dr. Ferebee responded that DCPS had launched College and Career Guides highlighting What's next, Outline careers and compensation and what can you do in high school to work towards that. There are internships and apprenticeships.

Commissioner Marie-Claire Brown asked about fraudulent enrollment of nonresidents and arts programming. Dr. Ferebee responded that 1) DPS has ramped up monitoring to ensure we are collecting the appropriate documentation. Extra eyes and microscopes and verify registration.

Commissioner Gove asked about the two parallels of public and charter schools not communicating with each other - Mid-year transfers from charter schools and then moving to neighborhood school and charters getting the funding for the student - what is the Chancellor doing? Dr. Ferebee said that it is a very complex question. There are conversations about how we can be more collaborative.

Christine Clapp, a parent of students at Maury and Eliot Hine asked whether DCPS would please reconsider the sports fields. "we were told that a decision was made unilaterally that there will be a parking lot and no home regulation fields for soccer and baseball field. Our children will have to miss class time to be bussed to other schools for games. The Mayor campaigned on Alice Deal for All and they have home fields for baseball, soccer and track. We want it here too." Dr. Ferebee said that he would look into that.

An Eliot Hine Middle School student asked for an update about promised laptops. Dr. Ferebee said that DCPC will be making an announcement very soon right after break. "I assure you, you will be getting laptops this year."

SWS@ Goding parents expressed appreciation for the announcement, but emphasized that it was an unnecessarily painful process and trust was broken. Dr. Ferebee apologized and offered his assurance that "we will work together moving forward."

Commissioner Gove introduced Shawn Hilgendorf, Director, Committee on Facilities and Procurement, Oversight of the Office of the ANC. The Committee is chaired by At Large Commissioner Robert White and addresses a number of areas including contracting and procurement for all of the DC government, the Department of General Services (DGS), the council's relationship with Metro and helping citizens return to life after incarceration, as well as the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions. Any questions can be sent to his email at shilgendorf [at] dccouncil.us.

FreshFarms Market was not in attendance, but is planning to continue to operate the H Street Farmers' Market on 13th & H Street NE again this year. Commissioner Toomajian moved that the ANC send a letter of support to DDOT, which was seconded by Commissioner Soderman and which passed unanimously (7-0).

Officer Reports

Commissioner Toomajian thanked Commissioner Brian Alcorn for his work in closing ANC6A's existing accounts with Bank of America and transferring all ANC6A to National Capital Bank.

Commissioner Alcorn presented the February 2020 Treasurer's Report. Disbursements totaled \$2,489.76: \$465.89 to Irene Dworakowski (check 1909) for agenda/webmaster services; \$200.00 (check 1910) for notetaking of the January 2020 minutes; \$173.31 (check 1911) for FedEx; \$150.00 to the DC Treasurer (check 1912) for Miner Elementary Security prepayment for 2/20 meeting; \$150.00 to DC Treasurer (check 1913) Miner security for 1/2020 mtg - Replacement Check for #1902; \$150.00 to DC Treasurer (check 1914) Miner Security for 12/2019 meeting- Replacement check for #1896; \$1,015.56 to DC Treasurer (check 1915) Miner Security for 10/2018-6/2019 meetings- Replacement Check for #1895; \$25.00 (check 1916) for the ANC Security Fund- replacement check #1905; \$30.00 bank fee: \$30.00 Bank Fee; \$100.00 ANC6A (Check 1908) transfer to Savings; ACH Credit Payments (corrects bank errors reported in 12/19) totaling \$100.00 and \$0.15 respectively. There is a balance of \$9,355.92 in the checking account. There is a balance of \$13,834.00, after an interest payment of \$.23, in the savings account. The report was approved by unanimous consent.

Community Outreach Committee (COC)

1. The January 2020 and February 2020 Committee reports were approved by unanimous consent.
2. COC Chairwoman Roni Hollmon reported that the Committee continues to review the ANC6A website for necessary updates. The ANC6A flier needs to be updated. The Committee requested a copy of the ANC letterhead to complete that task. Commissioner Toomajian will send that to the Committee.
3. Next meeting is March 23rd 7:00 pm at Eastern High School

Alcohol Beverage Licensing (ABL)

1. The Committee did not meet in January 2020.
2. Next meeting: Feb 18, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

Transportation and Public Space (TPS)

1. The January 2020 Committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. Commissioner Soderman recommended and Commissioner Toomajian seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter to DC Homeland Security and Management Agency in support of 2020 Capitol Hill Classic. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee recommended that ANC6A add the comments of TPS to those of EDZ regarding the DC Comprehensive Plan and submit those comments. Chairwoman Gove made a motion that this action be held for discussion later in the meeting. The motion passed by unanimous consent.
4. Commissioner Soderman moved and Commissioner Stephanie Zimny seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter to DDOT in opposition to the application (#343819) for a driveway through public space at the rear of 1518 North Carolina Avenue NE. The Commission heard comments from the owner, TPS Chair and the Commissioner Alcorn. The motion passed 7-0.
5. Commissioner Marie-Claire Brown moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that DDOT asking for enforcement of DCMR 24-102 with respect to overgrown hedge at 100 14th Street NE for safety reasons and also request the online 311 be modified to facilitate reporting of public space violations. Chairman Gove talked to the resident and they said they are committed to resolve the issues at that location, so the motion was amended to table the reference to the specific address (5-0). The Motion as amended was approved (7-0)
6. Next meeting: February 24, 2020, 7:00 pm

Economic Development and Zoning (EDZ)

1. The February 2020 Committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Phil Toomajian seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter of opposition to DDOT for an application, pursuant to 11 DCMR Subtitle X, for special exceptions under the residential conversion requirements of Subtitle U § 320.2, under Subtitle C § 1504 from the penthouse setback requirements of Subtitle C § 1502.1, and under Subtitle C § 703.2 from the minimum parking requirements of Subtitle C § 701.5, to permit the construction of a fourth apartment and the installation of new rooftop mechanical equipment, in an existing three-unit apartment house at 653 8th Street NE/ 807 G Street NE (BZA #20190) in the RF-1 Zone, based on the fact that there would be fewer than 250 square feet on the lot per unit. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Zimny seconded the motion that ANC6A submit changes to the DC Comprehensive Plan to create a development zone around the Arboretum, to update the Comprehensive Plan to address all micro-mobility technologies, including scooters, and the Comprehensive Plan be updated to maximize the use of the RFK stadium site to benefit the community as a whole which include changes which were submitted by Capitol Hill Village. Commissioner Zimny moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded an amendment to add the recommendations from the TPS Committee to the EDZ recommendations. The motion passed 7-0.
4. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Zimny seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter to real estate agents active on Capitol Hill informing them of the Residential Parking Permit restrictions in place for any address on H Street. The motion passed 7-0.
5. Next meeting - Feb 19th - 7:00 pm

New Business

1. Commissioner Gove moved and Commissioner Toomajian seconded a motion for ANC 6A send a letter of support to Mr. Clifford Dixon, Permit Expeditor regarding permits for excavation (EX1900033), foundation (FD1900021) and building (B1905590)(not issued yet) for:
 - a. an after-hours permit application that would allow work by the Eliot-Hine Middle School construction team to start at 6:00 am Monday through Saturday; and
 - b. authorization to work on the following holidays in 2020 to ensure the ability to meet the construction schedule: Washington's Birthday, 02/17/2020, DC Emancipation Day, 04/16/2020, Memorial Day, 5/25/2020, Independence Day, 7/3/2020, Labor Day, 9/7/2020, Indigenous Peoples' Day, 10/12/2020 and Veterans Day, 11/11/2020.

The motion passed 7-0.

2. Commissioner Soderman made a motion for ANC6A to send a letter to DDOT urging the Public Space Committee to temporarily halt all scheduled deployments of small cells within ANC 6A until DDOT and the carriers provide a detailed method of procedures to the community clearly outlining the carriers' initial and annual testing and validation plans. The motion passed 6-0-1 with Commissioner Toomajian abstaining.
3. Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Alcorn seconded a motion that ANC6A send a letter to DDOT objecting to insufficient notice with respect to Permit Tracking# 346179 Review# 641311, 1387 North Carolina Ave. NE, and asking that the due date be extended to March 16, 2020 so that the ANC can discuss with the matter with applicant and present an informed opinion at the March 2020 ANC6A meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.