

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Minutes
WebEx Meeting
February 11, 2021**

Present: Commissioners Amber Gove (Chair), Phil Toomajian, Brian Alcorn, Mike Soderman, Robb Dooling, Keya Chatterjee, and Laura Gentile. Commissioner Sondra Philips-Gilbert was absent.

The meeting convened virtually via WebEx at 7:00 pm.

Commissioner Amber Gove called the meeting to order and announced the presence of a quorum. The minutes for the ANC January 2021 meeting were accepted, and the agenda for the February 2021 meeting was accepted by unanimous consent.

Officer Reports

1. The February 2021 Treasurer's report by Commissioner Brian Alcorn reviewed the two expenditures accrued in January: \$200.00 for meeting minutes (check #1959) and \$765.89 for webmaster services (check# 1960). Existing obligations total \$4,122.67 and include \$575.00 in issued checks not deposited (checks #1920, #1922, and #1957), \$2,000.00 for an outstanding grant to Ludlow-Taylor (check #1954), and \$1,547.67 in issued checks deposited (checks #1956 and #1958). The opening uncommitted funds available were \$30,883.81 and after these disbursements totaling \$965.89 and existing obligations of \$4,122.67, the closing uncommitted funds are \$25,795.25. The savings account opened at \$100.05, gained no interest, and closed at \$100.05. The Treasurer's report was approved by unanimous consent without objection.

Standing Committee Reports:

Community Outreach

1. The January 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, February 22nd, 2021 (4th Monday). The Mutual Aid Grant will be on the agenda.

Alcohol Beverage Licensing

1. The January 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Robb Dooling seconded the motion that ANC 6A authorize the Co-Chairs of the ABL to negotiate and sign a settlement agreement with representatives of the new establishment seeking a Class C Tavern license for operations at 1378 H Street, NE. The only differences to the standard settlement agreement are a slight extension to summer garden hours due to the location's balcony as well as a provision that the establishment's kitchen be open until one hour before closing. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Mike Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A authorize the Co-Chairs of the ABL to submit to ABRA on behalf of the ANC a letter of support for a stipulated license for the new establishment seeking a Class C Tavern license for operations at 1378 H Street NE, upon completion of a settlement agreement and upon receipt and review of a satisfactory placard for said establishment consistent with the discussion during the January 2021 ABL meeting. The motion passed 7-0.

4. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Dooling seconded the motion that ANC 6A approve the revised template settlement agreements as reflected in the ABL's January 2021 meeting package. The revisions account for changes to DC law, ensure consistency across agreements, and remove any contradictions. The motion passed 7-0.
5. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Laura Gentile seconded the motion that ANC 6A determine whether to remove from template settlement agreements requiring establishments to ask loiterers to move away from premises and authorize the Co-Chairs of the ABL to make any corresponding changes required. The motion to allow ANC6A itself to determine whether to remove this language passed 7-0. Commissioner Keya Chatterjee moved and Commissioner Dooling seconded the motion to remove language from template settlement agreements requiring establishments to encourage loiterers to move away from premises and to authorize the Co-Chairs of the ABL to make any corresponding changes required. Commissioners noted the risk of racial profiling and pre-existing DC loitering laws as motivation to remove this language from template settlement agreements. The motion passed 7-0.
6. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A authorize the Co-Chairs of the ABL to make additional non-substantive changes to the template settlement agreements as needed. The motion passed 7-0.
7. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, February 23, 2021 (4th Tuesday).

Transportation and Public Space

1. The January 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, February 16th, 2021 (3rd Tuesday; usually 3rd Monday). This meeting will be in conjunction with ANC 6C's TPS Committee and the main topic will be safety on H Street NE.

Economic Development and Zoning

1. The January 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.

Old Business:

2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Alcorn seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter of support to BZA for a special exception from the minimum vehicle parking requirements of Subtitle C § 701.5 to convert an existing, detached, two-story, carriage house to a principal dwelling unit at 1608 East Capitol Street, NE (BZA Case #20393) in the RF-1 Zone, with the caveats that the applicant make best efforts to get letters of support from 1600, 1606, 1608, 1610 and 1612 East Capitol Street, NE, 1, 3, 5, and 7 16th Street NE, and the dwelling across the alley from 1608 East Capitol Street, NE, that the owner stipulate in the least that residents are not allowed to park in the alley, that a no parking sign be posted on the building, and that the developer reach an accommodation with the neighbor on the window that is in the stairwell looking onto the property at 1608 East Capitol Street. There have been two letters of support from the requested neighbors and the building owner has reached out to all neighbors. The motion passed 7-0.

New Business

3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Gentile seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter of conditional support to BZA for a special exception under the residential conversion requirements of Subtitle U § 320.2, and the roof top and upper floor restrictions of Subtitle E § 206.1, to construct a third story, with rear and side additions, and to construct six residential units to an existing, two-story, detached building at 1300 I

Street, NE (BZA Case #20436) in the RF-1 Zone with the caveats that the developer make best efforts to get letters of support from 1310 I Street, NE and 1311 Florida Avenue, NE, and that the developer add a bike rack or other amenities to encourage non-car transportation. This is a house of worship converting into an apartment, which requires a special exception; they will be providing the required three parking spaces. The motion passed 7-0.

4. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, February 17, 2021, 2020 (3rd Wednesday)

New Business

1. Commissioner Chatterjee moved and Commissioner Dooling seconded that ANC6A approve the appointments of Kate Robinson and Mona Hatoum to the Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee. The motion passed 7-0.
2. Commissioner Gentile moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion to add Matthew Frutig as a member of the Transportation and Public Space Committee. The motion passed 7-0.
3. Commissioner Dooling moved and Commissioner Alcorn seconded that ANC 6A approve an expenditure of \$40.00 (plus tax) per month for a subscription to Zoom Webinars to conduct the ANC's virtual meetings. Commissioner Alcorn noted that ANCs are exempt from sales tax and there is plenty of room in the budget to accommodate this new expense. The rollout of this new platform will likely happen in March and will allow time to notify the community of the change. The motion passed 7-0.

Community Presentations

Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen

Councilmember Charles Allen shared updates on the city's continued Covid-19 response as DC closes in on one year since the city shut down. The past 11 months of the pandemic have exposed city inequities in healthcare, transportation, schooling, etc. and these inequities must be addressed just as much as the pandemic itself. While the city will be receiving more vaccine doses, the demand far outpaces the supply and the current scheduling system is not ideal; Mr. Allen has heard frustrations from many community members and is aware that the current system must be more equitable. A new system is forthcoming in early March where residents will be able to register once and be notified when vaccine doses are available for them, rather than needing to sign onto the registering system at a designated time. There will also be a working recovery committee to research and write proposals to help the District recover, especially in housing and education. Councilmember Allen is working on bringing vaccines directly to senior resident facilities and on inexpensive transportation to vaccination sites. Councilmember Allen also spoke about the Mayor's budget, which will initially be proposed by the beginning of April 2021 and amended and voted on in May 2021. ANCs and community members will have opportunity for input before the vote at the Ward 6 Budget Town Hall. An audit of 2019 revealed a surplus of \$526 million, which Councilmember Allen called an unacceptable error in the face of the devastation the pandemic has brought the District. Even with the previous year's surplus, 2020 will have a budgetary deficit, and Councilmember Allen had proposed a progressive tax on individuals earning \$250,000+ and for these funds to be funneled back into the most underserved communities in the District; this was voted down by his colleagues. The Councilmember explained the upcoming redistricting process and cautioned that Ward 6 boundaries will definitely be different in a year. Councilmember Allen addressed several community members' concerns about affordable housing and rent increases after the eviction moratorium ends and invites community members to reach out to him at [callen\[at\]dccouncil.us](mailto:callen@dccouncil.us) for further discussions. Finally, Councilmember Allen noted that he and several other DC representatives adamantly oppose

the Capitol fencing, which not only blocks off public spaces such as the outdoor portions of the Botanical Garden but also blocks evacuation routes; interested community members can visit www.dontfencethecapitol.com.

Single Member District reports

Commissioner Chatterjee (6A01) wished everyone a happy Black History Month. She had a helpful discussion with several transit-dependent residents at an event organized to celebrate Rosa Parks' birthday.

Commissioner Toomajian (6A02) has been working with senior neighbors to make vaccine appointments. He noted that the School-within-School @Goding (SWS) modernization is slowly making progress and a construction kick-off date should be scheduled soon. Several curb extension submissions were approved by DDOT and he is hopeful that this work will happen in the coming months.

Commissioner Soderman (6A03) has been working with seniors to schedule vaccine appointments and is hopeful that the current scheduling system will be improved shortly to accommodate more people and be more equitable. He mentioned a slight uptick in community crime and is working with MPD to increase their presence to work on crime prevention.

Commissioner Gove (6A04) is looking forward to working on H Street safety solutions.

Commissioner Gentile (6A05) spoke about traffic concerns and is working with constituents on a traffic safety assessment for the 300-400 blocks of 11th Street; the commissioner heard from a 15th Street constituent about speeding on C Street NE toward the traffic light. She set up a Google Group for her SMD and will be sending a monthly email and asks for her SMD constituents to send her an email to join.

Commissioner Dooling (6A06) thanks Commissioner Chatterjee for organizing an event for Rosa Parks' birthday. There was another crash on 13th and H Streets where a driver hit a barricade; the front of the car including the license plate came off and the driver drove away. ANC 7E passed a resolution to support the streetcar extension to east of the river and hopes that ANC 6A will support this resolution as well. Finally, several constituents are still waiting for Christmas tree pickup.

Community Comments

Naomi Mitchell, Community Liaison in the office of Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen, recognized community members' frustration in vaccine scheduling inefficacy and noted that those eligible can use not only the portal to schedule an appointment but schedule with pharmacies, their doctor's offices, and community clinics. She knows there are many rumors floating around about the vaccine and there is a virtual community town hall on February 12, 2021 at 11:00 am: interested parties can call 866 495 1091 for vaccine information helpful for those skeptical about the vaccine. On February 16, 2021 at 6:30 pm, DPR is hosting a Ward 6 virtual meeting on Ready2Play, a 20-year master plan about what the community wants for their parks and public spaces. Ms. Mitchell can be reached at [Nmitchell\[at\]dccouncil.us](mailto:Nmitchell@dccouncil.us).

A resident of the 1600 block of Gales Street raised concerns about a neighbor's disorderly conduct which is negatively impacting their community.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.