

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A  
Minutes  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom  
March 9, 2023**

**Present:** Commissioners Amber Gove, Keya Chatterjee, Robb Dooling, Mike Velasquez, Roberta Shapiro, and Steve Moilanen were present. Commissioner Laura Gentile was absent.

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

Chair Amber Gove called the meeting to order and noted the presence of a quorum. The minutes for the ANC February 2023 meeting were accepted. The agenda for the March 2023 meeting was accepted by unanimous consent.

### **Community Presentations**

#### **DPR Update - Christopher Dyer, Community Engagement Manager, Department of Parks and Recreation**

Mr. Christopher Dyer reminded everyone that DPR is the #1 ranked park system in the country and hosts year-round programming and events across 900 acres of green space. There are several triangle parks in ANC 6A as well as Lovejoy, Kingsman, and Sherwood Parks. Mr. Dyer announced that summer camp registration is opening on March 13 at [www.Dprsummercamp.com](http://www.Dprsummercamp.com), and there are options for all ages as well as a reduced rate for those who qualify. Lottery registration is for DC residents only and closes on April 5<sup>th</sup>. DPR is currently working with DGS to get a design team for Kingman Park, then will schedule a community meeting for feedback; there are no concept designs or budget breakdowns at this time. Commissioner Roberta Shapiro shared several safety, parking, and rodent concerns about Sherwood; the playground will be resurfaced in the coming months and DPR will continue attempting repairs maintenance. Mr. Dyer can be reached at (202) 702-9453 or Christopher.Dyer[at]dc.gov and shared the following resources:

DPR Programs: [www.DPRPrograms.com](http://www.DPRPrograms.com)

DPR Events: [www.DPR.events](http://www.DPR.events)

To create a DPR account: [www.DPR.dc.gov/DPRaccount](http://www.DPR.dc.gov/DPRaccount)

DPR Calendar: [www.DPR.dc.gov/DPRcalendar](http://www.DPR.dc.gov/DPRcalendar)

DPR Permits: [www.dpr.dc.gov/permits](http://www.dpr.dc.gov/permits)

DPR Capital Project: [www.dpr.dc.gov/CapitalProject](http://www.dpr.dc.gov/CapitalProject)

DPR Maintenance Request Form: [Community Facilities Maintenance Request Form | dgs \(dc.gov\)](http://CommunityFacilitiesMaintenanceRequestForm|dgs(dc.gov))

DPR Properties: [ArcGIS - DPR Sites 2022](http://ArcGIS-DPRSites2022)

Government-owned Properties: [District Government Land \(Owned, Operated, and or managed\) | District Government Land \(Owned, Operated, and or managed\) | Open Data DC](http://DistrictGovernmentLand(Owned,Operated,andormanaged)|DistrictGovernmentLand(Owned,Operated,andormanaged)|OpenDataDC)

**Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen**

Councilmember Charles Allen shared that we are heading into budget season and the Mayor will be proposing next fiscal year's budget in two weeks (with the fiscal year beginning on October 1, 2023). The timeline is as follows: at the end of March, the Mayor releases the budget; Council committees review it until the end of May, and Councilmember Allen hosts an annual Ward 6 budget town hall at School Within a School on April 6. In general, the district's economy is continuing to grow although it has slowed in comparison to projections due to downtown commercial property assessments. Smart, strategic investments are key, especially in local schools which are unfortunately facing budget cuts that Councilmember Allen will be fighting to reverse. Teacher retention is decreasing - 30% of DCPS and 38% of charter schools teachers left last year - and the Councilmember will be working towards supporting teachers to keep teachers satisfied in their positions. The Councilmember is chairing the Transportation and Environment Committee, where traffic safety, implementation, and funding will be a large focus, as well as WMATA recovery. On the Council of Governments Committee, the Councilmember will be focusing on expanding electric vehicle charging infrastructure, equitable residential electrification, and a free city bus system. Public safety remains a huge focus with a continued both/and approach, with effective policing and accountability and also investment in prevention strategies, especially in at-risk communities. Councilmember Allen did share an update about the recent fatality on D Street NE, which MPD has reported did not actually happen on D Street - the individual incurred wounds elsewhere, did not seek medical attention, and was found unresponsive at D Street. The Councilmember will continue pushing for recreation centers to be open on weekends and is pleased to hear that several will soon have extended hours on Saturdays. He is also continuing to push for the H Street bus priority project and opposes installing an NFL stadium in the RFK stadium space but has no timeline update. While the Councilmember often receives inquiries about an H Street BID, an H Street Main Street already exists and the Councilmember is meeting with its Director to find out about any plans. He will continue to advocate for retail on the first floor of new developments and especially smaller spaces conducive to small local businesses. The annual Ward 6 spring cleanup is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023. The Councilmember can be reached at Callen[at]dccouncil.gov.

### **Consent Agenda**

The following items were adopted by unanimous consent:

#### **Community Outreach (COC)**

- ANC 6A send a letter to Councilmember Charles Allen requesting the DC Council offer a resolution honoring the late Mr. William Outlaw honoring his long-time service to the Capitol Hill community.

#### **Transportation and Public Space (TPS)**

- ANC 6A send a letter of support to HSEMA for the 2023 Capitol Hill Classic Races.
- ANC 6A send a letter of support to DDOT Public Space Committee to enclose a second floor balcony at 207 14th Place NE. (Public Space Permit #B2107610)

- ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT regarding sidewalk repairs, sidewalk gaps, and pedestrian infrastructure.
- ANC 6A send a letter of support to the DC Council for the Automated Traffic Enforcement Effectiveness Amendment Act of 2022 (<https://lms.dccouncil.gov/downloads/LIMS/51272/Introduction/B24-0998-Introduction.pdf>) and the Reckless Driver Accountability Act of 2022 (<https://lms.dccouncil.gov/downloads/LIMS/51379/Introduction/B24-1027-Introduction.pdf>).

### **Officer Reports:**

1. The March 2023 Treasurer's report by Commissioner Steve Moilanen reviewed the three expenditures accrued in February: \$765.89 for webmaster services, \$250 for notetaking, and \$58.29 for Zoom Pro/Webinar. Accounts payable include \$50 to the Office of the DC Auditor (Check # 2046) and \$500 for notetaking services for December 2022 and January 2023 (Checks #2047 and #2048). The opening uncommitted funds available were \$35,872 After disbursements and accounts payable totaling \$1624.18, the closing available checking balance is \$34,247.82. The savings account opened at \$100.05, gained no interest, and closed at \$100.05. The Treasurer's report was approved by unanimous consent.

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

#### **Community Outreach**

1. The February 2023 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, March 27, 2023 (4<sup>th</sup> Monday)

#### **Alcohol Beverage Licensing**

1. No report. ABL did not meet in February 2023.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, March 28, 2023 (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday)

#### **Transportation and Public Space**

1. The February 2023 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, March 20, 2023 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)

#### **Economic Development and Zoning**

1. The February 2023 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Robb Dooling seconded the motion that ANC 6A send letters of support to BZA for a request for area variance relief pursuant to Subtitle X § 1002 from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E § 304.1, special exception relief pursuant to Subtitle E § 5201 and Subtitle X § 901.2 from the rear yard requirements of Subtitle E § 5004.1, special exception relief pursuant to Subtitle U § 301.1(g) and Subtitle X § 901.2 from the matter-of-right uses of Subtitle U § 301, and to HPRB for historic review of a project to construct a second story accessory dwelling unit addition to an existing detached, accessory garage in the rear of an existing, attached, three-story principal dwelling unit at 915 Maryland Avenue NE (HPA #23-104/BZA #20891) in the RF-1 zone in the Capitol Hill Historic District. Both letters will state that

support is on the condition that the plans be updated so that the access to the upper unit is only available from the rear yard and not the alley.

The owners have an existing garage that is 75-100 years old and is already over yard occupancy and rear yard requirement, which is why they are seeking relief. The owners will be working with an architect to re-draw the plans and ensure that the upper unit will only be accessible from the rear yard. They confirm that they are not interested in using the space as an AirBnB but rather as a space for their aging children and parents. The motion passed 6-0.

3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Dooling seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter of support for Special Exception relief pursuant to Subtitle C § 703 and Subtitle X § 901.2 from the minimum vehicle parking requirements of Subtitle C § 701.5, special exception relief pursuant to Subtitle C § 909 and Subtitle X § 901.2 from the access requirements of Subtitle C § 904.5, and special exception relief pursuant to Subtitle H §§ 910.1 and 1202; and Subtitle X § 901.2 from the development standards of Subtitle H § 901 to construct a new, detached, five-story with cellar and penthouse, 80-unit apartment addition, to existing mixed-use buildings in the NC-16 Zone at 1000-1016 H Street NE (BZA #20880) on condition that the residential units on the ground floor be designated as artist space/studios, and this would be written into the condominium bylaws, and that the developer make best efforts not to include natural gas in the building, and that if these conditions are not met, ANC 6A should oppose the request.

Several community members voiced their concerns including parking, ground level retail, construction impact, IZ units, shade, and gas leaks and are disappointed that the applicant has not appeared at any meetings, although the applicant's representative presented several concessions and updates that have been incorporated in response to these concerns. Neighbors in the adjacent properties are especially concerned. The applicants have agreed not to use natural gas in appliances and HVAC systems but are looking into whether it is needed for emergency elevators. The motion did not pass with a 1-5 vote; Commissioners Gove, Moilanen, Shapiro, Mike Velasquez, and Keya Chatterjee opposed.

Commissioner Shapiro moved and Commissioner Dooling seconded the motion that ANC 6A ask BZA to delay, and if the delay is not granted, then ANC 6A send a letter of opposition to the project unless there is a commitment to no non-emergency natural gas and a retail or non-residential activated space on the ground level, as well as a construction agreement with adjacent properties. The motion passed 6-0.

4. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, March 15, 2023 (3rd Wednesday)

#### **New Business**

- Commissioners Gove and Gentile moved and Commissioner Chatterjee seconded the motion that ANC 6A approve Mark Sussman (6A04) and Paul Angelone (6A05) to

and remove Hassan Christian from the membership of the TPS Committee. The motion passed 6-0.

- Commissioner Chatterjee moved and Commissioner Shapiro seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a resolution to President Joseph Biden condemning his indication that he plans to sign a bill passed by Congress that would overturn the Revised Criminal Code Act, a law passed unanimously by the Council of the District of Columbia. The motion passed 5-0-1; Commissioner Velasquez abstained.

## **Commission Business**

### **Single Member District reports**

Commissioner Chatterjee (6A01) reported 35 rounds of gunfire at the alley entrance of the Havana, not for the first time.

Commissioner Velasquez (6A02) testified before the Judiciary and Public Safety Committee and has been working with MPD to increase the police presence in his SMD, especially around the Autozone. The Commissioner has been working with ANC 6C and is grateful to ANC 6C Commissioner Kelty for his work and representation of Ward 6. There is an application for a liquor license from 1123 8<sup>th</sup> Street that is being met with community concern; after a hearing this week, the applicants have withdrawn their application but the attorney has not yet confirmed this. The developer of 1207 H Street is going to appear before the EDZ Committee at his own request.

Commissioner Shapiro (6A03) listened to testimonies from a DDOT hearing and has been trying to no avail to receive information on 11<sup>th</sup> Street NE. The Commissioner is working on parking passes at School with School @ Goding (SWS) - there is an empty DPR parking lot all day and a preliminary agreement between the owner of Avec Apartments to provide teacher parking. Sidewalk safety continues to be an issue with several injuries on sidewalks. There is a 4-member liaison committee with Sasha Bruce House.

Commissioner Gove (6A04) reported a 7D/6A monthly cleanup as well as an April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 cleanup at Maury Elementary School. The Commissioner attended the recent MPD meeting and strongly suggests residents attend and pose their questions. The Eliot Hine Middle School community pantry - that the ANC has funded through a grant - is open at any time during DCPS school hours.

Commissioner Dooling (6A06) reported a theft at gunpoint on H Street NE and urges all small businesses in the area to share their camera footage. A truck driver hit a constituent's house in a tight alley; in another alley, H Street visitors are parking in front of resident garages, resulting in some residents putting up their own traffic cones in their driveways. The Commissioner encourages residents to use 311 to request roadway signage.

Commissioner Moilanen (6A07) is grateful to Councilmember Allen and his office for clarifying the circumstances and facts about the death at D Street NE. The Commissioner also appreciates Chair Greenfield for some work on behalf of a

constituent on a HPRB issue. There is a new Italian restaurant on the east side of Lincoln Park called Pacci's.

### **Community Comment**

MOCRS representative Jake Stolzenberg can be reached at (202) 341-3659 or [jake.stolzenberg\[at\]dc.gov](mailto:jake.stolzenberg[at]dc.gov) and is a liaison between community members and businesses and any DC agencies. The Mayor's budget will be available closer to the end of March 2023, and DCPS budget cuts will be addressed.

Jen DeMayo from Councilmember Allen's office shared that the universal basic income program is beginning; those eligible need only to file their taxes and apply. More information here: <https://eitc.dc.gov/>

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 pm.