

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A**  
**Minutes**  
**Miner Elementary School**  
**April 10, 2012**

**Present:** Commissioners Alberti, Healy, Holmes, Hysell, Lawler, Mack, Ronneberg, Veenendaal-Selck

The meeting was convened one hour later than usual, at 8pm, and the agenda was taken out of order in order to complete the ANC's business in time for the Miner School deadline.

**1. Community Outreach Committee**

Elizabeth Nelson, committee chair, recommended that the ANC approve a grant of \$650 to the Capitol Hill Garden Club for the purchase of bulbs for planting for spring flowering in public areas within ANC 6A. CHGC president Vera Sisolak was present and reminded the Commission that this has been a successful program funded by the ANC for several years. **Motion:** Mr. Holmes moved/Ms. Lawler seconded a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation to award a grant of \$650 to the Capitol Hill Garden Club. The motion passed without objection,

The report of the committee was accepted without objection.

**2. Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee**

H Street Country Club -1335 H Street NE

This is a request for a substantial change for the H Street Country Club at 1335 H Street NE, which would like to establish a sidewalk café outside the establishment. **Motion:** The committee moved/Mr. Healy seconded a motion to accept the committee's recommendation that the ANC protest the Country Club's application for a substantial change unless there is an approved addendum to their voluntary agreement by the petition date that limits the hours of the public space to 11pm Monday through Thursday, and 12am Fridays and Saturdays. After a brief discussion, it was determined to postpone the vote until after a discussion, scheduled for later in the meeting, is held on the public space permit needed for the outdoor café.

Kith and Kin Pizza - 1118 H Street NE

**Motion:** The committee moved/Mr. Healy seconded a motion that the ANC protest the application for Kith & Kin Pizza at 1118 H Street NE unless there is an approved voluntary agreement prior to the petition date. Mr. Healy said that it is a standard agreement and he sees no problems on the horizon. The motion was approved 6-0-1, with Mr. Alberti not voting.

Amended Questionnaire

**Motion:** The Committee moved/Mr. Healy seconded a motion that the ANC approve the amended questionnaire that is on the ANC website as guidance for owners before they come to the committee. He said it is not to be filled out, but only used to assess what the committee is looking for. Mr. Holmes said that this is exactly what the ANC should be doing, and doing with everything. (A copy of the amended questionnaire appears on the Committee's website.) The motion was approved 6-0-1, with Mr. Alberti not voting.

### Expanding the Current Ban on Single Sales

**Motion:** The Committee moved/Mr. Healy seconded a motion to urge the ANC to support efforts to amend the DC law to expand the current Ward 6 ban on singles sales to include a ban on selling two- or three-packs of alcohol. These are often packs put together by store owners rather than manufacturers. Mr. Holmes asked about whether growlers were included, and Mr. Healy said it hadn't been discussed. The motion passed 6-0-2, with Mr. Alberti and Ms. Mack not voting.

The report of the committee was accepted without objection.

### **3. Treasurer's Report**

Mr. Alberti delivered the Treasurer's report. He reported that the opening balance in the checking account was \$20,890.49 and the savings account balance was \$4,206.64. There was an interest payment to the savings account of \$.18. There were disbursements of \$200 to Heather Schoell for the March 2012 agenda package (Check #1550-); \$160 to the US Postal Service for six month's rental of a postal box (check #1551); and \$180 to Roberta Weiner for February 12 minutes (Check #1552), leaving a balance of \$20,350.49 in the checking account, and \$4,206.82 in the savings account.

**Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Healy seconded a motion to approve the disbursements. It passed without objection.

**Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Hysell seconded a motion to approve the Quarterly Report for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of FY 12. The motion passed without objection.

**Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Healy seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. It passed without objection.

### **4. Public Space and Transportation Committee**

#### Outdoor Café - H Street Country Club -1335 H Street NE

Mr. Mahmud reported that his committee had recommended approving an outdoor café for the H Street Country Club, which would be situated 10' from the curb and have seating for 10 patrons. Mr. Alberti asked whether there would be enough space with the H Street crowds. Mr. Mahmud said that it should be left to the DDOT Public Space Committee to answer those questions.

The owner's representative consulted his drawings and said there was 15.5 feet between the building line and the curb, Mr. Holmes pointed out that there was valet parking. Mr. Alberti asked about the distance from the tree box and was told there is no tree box. Mr. Healy pointed out that they have signed off on earlier patio hours, and the owner's representative pointed out that the tables are 24" plus the planter and barrier.

Mr. Alberti said he was concerned about setting a precedent for other outdoor spaces on H Street, and he would like to stipulate a clearance of 10' from the patio to the curb; he said he would like to see 8' of sidewalk or a minimum of 6'. He said that drunk people bumping into each other is not good. The owner's representative said he thinks they can do 10'.

Dr. Ronneberg said it should be limited to a single row of tables. Ms. Nelson said that given a hydrant, poles, etc. it should be a minimum of 6'. Mr. Hysell said the measurement should be the width of one row of tables plus the planters. Margaret Holwill suggested that the owners were responsible and it should be self-regulating. Mr. Mahmud said he appreciated the suggestion of having no more than a single row of tables. **Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Ms. Lawler seconded a

motion to accept the committee's recommendation to support an outdoor café at the H Street Country Club with the caveat there be 10' clearance between the curb and the patio area. The motion passed 7-0-1 with Mr. Alberti not voting.

#### Traffic Calming Measures on Florida Avenue NE

**Motion:** The Committee moved/Mr. Healy seconded a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation to send a letter to DDOT supporting efforts to calm traffic on Florida Avenue NE between 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and West Virginia Avenue NE, including analyzing the reduction of one lane of traffic in each direction, installing turn lanes, and widening sidewalks, among other solutions. Mr. Mahmud said that this would be joining with ANC 6C, and although it's a different ANC, it's worth supporting. Mr. Holmes said that support for this is a "no brainer." The motion passed without objection.

The report of the committee was accepted without objection.

#### Moving Bus Stop

**Motion:** The Committee moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion urging that the ANC accept the committee's recommendation to send a follow-up letter to DDOT regarding the ANC's previous request to have the bus stop moved back to its original location at the northeast corner of H Street and 14<sup>th</sup> Street NE from its current location on the west corner, in front of Rose's Dream. The motion passed without objection.

### 5. Economic Development And Zoning Committee

#### 808 L Street NE

This is a request for support for a special exception for the construction of a garage at 808 L Street NE. The garage will include a deck above the garage for green space. The revised lot occupancy will be 70%. The owners have letter of support from their western neighbor but were unsuccessful in reaching the eastern neighbor. However, the structure has a 5' setback and aligns with the neighboring garage/fence structure. **Motion:** The committee moved/Mr. Healy seconded a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation to send a letter of support to the BZA for a special exception to construct a garage at 808 L Street NE. the motion passed 7-0, unanimously.

#### RL Christian Library Site Redevelopment

Dr. Ronneberg pointed out that it has been many months since it was announced that the site of RL Christian Library would be redeveloped, but nothing has happened and the site appears to be languishing. **Motion:** The Committee moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion that the ANC accept the committee's recommendation to send a letter to the Deputy Mayor for Economic Development and Planning requesting a status update on the RL Christian site and inviting him to come to an ANC meeting and report in person. The motion passed unanimously.

The report of the committee was accepted without objection.

### 5. New Business

#### GT Liquors - 1835 Benning Road NE

**Motion:** Mr. Healy moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to recommend that the ANC accept the Committee's decision to protest the renewal of a Class A (wine, beer and spirits) license for GT

Liquors, 1835 Benning Road NE until the Committee has an opportunity to consider the renewal with community input. The motion passed 6-0-2, with Mr. Alberti and Ms. Mack not voting.

#### Extending Establishment Hours

Mr. Holmes raised the issue of whether the ANC should weigh in on Council Committee or Human Services' hearing to discuss the proposal in the Mayor's budget to allow restaurants, taverns and nightclubs to remain open and serve alcohol until 3am weekdays and 4am weekends. The Mayor has produced increased revenue projections from the increased hours (\$5.2 million). Mr. Holmes said he is inclined to testify in opposition. It would mean, among other things, trashing voluntary agreements. Mr. Albert said that VAs would stay in effect.

Mr. Holmes said there should be community input, and that Councilmember Graham thinks so too. The ANC's VAs do not generally restrict hours of operation because they don't restate the current law. Any change in hours is considered a substantial change. **Motion:** Mr. Holmes moved/Mr. Healy seconded a motion to oppose the Mayor's budget proposal to extend hours of restaurants, taverns and nightclubs. If the hours are extended, anyone who wanted to extend hours would have to put in an application for a substantial change. The motion passed 7-0-1, with Mr. Alberti not voting.

#### FreshFarm Market

The FreshFarm farmers market has found a new home, at the site of the RL Christian Library at 12<sup>th</sup> and H Street NE, and seeks a letter of support from the ANC. The Market operates from 8am until noon on Saturdays through November. **Motion:** Mr. Hysell moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion to send a letter supporting the location of the FreshFarm Market at the site of the RL Christian Library to the Public Space Committee at DDOT. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

#### ANC 6A Voluntary Agreements and ABRA

Mr. Healy reported that ABRA had rejected the modifications the ANC had suggested to the changes that had been made to several VAs, and he recommended accepting ABRA's changes. **Motion:** Mr. Healy moved/Mr. Hysell seconded a motion to accept the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Board changes, including the new ANC/ABC Board-approved language for section 3(d) to the voluntary agreements for Dangerously Delicious Pies, Da Luft, Pho Bar and Grill, Casbah, HR-57, DC Conscious Café, Impala Cantina Y Taqueria and any other pending voluntary agreement that needs such a modification. Further, the ANC should include these changes into the standard voluntary agreement. The motion passed 7-0-1, with Mr. Alberti not voting.

### 6. SMD Reports

**Ms. Mack** reported that on March 28, she met with the Board of Trustees of DCPL about relocating these legendary names—RL Christian and John Mercer Langston to the new Rosedale Library. On March 29<sup>th</sup>, she testified at the Budget Oversight Hearing for the fiscal year 2013 Budget Support Act of 2012, fiscal year 2013 Committee on Libraries, Parks, Recreation and Planning—full time staff and Committee individuals. Chairperson: Councilmember Tommy Wells. She also reported that she held a meeting-ANC 6A07 with the Rosedale Grassroots Organization on April 10, 2012 about co-locating RL Christian and the John Mercer Langston Libraries to the new Rosedale Community Library located at 17<sup>th</sup> and Gales Street NE. Speakers about RL Christian were Roslyn S. Christian and Judge Kaye Christian. The speakers for John Mercer Langston were Edward Phillips Gilbert and Christopher Philips Gilbert.

**Dr. Ronneberg** reported that the midline substation at Khan's Barbeque had been moved, and that there was a Bikeshare station at 12<sup>th</sup> Street and H Street. He said there had been an oil slick at H and 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **7. Community Comment**

Sondra Phillips-Gilbert of the Rosedale Grassroots Organization expressed a preference that the names of the two now-closed local libraries, the R.L. Christian and John Mercer Libraries be incorporated in naming the new library.

Chris Fitzgerald of the Mayor's Office announced a Ward 6 meeting on the budget at the Atlas Theatre on April 25.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.