

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A  
Minutes  
Miner Elementary School  
April 12, 2018**

**Present:** Commissioners Phil Toomajian (Chair), Marie Claire Brown, Sondra-Phillips-Gilbert, Patrick Malone, Mike Soderman, Amber Gove, Stephanie Zimny and Calvin Ward.

The meeting convened at 7:05 pm.

Chairman Phil Toomajian called the roll and announced the presence of a quorum. The minutes for the ANC March 2018 meeting were accepted as amended, and the agenda for the April 2018 meeting was accepted without changes or objection. Chairman Toomajian introduced Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Fifth District Captain John McDonald.

**Community Presentations**

John McDonald, Captain, MPD Fifth District

Captain McDonald provided basic safety information and gave advice on what to do when one calls 911, including tips on providing descriptions of suspicious persons. He reported that while crime is up in ANC 6A over the past 30 days, crime is significantly down year-to-date. He reminded individuals not to leave items of value in their vehicles, and that it takes very little time to commit theft from automobiles. He gave information on [crimemap.dc.gov](http://crimemap.dc.gov), an online crime mapping tool that anyone can access. He stated that to address an uptick in sounds of gunshots in the Rosedale and Langston communities, he has put a crime plan in effect and more officers will be present in those neighborhoods. He also mentioned that there is enhanced traffic enforcement in the C Street and E Street NE corridors. He stated that in the Fifth District, they hold a monthly “meet and greet” event, which gives citizens an opportunity to meet the officers that patrol their area. He announced that although there has been a Summer Crime Initiative program in the past and that one has not been established yet for this year.

Gerard Brown, Program Manager, DC Department of Health Rodent and Vector Control

Mr. Brown announced a significant increase in the budget for the rodent and vector control program, which will allow his office to enhance the services it provides, to include additional staff. He reported that there were 2,000 more complaints in the last fiscal year than the previous one, crediting the mild winters with the increase in rodent activity. He announced plans to increase response times to complaints from 14 days to 3 days, and equip their staff with handheld devices to provide updates on their activity in real time. Mr. Brown announced new rodent control methods and a pilot program to test these methods; which include the use of dry ice for extermination, and birth control for rodents to control the population. He answered questions on the use of dry ice and explained how it works to suffocate rodents in their burrows, and described the method as non-toxic to humans, humane, and inexpensive. He went on to provide an overview of the operations of his office, and what happens when a resident calls 311 to request their services. He explained that they send both pest control and code enforcement officers, and also described the use of “blitzes;” which are multi-agency efforts to combat concentrated, larger rodent issues. He stated that education and enforcement are crucial to addressing issues related to restaurants and their responsibilities regarding rodent control, and said that his office has held meetings for establishments along the H Street Corridor.

#### Kevin Harding, Lieutenant, MPD First District

Sergeant Nelson provided comments in Lieutenant Harding's stead. He reported that officers closed four burglaries. They apprehended a 17 year old male, who entered four residences in the 600 block of H Street NE, and recovered much of the stolen property. They also closed two robberies, one on the 1300 block of C Street NE, and the 1200 block of D Street NE. On March 24, 2018, there was a homicide on the 1300 block of Florida Ave NE, which has been closed and an individual arrested. Sergeant Nelson went on to report that crime is down overall by 11% in the last 30 days. Crime is also down by 19% in comparison to this time last year. He mentioned the prevalence of theft from automobiles, and stated that participating in the CapitalShield camera program is helpful to assist law enforcement. Commissioner Marie Claire Brown expressed concern with reports from citizens about illicit drug activity in the environs of the 700 block of Eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) Street NE, which seem to correlate with pop-up "pot parties." Sergeant Nelson stated that officers could patrol in unmarked cruisers to observe any illicit activity.

#### Julie Lawson, Director, Mayor's Office of the Clean City

Ms. Lawson described the Office of the Clean City's mission and function which is to provide interagency coordination on policy and projects relating to litter, rodent control, and pet waste management. Her office works closely with Gerard Brown and the office of Rodent and Vector Control; an example being the aforementioned "blitzes" to combat rodents. Her office coordinates city services to address illegal dumping, illegal construction, abandoned autos, etc. as well. She announced enhanced 311 reporting, to include mapping complaints to discern where "hotspots" may be located. Ms. Lawson distributed pledge forms and information on Mayor Bowser's first Citywide Clean-Up, to be held on April 21, 2018. She also provided information on the Adopt-A-Block program and new data collection methods and incentives for participating groups in an effort to increase participation and expand the program. She announced a new MOU between her office and the National Park Service (NPS) to allow for adoption of NPS sites, and stated that various new Adopt-A-Park, Adopt-A-Stream, Adopt-A-Block initiatives will be helmed by an overarching Adopt-Your-City campaign. She explained how sensors on numerous trash cans will allow her office to better optimize trash can management and placement. Ms. Lawson announced a \$500,000 budget from the city for trash compactors for restaurants, and an \$8 million proposal to identify a composting facility so the city can add curbside composting services to reduce our total waste volume. Ms. Lawson answered questions from the Commissioners and addressed concerns about trash outside of the Chick-Fil-A.

#### **Officer Reports**

Chairman Toomajian announced that the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) will be in attendance next month. He also announced that the Kingman Park Historic District application hearing will resume before the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) on April 26, 2018.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Commissioner Stephanie Zimny presented the Treasurer's Report. There were disbursements of \$1199.00 for webmaster, agenda, notetaking and FedEx, and P.O. box rental renewal expenses, leaving a balance of \$9,941.88. There is a balance of \$13,771.35 in the savings account.

The report was approved by unanimous consent.

## **Committee Reports**

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

The March 2018 report was accepted by unanimous consent.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 23, 2018

### **Alcohol Beverage Licensing (ABL)**

The March 2018 report was accepted by unanimous consent.

**Motion:** The Committee recommended, and Commissioner Mike Soderman seconded the motion that the ANC not protest the license renewal of 7 River, LLC, t/a 7 River Mart (250 11th Street NE). The motion passed 8-0.

**Motion:** Commissioner Patrick Malone moved and Commissioner Marie Claire Brown seconded the motion that the ANC protest the license renewal of Sky Globe, Inc., t/a Grand Liquors (409 15th Street NE) (ABRA-108840) unless the ABL Committee recommends not protesting at its April 17, 2018 meeting. The motion passed 8-0.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 17, 2018.

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

The March 2018 report was accepted by unanimous consent.

**Motion:** The Committee moved and Commissioner Calvin Ward seconded the motion to send a letter of conditional support to DDOT for Loaf Coffee's (101 15th Street NE) public space application for a sidewalk cafe if and only if trash storage has been moved off of public space prior to the April 12, 2018 ANC 6A meeting. Support was conditional on the applicant's agreement to:

- a. The applicant only operates the sidewalk cafe space from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.
- b. Take reasonable efforts to contain noise within the sidewalk cafe space including, but not limited to, using any sidewalk cafe removable structures it may now or in the future install (e.g., a sidewalk cafe canopy, roll down plastic windows, etc.) and any other reasonable means to contain noise, but only to the extent allowable by applicable District laws and regulations.
- c. Only use the sidewalk cafe space for food and drink service, and not for any playing of music, amplified or otherwise, or for any other use, including live performances.
- d. If applicant installs fencing around the sidewalk cafe area, it shall be consistent with DDOT specifications and the fencing enclosing other sidewalk cafes within ANC 6A, which shall include fencing or bars designed to keep trash contained within the sidewalk cafe area (preferably by minimizing any gaps at the bottom of the fencing).
- e. Use easily moveable chairs and tables that shall be moved to the side and locked up when not in use.
- f. Ensure no trash container of any sort will be stored anywhere on public space, including on the sidewalk cafe itself.
- g. Regularly maintain the adjacent tree boxes and keep all areas in front of the business and within the sidewalk cafe area clean, including the adjacent sidewalk and street gutter.

The owners of the building, who were present, consented to all conditions and the motion passed 8-0.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 16, 2018.

### **Economic Development and Zoning (EDZ)**

The Committee did not meet in March 2018.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 18, 2018.

### **New Business**

Commissioner Amber Gove moved and Chairman Toomajian seconded the motion to send a letter to the Public Space Committee expressing concerns with Public Space Application (Tracking # 289052) for Maury Elementary School, and to authorize Commissioner Gove to represent ANC6A at the hearing. The motion passed 8-0.

### **Single Member District Reports**

Commissioner Soderman (6A03) reported a house fire that began in the attic, and that no one was injured. He reminded residents to check their smoke alarms and to make sure that all home improvement (e.g., roofers, HVAC specialists, electricians) are licensed and using all applicable safety precautions. He reported that the DDOT light upgrades along Massachusetts Ave are about 80% complete. He will be reaching out to the DDOT manager to get an estimated date of completion. He will also be reaching out to DOH Rodent and Vector Control concerning several alleys showing large rodent populations.

Commissioner Malone (6A05) expressed gratitude that the robbery on 1300 C Street NE was solved. He also reminded all present that Commissioner Zimny has been a tireless advocate for her community in addressing concerns and issues regarding the Chick-Fil-A.

Commissioner Sondra Phillips-Gilbert (6A07) hosted a Public Safety Walk in the Rosedale community on March 13, 2018. Local community groups including the Boys & Girls Club Steel Band and Eastern High School performed at the Rosedale community Spring Fling, which was held on April 6, 2018.

Chairman Toomajian (6A02) reported that he has been working on some parking enforcement and public safety concerns connected to the pop-up parties that have been occurring frequently at 733 Eleventh (11<sup>th</sup>) Street NE. These pop-up marijuana gifting parties have been occurring around the District and oftentimes coincide with illicit activity and robberies occurring outside these parties. He reported that police have been able to take limited action, including the closure of one such party on H Street NE, yet this was easier due to the establishment having a liquor license, so police were able to enter with the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA).

Commissioner Brown (6A01) announced that Gallaudet University will present before the EDZ committee to talk about changes to its campus plan.

Commissioner Gove (6A04) reported on the first Hill-wide "Litter-palooza" that took place on April 7, 2018 with more than 50 people in attendance. These will continue every first Saturday of the month at 10:00 am. Thus far, ten (10) area businesses are participating. She explained that to participate, residents go to a participating business who will provide them

with trash bags, gloves, etc., and after picking up litter for an hour, residents return to the business, who gives all participants a small reward. She also announced a new organization, Friends of Lincoln Park, which is taking nominations for board members. This new group is being organized by Jenny Schumacher. They are organizing concerts, clean-ups, and other activities in the park this summer. Friends of Lincoln Park is partnering with the National Park Service (NPS) for activities in the park for Emancipation Day, April 16, 2018.

Commissioner Zimny (6A06) announced that Tony's Breakfast will be participating in the litter clean-up program and providing breakfast to participants. She is reaching out to Councilmember Charles Allen's office to request his participation, and is working on a date for that clean-up. She reported that some residents from Linden Court have been working with ANC Commissioners in Blagden Alley, to find out how Blagden Alley came to be as it is today, to gain insight into addressing the growing pains that Linden Court is experiencing with so much development. She reported that Miner Elementary School had another destructive incident at a playground, and stated that she will be working with the Department of General Services (DGS) and commented on the lack of security cameras at the school. She also announced that residents are able to call 311 to request an alley clean-up.

Commissioner Ward (6A08) thanked DDOT for paving part of Nineteenth (19<sup>th</sup>) Street NE, but expressed concern that only half has been complete and that the bike lanes are not visible. He stated that he had the privilege of speaking to inmates at the DC Jail as part of an Empowerment Session.

### **Community Comments**

Lee Davis, resident of ANC 6A, presented information on behalf a new proposed charter school, Arabic Language Public Charter School, a non-sectarian Arabic-language immersion school with a focus on STEM education. They are interested in Ward 6 as a possibly location. They plan to file the charter application this fall, with the expectation to be open by Fall 2020. They are also interested in creating a Community Advisory Committee, with a low commitment of about two meetings per year. The school would be for elementary school-aged children.

Public Affairs Manager Jamaal Jordan of PEPCO expressed PEPCO's renewed commitment to the communities it serves, particularly to the ANCs, and announced an employee ambassadors program. This program would send PEPCO employee "ambassadors" to ANC meetings in order to facilitate communication and address any issues or concerns among residents and to keep the community abreast of upcoming projects or programs.

Emily Stiever of the non-profit Solar United Neighbors provided comments on their programs and providing solar systems to DC residents. She announced a new DC grant program that would allow income-qualifying residents to install solar systems on their residences for free. She left some literature.

Elizabeth Nelson announced that the Urban Forestry Administration has assumed responsibility for tree maintenance in the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) parks.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.