

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A  
Minutes  
Miner Elementary School  
April 11, 2019**

**Present:** Commissioners Amber Gove (Chairwoman), Phil Toomajian, Mike Soderman, Sondra Phillips-Gilbert, Stephanie Zimny, Ruth Ann Hudson and Brian Alcorn

The meeting convened at 7:00 pm.

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

The minutes for the ANC March 2019 meeting were accepted, and the agenda for the March 2019 meeting was accepted without changes or objection.

**Community Presentations**

Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) Captain Michael Pulliam (1st District)

Captain Pulliam introduced himself as the newly appointed captain of the 1st District. His email is [michael.pulliam@dc.gov](mailto:michael.pulliam@dc.gov) and he can be reached by phone at 202-731-0431. He reported low crime activity but noted that package theft continues to be a large issue. He stated he has a team working to address the issue but advised residents to take advantage of the security camera rebate program through the DC government. Commissioner Mike Soderman asked about the level of priority regarding enforcement of traffic laws in the neighborhood and asked if certain intersections could be given extra attention by MPD. Captain Pulliam responded that they have one or two permanent traffic cars in the evenings and usually during rush hours; he asked for an email identifying a list of intersections that need attention. Commissioner Brian Alcorn asked for an update regarding a recent incident of school fighting that occurred on 17th and A Street NE. Captain Pulliam responded that the school resource officers are the ones who are handling that investigation and while the resource officers are MPD officers, they are assigned centrally and not through the districts. However, Captain Pulliam said he would seek an update through them. Commissioner Phil Toomajian inquired about the bike squad, and Captain Pulliam stated they are still active, but recently have been focusing on H Street NE. He stated that they are operating more in targeted areas, but to alert him if they are needed in a certain area. Chairman Amber Gove asked if it was possible to have more speed enforcement around school zones in the mornings and afternoon pick-up; Captain Pulliam asked her to send him an email and he would follow-up on the issue. Commissioner Stephanie Zimny noted that traffic around the Chick-Fil-A continues to be an issue and has actually worsened; she requested greater enforcement and MPD presence in that area. Captain Pulliam noted that MPD does have an officer specific to that area and stated he would follow-up. Captain Pulliam went on to confirm that MPD is moving away from the Police Service Area (PSA) model but PSAs do continue to operate and hold meetings.

Chief of Staff Ben Stutz, Office of the City Administrator - FY20 Proposed Budget and Investments in Ward 6

Mr. Stutz presented the highlights of the FY20 proposed budget and investments in Ward 6 and distributed printed materials on the subject. He explained that the proposed budget will be submitted to the DC Council in March 2019. The Council will vote on the budget twice, on May 14, 2019, and May 28, 2019. Mr. Stutz stated that now is the best time for the community to provide feedback on the proposed budget. He reported that DC is in a strong

financial position with a budget of \$15.5 billion. The two largest investments are in affordable housing and education. He highlighted the \$30 million towards affordable housing through the Housing Production Trust Fund and the Housing Preservation Fund and \$20 million for a new program called Workforce Housing which increases access to housing for middle income earners (e.g. teachers, first responders, social workers, etc.). He highlighted the \$56.4 million in funding for DC Public Schools and Public Charter Schools. He noted the addition of \$4.6 million initial investment to provide a laptop or device for every student in grades 3, 6 and 9. He reported \$37 million for homelessness prevention and services, \$3 million to expand the number of MPD officers, \$2.5 million for community based grants for violence interruption initiatives, and \$65 million towards the Vision Zero initiative. He went on to highlight local investments specifically, to include \$6.8 million to replace the Rosedale Pool, \$41.1 million to complete the Eliot-Hine Middle School renovation, \$39.8 million for design and Year 1 construction at J.O. Wilson Elementary School, and \$211.2 million to rebuild the H Street NE Bridge.

Commissioner Sondra Phillips-Gilbert asked for more detail regarding the Rosedale Pool. Mr. Stutz responded that it is described as a replacement but that he does not know the details of whether the size and dimensions will remain; the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) would have this information. Chairman Gove asked about the Vision Zero changes and improvements, specifically regarding C Street NE, and how the budget address smaller improvements versus larger projects. Mr. Stutz responded that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) received community feedback on the proposed design changes to C Street NE and this delayed the project. He also stated that the budget for Vision Zero does include funding for smaller, more easily implemented improvements that do not require a lot of planning and engineering; he will get a more detailed breakdown of the Vision Zero budget to provide to the ANC. Commissioner Brian Alcorn noted ongoing challenges with the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA); Mr. Stutz agreed with his assessment but also noted that DCRA's new director, Ernest Chrapprah, has transformative ideas about the future of DCRA and its operations, and the budget has tried to align with this vision. Commissioner Zimny asked about the implementation of the \$4.6 million that will go towards IT devices for students, and Stutz stated that implementation is slated for Fall 2019. The device would move with the student from grade to grade. Commissioner Soderman voiced concerns about the relatively small budgetary commitments for services for the senior community. Mr. Stutz explained that the \$2 million for funding for the Safe at Home program is in addition to the \$4 million in funding it already has; the increase is to address increased demand for participation in the program. Commissioner Philips-Gilbert agreed with Commissioner Soderman and noted the large budget for streetscape investment (\$240 million) versus the relatively low amount dedicated to seniors. Commissioner Toomajian inquired about how to resolve ongoing issues with lag time in basic services, specifically noting maintenance requests to DGS. Mr. Stutz acknowledged that this is an issue, and also underscored that DGS is responsible for hundreds of facilities and the tracking systems and priority decisions can be complex.

#### John Deignan, Communications Coordinator, DC Water

John Deignan introduced himself and spoke about sources of lead in plumbing and gave information about DC Water's lead service pipe replacement programs and took questions about water quality issues. Mr. Deignan explained that water service pipes are those that connect home plumbing to the water main in the street. He stated that the first point where lead will enter water is through this service pipe. Mr. Deignan explained that when water sits in a pipe that contains lead, this is where lead can leach into the water, and that other

sources of lead can include lead solders and brass fixtures. He recommended taking advantage of DC Water's free lead tests. DC Water will send these kits with detailed instructions on how to perform the test. He stated that results are available within four weeks, and if lead is found to be present, DC Water will perform a free, full lead profile of the residence to determine the source of lead. DC Water also maintains an online inventory that shows if any particular address has a historic record of having a lead service pipe. DC Water has documented approximately 44,000 lead service pipes in public space, and about 20,000 on private property. Mr. Deignan went on to describe two different programs to pursue lead service pipe replacement through DC Water and the costs associated with those programs, much of which DC Water will pay for under outlined circumstances, once relevant legislation has been fully funded. Once the programs receive funding, these financial assistance programs will be available no earlier than October 2019. Tommy Wells, DC Water Chair and the Director of DC's Department of Energy & Environment, further explained that the bill was not signed into law until March 22, 2019, and the proposed budget had already been prepared prior to this date. However, he stated that Mayor Bowser is open to putting funds towards the program or incorporating the programs into next year's budget. Mr. Deignan went on to demonstrate how to tell if a pipe is a lead pipe, encouraged community members to filter their drinking water, and gave tips on maintaining water quality in residences. Chairwoman Gove asked if DC Water works with the Department of General Services to replace historic service lines inside and outside of various schools, some that are historic properties, that are currently undergoing renovations. Mr. Deignan replied that the service lines that service schools are larger than ones that service single family homes, and lead was not used for larger service pipes. He stated that DGS is responsible for all plumbing in schools. Director Wells noted that they have tested the water in all 450+ childcare centers in the district recently, and that all childcare centers will receive filters with a replacement schedule to ensure that all water will have a near undetectable level of lead. Chairwoman Gove noted that the filter replacement schedule does not take into account flow or usage of the specific source and asked that Director Wells look further into the possibility of using filters with indicator lights, although these are more costly.

More information can be found by emailing [lead@dcwater.com](mailto:lead@dcwater.com) or calling 202-612-3440.

Eric Winkfield, Public Affairs Manager, and Jamaal Jordan, Public Affairs Manager, Pepco  
Eric Winkfield introduced himself and provided an update on significant electrical outages that occurred in and around the H Street Corridor last summer, spurring the need for significant temporary repairs and strategies to be better prepared in the future for these types of events. He reported that they have now made significant permanent repairs as well. Pepco will be completing upcoming work on H and Fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) Street NE; in order to accomplish this, will instigate evening working hours of 11:00 pm - 4:00am to avoid streetcar interference. He stated that if additional community meetings are needed to inform more of the community of this project that Pepco is amenable to having additional meetings and answering questions. He added that he will follow up with official communication to the ANC and will be sending community letters to those who may be affected in the general area. His email is [eric.winkfield@pepco.com](mailto:eric.winkfield@pepco.com) and his phone number is 202-872-2785.

### **Officer Reports**

Commissioner Zimny announced that there was a grant for Miner Elementary for laptops in the amount of \$899.00 that was approved by the Community Outreach Committee (COC) in October 2018 and was brought forth to the ANC as a whole at the November 2018 meeting, where, through recollection, it was ostensibly approved by the ANC. Katy Thomas presented

on this topic before the ANC at the November 2018 meeting. However, it was not included in the November 2018 meeting minutes and therefore, the check was never issued.

Commissioner Toomajian moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded a motion to amend the November 2018 minutes to include the ANC's approval of the grant for Miner Elementary to purchase laptops in the amount of \$899.00. The motion passed 7-0.

Commissioner Stephanie Zimny presented the Treasurer's Report for March 2019. With the addition of Check #1860 to the Miner Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) for \$899.00, there were disbursements totaling \$1670.00: \$450.00 to Irene Dworakowski (Check 1865) for agenda/web master services; \$200.00 (Check 1867) for the February 2019 minutes; \$121.00 (Check 1866) for FedEx; leaving a balance of \$4,103.05 in the checking account. There is a balance of \$13,794.65, including a \$0.22 interest deposit, in the savings account. The March 2019 report was approved by unanimous consent.

### **Committee Reports**

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

1. The March 2019 was accepted by unanimous consent.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 22, 2019 (4th Monday)

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

1. No report. The Committee did not meet in March 2019.
2. Commissioner Toomajian moved and Commissioner Mike Soderman seconded the motion to protest the license renewal of Dangerously Delicious Pies (1339 H Street NE) unless the ABL Committee recommends not to protest at its April committee meeting. If a protest is filed, the ANC is authorized to be represented by the ABL Co-Chairs, the ANC Chair, and the ANC Vice Chair. The motion passed 7-0.
3. Commissioner Toomajian moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion to send a letter of support for a stipulated endorsement to ABRA for the addition of a 9-seat sidewalk cafe by Duffy's Irish Pub (1016 H Street NE). The motion passed 7-0.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 17, 2019 (3rd Wednesday; usually 3rd Tuesday)

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

1. The March 2019 report was accepted by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion to send a letter of support for the District Department of Transportation's (DDOT) proposal to install traffic calming measures as proposed at the Ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) Street/West Virginia Avenue/L Street NE intersection. The motion passed 6-0.
3. The Committee moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion to decline to support permit application #324283 to extend eight (8) driveways through public space to allow access to the alley lots (SSL#4546, lots 179-186), located behind the 17Solar Condominium property at 410-417 17th Street NE, due to the petitioner's lack of guidance from DDOT's Public Space Committee (PSC) about alley lot access requirements and the likelihood that a more suitable parking solution can be found.

Discussion included concern about the use of public space for this purpose, general confusion from the petitioner on what the PSC would and would not allow, and whether a more appropriate solution could be found. The motion passed 6-0.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 15, 2019 (3rd Monday)

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

1. The March 2019 report was accepted by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion to send a letter of support to BZA for a special exception under Subtitle E Section 5201 from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E Section 304.1, the nonconforming structure requirements of Subtitle C Section 202.2, and the minimum rear yard setback requirements of Subtitle E Section 306.1; to construct a two-story rear addition to an existing principal dwelling unit in the RF-1 Zone at 1433 G Street, NE (BZA #19989). The motion passed 6-0.
3. The Committee moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion to send a letter of support to BZA for a special exception under Subtitle E Section 5201 from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E Section 304.1 and from the nonconforming structure requirements of Subtitle C Section 202.2; to construct a rear addition to an existing, attached principal dwelling unit in the RF-1 Zone at 1348 Constitution Avenue, NE (BZA Case Number 19997). The motion passed 6-0.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 17, 2019 (3rd Wednesday)

### **Single Member District Reports**

Commissioner Ruth Ann Hudson (6A05) is coordinating dates for alley clean ups (end of May or early June 2019). She reported construction concerns on Fourteenth (14<sup>th</sup>) and C Street NE and is working with residents and DCRA to follow up with those concerns.

Commissioner Sondra Phillips-Gilbert (6A07) met with the MPD 5th District, the Office of the Attorney General and Horning Brothers, Inc. that oversee the Pentacle Apartments regarding security on the premises in the face of violent crime on the property. She was also included in the Amazing Love Health Services April 2019 newsletter.

Commissioner Brian Alcorn (6A08) appeared on behalf of the ANC before the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) at their March 27, 2019 meeting, along with neighbors from 1500 block of A Street NE, regarding development at 1511 - 1515 A Street NE. The property has settled on a design plan that is supported by the ANC. The BZA agreed to four out of the five requirements set forth in ANC6A's support of a zoning special exception. A property at 1500 East Capitol Street has been rented by Motir Services, a DC government contractor; they plan to open a full-service restaurant at this location. Demolition has begun on the project.

Commissioner Stephanie Zimny (6A06) reported that Chick Fil A is under construction and will be closed for the next week or two. The venue changed ownership recently and is operating under an interim operator. They will still participate in the monthly litter clean-up events. She has broached traffic concerns with Chick Fil A as well.

Commissioner Mike Soderman (6A03) followed up with Washington Gas, which is doing repairs and new installation of gas lines on C Street NE among other areas in single member districts. He has been communicating with Naomi Klein of DDOT to address a number of transportation issues and MPD on traffic enforcement issues.

Chairman Amber Gove (6A04) reported that in addition to the Hill East monthly litter clean-up, a garden clean-up was also held at the triangle park at Thirteenth (13<sup>th</sup>) Street NE, Tennessee Street NE and Constitution Avenue NE. She stated that residents can request up to eighteen (18) cubic feet of free compost from the Department of Public Works for use in community public space. She thanked Eastern High School for providing the venue for Maury Elementary School's Talent Show and for the EHS band for performing. On the walkthrough for the show, it was discovered that none of the lighting or audio/visual (A/V) systems were operational nor were the two pianos. She contacted DGS and the lighting was fixed, but the A/V system still needs repairs. She expressed frustration that such items were not being maintained despite the school submitting requests for maintenance. She encouraged residents to use 311 and take photos of anything that needs attention from city services.

### **Community Comments**

Roni Hollman asked if there is a completion date for Maury Elementary School; Chairman Gove responded that the substantial completion date is July 31, 2019, and the school will be ready for the first day of school. Ms. Hollman also inquired about the crossing into the school, and Chairman Gove stated that some curb extensions will be completed and that physical barriers such as flexiposts will be erected instead of just signage. However, no other creative solutions have been forthcoming on that issue.

Tyler Williams, Ward 6 Liaison for the Office of the Mayor, provided updates on various topics. She announced that Pepco is giving away 1,000 free trees to resident customers through the Arbor Day Foundation's Energy Saving Trees program. Residents can request three trees per household by visiting [arborday.org/pepco](http://arborday.org/pepco). The city is also offering a host of 2019 DPR summer camps. Camps serve ages 3 -17 and provide free breakfast and lunch. Registration began February 25, 2019; more information can be found at [dpr.dc.gov](http://dpr.dc.gov). She reminded residents that the 2019 Emancipation Day Parade and Concert will occur on April 13, 2019. Lastly, Connect DC and the Department of Aging and Community Living have partnered to offer free technology workshops; more information can be found by calling 202-266-6328.

Naomi Mitchell, Community Liaison, Office of Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen, announced that the DC Career Fair will take place on April 17, 2019 at Arena Stage. She also stated that Councilman Allen's Annual Ward 6 Budget Town Hall will take place on April 23, 2019, at the Arthur Capper Community Center.

Elizabeth Nelson announced that the Capitol Hill Restoration Society (CHRS) will host the 62nd Annual House & Garden Tour on May 11 and 12, 2019. Eastern High School's Blue and White Marching Machine will march along the tour's route on the afternoon of Sunday, May 12.

Students from Catholic University in the field of social work were in attendance. They attended the meeting to get a better understanding of the community and community resources.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.