

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Minutes
Zoom Meeting
April 10, 2025**

Present: Commissioners Dave Wethington, Jeff Giertz, Stephen Kolb, Roberta Shapiro, Mike Velasquez and Amber Gove were present. Commissioner Paul Spires was absent.

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

Commissioner Dave Wethington called the meeting to order and noted the presence of a quorum. The minutes for the ANC March 2025 meeting were accepted subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary. The agenda for the April 2025 meeting was accepted by unanimous consent.

The community received meeting notice via listservs, the Hill Rag, ANC website, X, and Facebook.

Community Presentations

DC Budget and other Ward 6 Topics of Interest - Councilmember Charles Allen
Councilmember Charles Allen highlighted some of the city's budget updates, noting that Congress has voted to cut a staggering \$1.1B of DC's current fiscal year budget and is now on vacation for two weeks. These cuts, if they are finalized, will have vast impacts on every aspect of public city works: furloughs of teachers, hiring freezes, cuts of police and firefighters, reduced trash pickup, etc. This has delayed the typical budget process and approvals for the mayor's budget will now happen in May or June. With the recent firings and events at the White House, there are projected to be 40 thousand jobs lost in DC and the surrounding areas which translates to a \$5B economic impact. The Councilmember knows that, with how difficult the situation is, he will have to vote on a budget he doesn't like and expects there to be shared sacrifices so no one area is disproportionately affected. There are several pieces of legislation the Councilmember is working on; on them, the Resell Act, would crack down on companies like Seat Geek or Vivid Seats that use bots to buy performance tickets for reselling. Another is the Swipe Act which would prohibit a swipe fee on sales tax and tips, both of which are directly passed through from restaurants to the city or to their workers. The last is the STEER Act, which addresses dangerous driving.

Consent Agenda:

The following items were adopted by unanimous consent:

Alcohol Beverage and Cannabis (ABC)

- ANC 6A take no action on the renewal application of a Class C restaurant license with entertainment and summer garden endorsements at Granville Moore's Brickyard LLC, 1238 H Street NE (ABRA-072792). Commissioner

Velasquez is appointed to represent the ANC along with the Chair and Vice Chair of the ANC to update the settlement agreement last signed in 2006.

- ANC 6A take no action on the application for a new Class C Restaurant license with extended holiday hours, carry out and delivery endorsements at Taporí, 600 H Street NE (ABRA-131196) located within ANC 6C.

Community Outreach (COC)

- ANC 6A approve the revisions to the ANC's Grant Application form, including ANC 6A coversheet, project report form, and closeout form to conform with the OANC guidelines for applications.

Economic Development and Zoning (EDZ)

- ANC 6A send a letter to BZA to support special exceptions to combine five lots (2 facing H Street NE, 3 facing alley) and convert to a retail and eating and drinking establishment use an existing, semi-detached, mixed use building in the NMU-4/HA and MU-4 zones at 1355-1359 H Street, NE (BZA #21254).
- ANC 6A send a letter to BZA to support a special exception to construct a second story addition to a detached garage, in the rear of an existing, attached, two-story plus cellar, principal dwelling unit in the RF-1 zone at 917 Constitution Avenue, NE (BZA #21282).

Officer Reports:

1. The April 2025 Treasurer's report by Commissioner Shapiro reviewed the expenditures accrued in March: \$846.19 for webmaster services and \$275 for notetaking. The opening uncommitted funds available on April 1 were \$20,734.68. After accounts payable, the closing available checking balance is \$31,267.15 due to resolved issues that were withholding Q1 and Q2 allotments. The Q2 allotment was reduced by \$1,000 because OANC did not approve a grant. The Q3 allotment also received. The savings account has a balance of \$100.05. The Treasurer's report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. Commissioner Shapiro moved and Commissioner Gove seconded the motion that ANC 6A approve the Fiscal Year 2025 2nd Quarter Report. The motion passed 6-0. Commissioner Shapiro put together a projected budget, noting that the ANC is operating on a deficit of about \$2,000 on an annual basis and any future grants given out will come out of accrued savings.

Standing Committee Reports:

Community Outreach (COC)

1. The January 2025 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary.
2. Next meeting: April 28, 2025 (4th Monday)

Alcohol Beverage and Cannabis (ABC)

1. The March 2025 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 22, 2025 (4th Tuesday)

Transportation and Public Space (TPS)

1. The March 2025 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 21, 2025 (3rd Monday)

Economic Development and Zoning (EDZ)

1. The March 2025 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Velasquez seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter of support to the Zoning Commission regarding a proposed modification to authorize fast food restaurant use within the existing ground floor retail space at 901 H Street NE, provided that the ANC's concerns are reflected in the conditions attached to any associated restaurant in connection with the application for the zoning change. Ms. Jessica Bloomfield presented plans for the ground floor of the Avec building on H Street; currently, restaurant use is permitted but a fast-food restaurant needs a special exemption. The existing space is currently vacant and the intended tenant is Nash & Smashed, which is a local hamburger and chicken company which has a location in Manassas. The motion passed 6-0.
3. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 16, 2025 (3rd Wednesday)

New Business:

Commissioner Shapiro moved and Commissioner Kolb seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter to the DC Council, Department of Buildings and Office of Tax and Revenue to request statutory and administrative remedies to what we believe is a serious loophole in DC's efforts to return vacant storefronts to occupied status which will increase safety, tax revenues and the overall vibrancy of our City.

Commissioners Shapiro and Velasquez joined the director of Department of Buildings and Councilmember Allen on a neighborhood walk along H Street to discuss the 80-100 vacant properties and storefronts. By statutory definition, they are not all vacant, though they are empty, and they should be taxed accordingly. The motion passed 6-0.

Single Member District reports

Commissioner Velasquez (6A02) had discussions with constituents about block parties and recommended getting blanket approval to close streets in accordance with the Plaza Act, but the rule has yet to be implemented and funded.

Commissioner Shapiro (6A03) reported that improvements at Sherwood are in the home stretch, though some of the work already needs repairs. The space is heavily being used already. Tango Pastry, an Argentinian pastry and coffee shop, is opening on H Street and on Sunday will be open and offering free coffee and samples.

Commissioner Gove (6A04) reported that the next Free DC Ward 6 meeting is May 15 and encourages residents to continue submitting 311 tickets and the app is updated.

Hill Family Biking is having a 2nd birthday celebration and honoring a safe streets advocate who was killed by an unsafe driver six years ago. MPD movie night will continue in Lincoln Park, though the grass will be blocked off.

Commissioner Giertz (6A06) noted that there was a car crash on March 27 on the 1400 block of G Street that reignited neighborhood discussion about transforming that block into a one-way street.

Commissioner Kolb (6A07) reported ongoing challenges at 313 8th Street NE.

Commissioner Wethington (6A05) stated that there were preconstruction activities done at Kingsman dog park and is hopeful for continued progress. The Commissioner is grateful to Councilmember Allen for his work helping constituents with DC Water issues. DPW has been fairly responsive on constituent concerns regarding ebbs and flows of weekly trash pickup.

Community Comment

Ms. Jen DeMayo from Councilmember Allen's office thanks everyone that came out for the Ward 6 cleanup and there is a chat tomorrow morning at Chopsmith with the Councilmember.

MOCR Marcus Manning thanked all the volunteers that participated in the Ward 6 spring clean. The Northwest Library is hosting a roll-off day on April 12 April 12 NW Library is hosting a Ward 6 roll off day, which is an opportunity for residents to bring in bulk items they no longer need; Mr. Manning has a truck and is happy to volunteer to pick up or drop off items for those that are not able to. The mayor is hosting another clean-up event on April 19; if community members know any alleys or areas need extra attention, they should reach out to Mr. Manning. On April 13 there is a parade and a concert starting at 10th and Pennsylvania Avenue to support Emancipation Day.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.