

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A**  
**Minutes**  
**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**  
**May 9, 2024**

**Present:** Commissioners Amber Gove, Keya Chatterjee, Roberta Shapiro, Dave Wethington, Steve Moilanen, Robb Dooling, and Mike Velasquez were present.

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

Commissioner Amber Gove called the meeting to order and noted the presence of a quorum. The minutes for the ANC April 2024 meeting were accepted and the agenda for the May 2024 meeting was accepted by unanimous consent.

**Community Presentations**

**Mayor's Proposed FY2025 Budget - Lindsey Appiah, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice**

Deputy Mayor Lindsey Appiah presented the Mayor's proposed fiscal year 2025 budget, noting that Council committees are now in markup and this is one of the most difficult budgets the city has seen in recent years; several difficult choices were made. There are significantly increasing costs, including for WMATA, labor agreements, and retirement costs; there are expiring one-time federal American Rescue Plan Act funds and also a slowdown in revenue streams. These factors combined resulted in a \$4B gap between resources and expenditures through FY 2029; last year, the gap was \$1.7B. The guiding principles continue to be maintaining and enhancing core services to protect health and safety, prioritizing successful programs that advance equity and resetting spending to strive for long term financial stability. The focus of the budget was three pronged: public safety, downtown, and education. In public safety, the budget focused on maintaining a strong MPD, supporting rehabilitation and reentry, creating public safety career pathways, preserving investments in prevention, and improving readiness, response, and resilience. This includes \$8.7M to add 40 new community safety officers, \$7M to serve 500 additional youth through PASS and 180 additional youth through ACE, \$841K to continue the development of DC's own paramedic school, \$12.4M to maintain expanded funding for Violence Interrupters and Pathways program, and \$3.2M for latent fingerprint, drug, and DNA sample testing. Investments in downtown include \$515M of capital for a Chinatown Revitalization Fund, \$5M to attract and retain businesses in high-growth sectors, \$68M for three major streetscape projects, \$32M in tourism grants and marketing, and \$64M for additional permanent supportive housing and shelter space for Federal City Shelter. The education budget includes \$349M additional funding for DCPS and Public Charter Schools, \$5M to upgrade the audio-visual equipment in auditoriums and other large school spaces, \$7M to support 750 students getting to school with DC School Connect, \$17M to renovate the Advanced Technical Center in Ward 5, and \$1.7M to support the Pathways to Behavioral Health program. There is also significant investment in recreation and libraries, transportation & environment, and health & human services. Specifically in Ward 6, \$1.8M is allocated to complete renovations of the Madison Women's Shelter, \$358M to renovate and modernize schools including Tyler Elementary, Amidon-Bowen Elementary, and J.O. Wilson Elementary, and \$34M to renovate or modernize recreation centers. Ms. Appiah answered questions, noting that the hub in Chinatown is going well and the next location to open will be in Anacostia; the ANC would like to work together to open one along H Street NE. The Commission is highly concerned about the cutting of school psychologists and social workers from the proposed budget and continue to express concern

about crime and public safety, noting that there needs to be a well-functioning forensic lab in the district.

MPD First District Captain Dave Augustine introduced himself and is happy to be back working in the First District. He is looking forward to tomorrow's safety walk at 7:00 pm followed by a movie in Lincoln Park (cancelled due to rain).

#### **Consent Agenda:**

The following items were adopted by unanimous consent:

#### **Alcohol Beverage and Cannabis (ABC)**

- Recommendation: ANC 6A protest the license application of Jumbo Liquors (ABRA-000420) unless a Settlement Agreement is reached between the ANC and the license applicant prior to the protest deadline. Committee member Erin Blumenthal is appointed to represent the ANC along with the Chair and Vice Chair of the ANC.
- ANC 6A take no action with regard to the license renewal application of New H Wine & Spirits (ABRA-093550).
- ANC 6A take no action with regard to the license renewal application of Montana Liquors (ABRA-097473).
- ANC 6A take no action with regard to the license renewal application of H Street Beverage Warehouse (ABRA-117278).
- ANC 6A take no action with regard to the license renewal application of H Street Spirits (ABRA-093550).
- ANC 6A protest the license application of Smokin' Pig (ABRA-127999) unless a Settlement Agreement is reached and that Interim Chair Velasquez represent the ANC in the matter.

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

- ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT in support of NOI-24-72-TESD, Lane Re-configuration of westbound C Street NE between 17th and 16th Streets NE. with one suggested addition for study and consideration: to reduce the travel lanes of westbound North Carolina Avenue NE from two lanes to one from 16th to 14<sup>th</sup> Streets NE to reduce driver speeding and improve pedestrian safety.

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

- ANC 6A send a letter of support to the BZA for a request for a Special Exception pursuant to Subtitle E § 5201.1 and Subtitle X § 901.2 from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E § 210.1 to construct a rear addition to an existing, attached, two-story with basement, principal dwelling unit at 430 10th Street NE (BZA #21131) in the RF-1 zone.

#### **Officer Reports:**

1. The May 2024 Treasurer's report by Commissioner Steve Moilanen reviewed the six expenditures accrued in April: two \$15.00 payments for a Docusign subscription, \$225.63 for printing supplies for the EDZ Committee, \$58.29 for Zoom Premium, \$250.00 for notetaking, \$771.19 for webmaster services, and \$225.63 for printing supplies for the EDZ (checks #2100, #2015, and #2101-#2104, respectively). The opening uncommitted funds available were \$32,832.85. After accounts payable totaling \$1,900.88 the closing available checking balance is \$30,931.97. The savings account opened at \$100.05, gained no

interest, and closed at \$100.05, and petty cash remained at \$25. The Treasurer's report was approved by unanimous consent.

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

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

1. The April 2024 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent.
2. Next meeting: May 13, 2024 (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday; usually 4<sup>th</sup> Monday)

#### **Alcohol Beverage and Cannabis (ABC)**

1. The April 2024 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Robb Dooling seconded the motion that ANC 6A ANC 6A protest the license renewal application of Noble Liquor and Tobacco (ABRA-122919), and that Interim Chair Velasquez and the Chair and Vice Chair of the ANC represent the ANC in the matter. The establishment's signage indicates that they sell CBD and kratom, which is listed as a Schedule 1 substance; the ANC would like the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Board to make a decision about this. The motion passed 7-0.
3. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, May 28, 2024 (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday)

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

1. The April 2024 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent.
2. Commissioner Keya Chatterjee moved and Commissioner Dave Wethington seconded the motion that ANC 6A ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT in support of NOI-24-99-TESD, Vision Zero Hardening at the intersection of 13<sup>th</sup> Street NE/Constitution Avenue NE/Tennessee Avenue NE with the following changes: 1) to slightly shift the pedestrian island on the north side of the intersection on 13<sup>th</sup> Street NE and Constitution Avenue NE to the east, putting a two-foot barrier between the west side bike lane and travel lane and making the pedestrian crosswalk two feet shorter east-to-west; and 2) to narrow the vehicle travel lane to improve pedestrian safety and move the 13<sup>th</sup> Street NE northbound bike lane curbside from North Carolina Avenue NE all the way through intersection with Constitution Avenue NE, while retaining vehicle parking.

Ms. Jeong-Olson from DDOT will be sharing data on turn radius studies in the area and looking into both other requests as they are feasible. She will also be following up with Michael Cushman about correcting signage and other matters. The motion passed 7-0.

3. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, May 20, 2024 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)

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

1. The April 2024 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, April 17, 2024 (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday)

### **Commission Business**

#### **Single Member District reports**

Commissioner Mike Velasquez (6A02) reported that there is a new restaurant, Heat, in the space where Pursuit Wine Bar was, and they specialize in shawarma. The DC Department of Health is having a rodent control academy meeting on July 9-10, 2024; for those adjacent to H Street where there are a lot of vector control issues, this is an opportunity to learn about what to do. To register for DC Department of Health Vector Control Academy:

<https://arc.is/OT4uXb>

Commissioner Chatterjee (6A01) is thrilled to report that the Havana building has been sold under foreclosure and the door is now closed and locked; it should close in mid-June. A constituent dropped a phone down a sewer and DC Water responded and received the phone very quickly. The Commissioner is happy Ledo's is back open. The park at 8<sup>th</sup> and K Streets and 9<sup>th</sup> and L Streets is moving forward; the Capitol Bikeshare station has been temporarily moved as construction is underway.

Commissioner Roberta Shapiro (6A03) noted that there has been a contract signed for Sherwood Recreation Center capital improvements, though some elements seem to be missing; the current completion date is winter of 2025, which seems to be too long. Last Thursday there was an illegal release of a firearm on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and F Streets, directly in front of School Within School@Goding (SWS). The Commissioner learned that MPD has good video of the incident and is following leads. It is unconfirmed that Aldi signed a lease on the first floor of the Avec building, and on the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> and H Streets. MPD determined that the rusted food truck is not properly licensed and has been shut down. The Commissioner uncovered a glitch in DPW's system of fining for illegal dumping, where they are issuing fines to the closest homeowner without warning regardless of whether the items are theirs; the homeowners are then responsible for removing the items. The Commissioner is working with DPW to address this.

Commissioner Moilanen (6A07) is proud of the response of School Within School@Goding (SWS) to the gunshots outside the premises. The Commissioner is frustrated by the way we speak about the budget; we should be focused on outcomes, outputs and understanding what is moving the needle on issues we care about.

Commissioner Wethington (6A05) had a great turnout for the one-year celebration of Hill Family Biking. The Commissioner had a chance to sit down with DPR and DGS to speak about renovations for Kingsman Dog Park and is grateful to have Kingsman Bark who help take care of the park.

Commissioner Dooling (6A06) flagged that Maketto is hosting a fundraiser tonight for Miner Elementary School - proceeds from any individual order will go towards Miner's PTO. The Commissioner is happy to see local businesses supporting schools and is saddened by the proposed budget cuts affecting schools. Visionaries of the Creative Arts hosted an art exhibit at 1402 H Street NE and will be hosting more this month. <https://www.vocarts.org/>. The Commissioner believes we need more imagination to bring revenue back to local neighborhoods.

Commissioner Gove (6A04) echoed that the one-year anniversary of Hill Family Biking was a great time and the presence of the Throne mobile toilet was exciting; the Commissioner would love to see them across the city. MPD hosts a monthly meeting on the first Tuesday of every month. The Commissioner continues encouraging 311 requests. DDOT will be expanding the Capitol Bikeshare station at the northeast corner of Lincoln Park from 25 to 33 docks - it is the 50<sup>th</sup> most used station in the entire network with 416k users.

### **Community Comment**

Ms. Jen DeMayo from Councilmember Charles Allen's office reported that the office is busy marking up budgets. This Saturday morning is Gardenpalooza at Capitol Hill Village, who will be sprucing up seniors' yards. Those interested should reach out. The FY25 Budget Town Hall will be rescheduled.

MOCR Jake Stolzenberg has been working with Commissioner Shapiro on the Sherwood Recreation Center renovations and has been participating in walks along H Street.

Community member Alex Kelly noted that the Consent Agenda has to reflect the same language as what is decided in the committee meetings, which must reflect what was written on the original committee agenda. If something comes up in discussion that is not present on the original committee agenda, it should not be put on the Consent Agenda. In response, Chair Gove clarified that the Committee and Commission follow the Commission's approved Standard Operating Procedures and Bylaws, including posting agendas a week in advance of meetings and draft letters the night before the Commission meeting. Any resident can ask their Commissioner to request to move an item from the Consent Agenda to the regular agenda for additional discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:26 pm.