

Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Minutes
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
June 10, 2021

Present: Commissioners Amber Gove (Chair), Brian Alcorn, Mike Soderman, Robb Dooling, Keya Chatterjee, Phil Toomajian, and Laura Gentile. Commissioner Sondra Philips-Gilbert was absent.

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

Chairwoman Amber Gove called the meeting to order and announced the presence of a quorum. The minutes for the ANC May 2021 meeting were accepted, and the agenda for the June 2021 meeting was accepted by unanimous consent.

Community Presentations:

Executive Office of Mayor Bowser FY 2022 Proposed DC Budget - Dr. Chris Rodriguez, Director, Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA)

Dr. Chris Rodriguez gave an update on Mayor Bowser's 2022 "Fair Shot" budget which honors all DC residents' sacrifices in a difficult year. The budget focuses on "building back better" with an emphasis on strong economic and academic recoveries and equitable communities. The budget focuses on the pillars of an equitable recovery: supporting businesses and residents hit hardest by the economic crisis, access to safe and affordable housing, reducing gun violence, accelerating student learning and increasing access to childcare, reducing health inequities, and continuing to build a stronger and more inclusive economy. Some budget highlights include \$11M to support citizens returning from penitentiaries, \$5.6M in employment opportunities for individuals at risk for gun violence, \$2.3M to expand trauma-informed mental health services, \$15M to support residents whose health insurance premiums are in arrears, \$75M to support ongoing COVID-19 responses, \$72M to support healthier homes and schools through energy efficient retrofits, \$351M for street and traffic safety improvements, 80 new Capitol Bikeshare stations, \$300+M to renovate several elementary schools, and \$15M to provide cash assistance for individuals who do not qualify for federal unemployment. Dr. Rodriguez will be following up with the Mayor's office and Commissioners about funding for the Office for the Deaf, Deafblind, and Hard of Hearing, traffic concerns and red light cameras on H Street NE, and increased unemployment benefits.

Officer Reports:

1. The June 2021 Treasurer's Report by Commissioner Brian Alcorn reviewed the 4 expenditures accrued in May: \$58.29 for Zoom Pro/Webinar, \$200.00 for meeting minutes, \$765.89 for webmaster services, and a bank fee of \$30.00 (checks #1973, #1974, #1975, and n/a, respectively). Existing obligations are \$519.31 in checks not yet deposited. The opening uncommitted funds available were \$25,321.07 and after these disbursements totaling \$1,054.18 and existing obligations of \$519.31, the closing uncommitted funds are \$23,747.58. The savings account opened at \$100.05, gained no interest, and closed at \$100.05. The Treasurer's Report was approved by unanimous consent without objection.
2. Commissioner Alcorn noted that the fiscal year ends on September 30, 2021 and ANC6A must submit a FY2022 budget and review it at a public meeting. So far in FY2021, ANC6A has spent 77% of its budget (\$18,475.09) leaving \$5,465.99 to spend until September 30, 2021.

Standing Committee Reports: Community Outreach

1. The May 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Alcorn seconded the motion that ANC 6A provide a grant of \$1,500.00 to Serve Your City (SYC)/Ward 6 Mutual Aid. Commissioner Alcorn clarified that while SYC was seeking a grant for \$1,850, the Community Outreach Committee approved a grant in the amount of \$1,500. SYC Communications Director Dorie Nolt represented SYC to seek the grant. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Robb Dooling seconded the motion that ANC6A approve a resolution in support of rank choice voting. Commissioner Phil Toomajian offered a friendly amendment of removing language referring to federal races ANC6A's resolution. The motion passed as amended 7-0.
4. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, June 28, 2021 (4th Monday)

Alcohol Beverage Licensing

1. The May 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Keya Chatterjee seconded the motion that ANC 6A protest the application of Toki 1244 H Street NE, LLC t/a Toki Underground at 1244 H Street, NE (ABRA #118153) for a Class C Tavern License unless a satisfactory settlement agreement is finalized before the protest deadline, and that the ANC authorize the Chair and Vice-Chair of the ANC, the Co-Chairs of the ABL, and Mona Hatoum of the ABL to represent the ANC in this matter. This license application has asked for hours of service inside until standard late-night hours for H Street and for hours of service in the outdoor summer garden until 12:00 midnight and 2:00 am. The summer garden is a vacant lot adjacent to the building with 96 seats and a total occupancy load of 120; the second summer garden seats 10 with a maximum occupancy of 12. The applicants have requested interior music, outdoor entertainment in the larger garden until 8:00 pm weekly, and alcohol carryout and delivery services. Applicant Matt Minora spoke to the settlement agreement Toki has been working on, which is similar to those of surrounding establishments and includes sound mitigating measures. The new version of the settlement agreement was disseminated just prior to the ANC6A June meeting and establishment is not planning to open until the end of 2021. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Dooling seconded the motion that ANC 6A amend its settlement agreement with Dangerously Delicious DC LLC t/a Pie Shop at 1339 H Street, NE (ABRA #087422) to permit outdoor entertainment, and that the ANC authorize the Chair and Vice-Chair of the ANC, the Co-Chairs of the ABL, and Mona Hatoum of the ABL to represent the ANC in this matter. The Committee recommends amending the settlement agreement to reflect similar conditions outlined in the agreement with Toki Underground, which includes outdoor entertainment hours of 12:00-8:00 pm. Sandra Basanti from Pie Shop noted that they plan on opening the second floor in the middle of August 2021 for an array of activities such as wine tastings, trivia, etc. and they are cognizant of noise issues. The motion did not pass with a 3-4 vote; Commissioners Toomajian, Alcorn, Gove, and Mike Soderman opposed.
4. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A protest the application of Exotic Wine and Spirit, Inc. t/a Exotic Wine & Spirits at 801 Maryland Avenue, NE (ABRA #118158) for a Class A Retailer's License unless a satisfactory settlement agreement is finalized before the protest deadline, and that the ANC authorize the Chair and Vice-Chair of the ANC, Commissioner Mike Soderman, and the Co-Chairs of the ABL to represent the ANC in this matter. The principal agreement outlines the

installation of three outdoor cameras with video storage for thirty days, not selling miniature bottles, and hours of 10:00 am - 11:00 pm weekly. The motion passed 7-0.

5. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Chatterjee seconded the motion that ANC 6A protest the application of Wasted, Inc. t/a Cru Hemp Lounge at 816 H Street, NE (ABRA #117958) for a Class C Tavern license unless a satisfactory settlement agreement is finalized before the protest deadline, and that the ANC authorize the Chair and Vice-Chair of the ANC, ABL Co-Chair Alberti, and Mona Hatoum of the ABL to represent the ANC in this matter. This establishment is a franchise based out of Atlanta offering hookah and CBD products; the agreement in principle notes no smoking or hookah indoors unless an exemption from the Department of Health is received. This is not a hookah lounge but rather a high-class lounge/restaurant with hookah and CBD products as supplementary business offerings. The applicant's opening day has been delayed and they are seeking a stipulated license. The current settlement agreement is waiting for signature from an authorized Committee member or Commissioner. Commissioner Chatterjee and Chair Alberti offered the amendment that the settlement agreement will prohibit the sale of any cannabis products that are prohibited by law. The motion passed 6-0-1 with Commissioner Dooling abstaining.
6. Commissioner Chatterjee moved and Commissioner Laura Gentile seconded the motion that ANC6A put forward a stipulated license agreement for of Wasted, Inc. t/a Cru Hemp Lounge at 816 H Street, NE. The motion passed 5-2 with Commissioners Toomajian and Soderman opposed.
7. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, June 22, 2021 (4th Tuesday)

Transportation and Public Space

1. The May 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Chatterjee seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter of support for DDOT's proposed Option 3 on the 800 and 900 blocks of West Virginia Avenue NE (1-way with protected bike lanes) plus additional traffic calming measures, such as high visibility raised crosswalks and/or speed humps. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Alcorn seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter of support to DDOT for the permit application for Capitol Square Bar and Grill at 1500 East Capitol Street (Tracking # 10852880), provided that the application be amended by the applicant to provide 15 feet of passageway on all sides of the patio; the outdoor patio cease operations at 10:00 pm on Sunday - Thursday and 11:00 pm on Friday - Saturday; and the patio capacity be limited to 35 seats and 40 standing. Commissioners clarified that the patio capacity is 35 seats or 40 maximum patrons. Chander Jayaraman spoke on behalf of the restaurant and noted several concessions the restaurant has made to appease neighbor concerns. The applicants will share all of their communications with DDOT with ANC6A. The motion passed 7-0.
4. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Gove seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter of support to DDOT for a permit application to be filed or already filed for a reinforced fence at 1369 C Street NE, including a new enclosure of the driveway, provided that the fence design conforms to the existing fence height and openness. The motion passed 7-0.
5. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Toomajian seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter to DDOT requesting speed humps, raised crosswalks, and other traffic-calming measures on the 1500 block of Isherwood Street NE. The motion passed 7-0.
6. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, June 21, 2021 (3rd Monday)

Economic Development and Zoning

1. The May 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, June 16, 2021 (3rd Wednesday)

Ad Hoc By Laws Committee

1. The May 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent noting that the report will be updated to reflect Commissioner Soderman's attendance.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, June 23, 2021 (4th Wednesday)

New Business

1. Commissioner Dooling moved and Commissioner Alcorn seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter to Mayor Bowser and the DC Council in support of full funding for the Vision Zero Act in DC's FY22 budget. The motion passed 7-0.
2. Commissioner Chatterjee moved and Commissioner Gentile seconded the motion that ANC6A approve a resolution providing comments regarding the DDOT's draft MoveDC 2021 update. The motion passed 7-0.
3. Commissioner Alcorn moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC6A to send a letter to DCRA to request it immediately issue a Correction Order for building permits B2002071, B2002072 and B2002073 to correct technical errors on the printed permits issued on April 28, 2021. The motion passed 7-0.
4. Commissioner Alcorn moved and Commissioner Gentile seconded the motion that ANC6A pre-approve its sponsorship for an appeal of the issuance of building permits B2002071, B2002072 and B2002073 by DCRA on the basis of technical errors on the printed permits should DCRA fail to issue a Correction Order for the permits issued on April 28, 2021. The motion passed 7-0.

Single Member District reports

Commissioner Gentile (6A05) reported that as the return of parking enforcement is back as of June 1, 2021, she has found several missing, dented, and crooked parking signs in her SMD. The Commissioner spoke with the MOCRS and will be sending a list of all affected signs for replacement. Finally she would like to raise the corner of Tennessee Avenue and 14th Street NE to DDOT as a possible four-way stop.

Commissioner Dooling (6A06) wished everybody a happy Pride month and noted that he volunteered at the mutual aid community table at Miner Elementary School and is grateful to the Commission for supporting the grant to mutual aid. He hopes to be making plans to get back to in person meetings soon.

Commissioner Alcorn (6A08) noted that the C Street NE revitalization project has kicked off (cstne.com); part of the project includes improving the triangle park and he is interested in community comment. The C Street project is on the agenda for the June 21, 2021 TPS meeting.

Commissioner Soderman (6A03) reported that there was a DPR community meeting about the pocket park on 8th Street and Massachusetts Avenue NE and follow up surveys were sent to the community. The Commissioner thanks residents and Councilmember Allen in getting a rogue Verizon telephone pole removed from an alley on 9th and D Streets NE. Finally, he has heard complaints about construction going late at night and illegal construction and reminds residents that they can report this through 311 and DCRA.

Commissioner Toomajian (6A02) noted that the Sherwood Recreation Center is partially reopened with restrooms and staff onsite. He mentioned the sinkhole on 1000 block of G Street NE and hopes to address this and other sidewalk repairs next month.

Commissioner Chatterjee (6A01) mentioned a crash on Memorial Day off of 13th and I Streets where an all-way stop has been requested. Councilmember Allen bumped the request up again and DDOT Director Lott will be coming out to look at the location.

Commissioner Gove (6A04) noted that Commissioners Dooling, Chatterjee, Philips-Gilbert and she knocked on doors in Rosedale community with Councilmember Allen to promote vaccines. She hosted a sidewalk palooza in Lincoln Park to promote 311; community member who sends the most sidewalk repairs to 311 and emails them to Commissioner Gove will receive trash grabbers from the Commissioner.

Community Comments

Naomi Mitchell of Councilmember Allen's office mentioned the upcoming virtual town hall on June 15, 2021 at 8:00 pm to discuss the budget. Individual agency budget hearings are ongoing now and residents can visit the DC Council website to sign up to testify. Council recess will be July 15-through September 9, 2021. A new grant program, STAY DC, offers \$352M to cover 12 months of past rent starting April 2020 and up to 3 months future payments for families in need; renters eligible are people who missed a payment and had a maximum household income of \$82k for family of 4. DDOT is adding another Circulator bus route for wards 6 and 7. The DC Visitor Parking Program that has previously been done through MPD is finally being brought online through a DDOT neighborhood pilot program. Councilmember Allen introduced a bill that would allow government attorneys to serve low income residents pro bono; currently 90% of residents who appear in court are without an attorney.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 pm.