

Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Minutes
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
September 11, 2025

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

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 July 2025 meeting were accepted subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary. The agenda for the September 2025 meeting as amended was accepted by unanimous consent.

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

Community Presentation

Sherwood Recreation Center - Robert Robinson, Recreation Manager

Sherwood Recreation Center's Recreation Manager, Robert Robinson, gave an overview of the programming available at Sherwood, noting that there are many amenities available including gyms, a kitchen, senior programming, and opportunities for young adults. For those interested in signing up for programming, there is a QR code onsite or information at www.dpr.dc.gov. Commissioner Roberta Shapiro is looking forward to reviewing recent satisfaction survey results and is excited that Mr. Robinson is looking to bring more events to Sherwood.

Consent Agenda:

The following items were adopted by unanimous consent:

Economic Development and Zoning (EDZ)

- ANC 6A send a letter to BZA in support of a special exception to construct a new, detached, two-story, accessory dwelling unit in the RF-1 zone at 628 15th Street NE; Square 1051, Lot 0113. (BZA 21349) Hearing Date: 10/08/2025
- ANC 6A send a letter to BZA in support of a special exception to add a front porch to an existing single-family dwelling in Zone RF-1 at 916 D Street NE (Lot 83 Square 937) (BZA Case # Pending)

Officer Reports:

1. The September 2025 Treasurer's report submitted by Commissioner Roberta Shapiro reviewed the expenditures accrued in July and August: \$846.19 for webmaster services, \$275.00 for notetaking, and \$22.00 for registration for the website domain. After these distributions totaling \$1,143.19, the closing uncommitted funds available at the end of August were \$31,180.24. The savings account has a balance of \$100.05. The Treasurer's report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. Commissioner Shapiro moved and Commissioner Stephen Kolb seconded the motion that ANC 6A approve the FY2026 budget as put forth by Treasurer Shapiro. The presented budget includes OANC allocations which have been confirmed as unchanged from the previous year at \$4,627.94 per quarter or \$18,499.88 per year. The largest part of the budget is for support services - 71% of the budget or \$13,200 - and the next largest expense is for communications, comprising ads in the Fagon Guide and Hill Rag for

announcement of meetings and Adobe software. \$3,000 is budgeted for grants and \$700.00 for miscellaneous expenses. The FY2026 Budget Plan was approved by unanimous consent. The motion passed 7-0.

3. Commissioner Wethington moved and Commissioner Kolb seconded the motion that ANC 6A close the savings account, which has earned 5 cents in interest this year, and roll those funds into the checking account. The motion passed 7-0.
4. Commissioner Shapiro has explored avenues for earning interest in the nearly \$30,000 in the ANC 6A checking account. A money market account is allowable by OANC, but the current bank rate is only 1%. CDs, which have rates over 4%, are currently not allowed, and the Commissioner believes that long term, the ANC should discuss this and banking practices with OANC. In the meantime, ANC 6A could move funds to a money market account at its current bank or a different one if rates are higher - using two banks is allowed.

Standing Committee Reports:

Community Outreach (COC)

1. The May 2025 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary.
2. No report. Committee did not meet in July 2025.
3. Next meeting: 7:00 pm, September 29, 2025 (4th Monday) - In-person meeting - 1207 H Street NE.

Alcohol Beverage and Cannabis (ABC)

1. The May 2025 committee report has not been submitted.
2. The June 2025 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary.
3. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, September 30, 2025 (5th Tuesday; usually 4th Tuesday)

Transportation and Public Space (TPS)

1. The July 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, September 15, 2025 (2nd Monday; 3rd Monday)

Economic Development and Zoning (EDZ)

1. The July 2025 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary.
2. Commissioner Wethington moved and Commissioner Paul Spires seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter to BZA in support of a special exception to construct a penthouse with roof deck to an existing, semi-detached, two-story plus basement, principal dwelling unit at 828 12th Street, NE in the RF-1 zone. (BZA 21352) The proposed project would remove a turret to allow for the remodeling of the residential property. Hearing date: 10/22/2025). The property has vacant space on its north, west, and east facades. Currently the condition of the property is poor and the turret is old and needs updating. The new roof height will be at a maximum of 30 feet. A solar study was done and found that shading from the new level falls on vacant space and has no impact on adjacent neighbors. All neighbors have been notified as required and architecturally, the new property will resonate with newly renovated homes on the street. Currently there are no plans for any building on the vacant lots. The motion passed 7-0.
3. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, September 17, 2025 (3rd Wednesday)

New Business:

- Commissioner Shapiro moved and Commissioner Jeff Giertz seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a Resolution to the DC Council condemning federal overreach in the District of Columbia. These are model resolutions distributed by several DC Commissioners interested in DC autonomy and home rule; several ANCs have approved them. Commissioner Shapiro suggests ANC 6A send the resolution to the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety, Attorney General Schwalb, the Mayor, the DC Council, and the UD House Oversight Committee and offered a slight amendment updating that thousands of National Guard members have been deployed. Commissioner Mike Velasquez offered a friendly amendment to remove the eighth whereas clause referencing public safety as a political smokescreen. The motion passed 7-0. l
- Commissioners Velasquez and Shapiro moved and Commissioner Spires seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter to DC Council regarding a review of the DC Alcohol and Cannabis Laws and Regulation. Commissioner Kolb offered a friendly amendment to include attorney general Schwalb and Fred Moosally. The motion passed 7-0.
- Commissioner Shapiro moved and Commissioner Kolb seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a Resolution to the DC Council to advance legislation requiring immigration enforcement and other law enforcement deputized to perform immigration enforcement functions to display their surnames and prohibit the use of non-medical face coverings. The motion passed 7-0.

The Commission will add a citation to a National Guard document referencing the National Guard engendering fear and mistrust. The motion passed 7-0.

The following motions are on the agenda for the full ANC before being voted on in ABC due to timing and deadlines:

- Commissioner Velasquez moved and Commissioner Kolb seconded the motion that ANC 6A take no action on Tiffany's Bar and Bistro's request for an Entertainment Endorsement inside the premises only at 709 H Street, NE. The establishment has a license and has been complying with guidelines. The motion passed 7-0.
- Commissioner Velasquez moved and Commissioner Giertz seconded the motion that ANC 6A protest a New Class "C" License, Nanglo, 1301 H Street NE, Unit C-1 unless a settlement agreement is reached.
- New Class "C" License, 618 Productions, 1353 H Street, NE, Unit C-1
Mr. Kabir Khanna, a DJ, organizer, and program director, is a managing director of 618 productions, is from the DMV, and has extensive experience with DC music events. The company is community operated, focused, and highlights local DC talent. They are seeking a liquor license. The previous occupant had a summer garden and the current occupancy including the summer garden would be 106. Commissioner Velasquez moved that ANC 6A protest a New Class "C" License, 618 Productions, 1353 H Street, NE, Unit C-1 unless a settlement agreement is reached. The Commission authorized Commissioners Velasquez and Giertz to negotiate on behalf of ANC 6A. The motion passed 7-0.
- Commissioner Velasquez moved and Commissioner Spires seconded the motion that ANC 6A protest unless a settlement agreement is reached the application of High Class DC,

1320 H Street NE. The proposed medical cannabis facility with approximately 880 square feet of space will provide cannabis flowers, cannabis concentrates, and a line of edible products and home delivery services to registered patients in Washington, D.C. The applicant is requesting a delivery endorsement. Mr. Cameron Mixon, representing the applicant, noted that the applicant has a successful similar business in the Takoma area. Mr. Minase Tasissa, the applicant, has been running a medical dispensary for over two years and has never had any issues or enforcement actions. A security plan is ready and employees are trained and the applicant is not seeking a consumption onsite license. The Commission would like to see community involvement and caution the applicants that H Street may be an over-saturated market already for this type of business. The motion passed 7-0.

Single Member District reports

Commissioner Amber Gove (6A04) reported that Hill Family Biking had a back-to-school ride with 512 riders and a foam party; the next ride will be on Saturday September 27, 2025 aligning with Kingman Island Festival. There are Free DC trainings coming up. The Commissioner recognized Jen DeMayo for supporting neighbors on East Capitol Street during utilities damage. A missing sidewalk crosswalk or sidewalk striping can be reported on 'public utilities inspection' on 311.

Commissioner Spires (6A01) noted that there was a fire in an alley and a racial incident, and the Commissioner encourages more community gatherings in addition to Sunday cleanups. The Commissioner is looking forward to Art All Night.

Commissioner Velasquez (6A02) is looking forward to Art All Night and the H Street Festival and is grateful to those who devote their time to these events. There have been some sidewalk repairs and concern over reports of federal law enforcement entering buildings without invitation or warrants. There are enough challenges to the city's economic vitality without economic engines being suppressed by the addition of law enforcement that seems to be welcomed by the mayor.

Commissioner Shapiro (6A03) has frustrating things to report. The neighborhood learned that excavation will be needed on the newly renovated SWS, where there has been a delay in permitting the project. Meanwhile, the school continues to have water infiltration and mold problems. Two years ago, \$4M was allocated to renovation of Sherwood, which was again delayed and finally finished, only for the western part of the track and the tennis court to be torn up because drainage was not planned correctly. Additional drainage needs to be installed, so the tennis court is closed again and the track is partially closed.

Commissioner Jeff Giertz (6A06) gave an update on ongoing efforts on 15th Street approaching the starburst intersection where there are continued concerns on safety and beautification. An earlier public safety walk has continued to yield results and MPD sends police patrols into the area which seems to have a positive impact on perception of public safety. Over Labor Day weekend, neighbors on 14th Place organized a block cleanup during which 12-15 people spent 2-3 hours cleaning up trash and weeds and generally making the area look better. Preventative Measures, which is on the corner of 15th and G Streets, will participate in a community meeting on October 1 and engage neighbors who would like to learn about its business initiatives. The Commissioner is proud and happy that the ANC did their part to protest, pass resolutions, and stand for democracy in DC.

Commissioner Stephen Kolb (6A07) has been responding to two constituent concerns, one about a back retaining wall that is caving in on their property but abuts a different street. The Commissioner is getting counsel from other Commissioners, looking at maps, and finding a resolution. Neighbors are getting parking tickets along East Capitol Street when they park in bus zones which are inactive due to bus route changes. The Commissioner is finding out whether WMATA, General Services, or DDOT is responsible for signage changes and emailing the agencies.

Commissioner Wethington (6A05) reported that Color the Curb installations are beginning to be added around the neighborhood to enhance character and safety. Unfortunately, several will probably be torn up by DC Water as they progress with pipework, and the Commissioner is trying to minimize this. DC Parks and Rec has said that Kingsman Dog Park construction will begin on September 16, 2025.

Community Comments

Jen DeMayo of Councilmember Charles Allen's office noted that the 30-day federal takeover ended yesterday and this does not include the deployment of the National Guard. Neighbors should follow Councilmember Allen across social media for updates. Councilmember Allen and colleagues have met with House Leader Jeffries and other representatives, calling for an immediate end to the occupation. The Council has sent letters opposing the 10 bills that were voted on. Next week there is a final vote on RFK Stadium and the Rental Act; the Council will debate and vote on September 17, 2025. Councilmember Allen voted to support the stadium only after several neighborhood-boosting and sustainability additions were included.

MOCR Noah Glasgow provided an update from the Mayor's office on Art all Night, noting that there will be an app that users can download to see a list of all citywide events. In relation to the federal search, President Trump invoked section 740 of the Home Rule Act and declared an emergency in DC; Mayor Bowser is compelled to provide MPD services. The 30-day period expired last night, so MPD is no longer compelled to fulfill White House requests. The Mayor released an emergency order on September 2, 2025 in which preserving home rule was the number one priority. The mayor intends to continue working with federal agencies as it has in the past.

The meeting adjourned at 9:56 pm.