

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Minutes
Regular Business Meeting
Miner Elementary School
September 11, 2014**

Present: Commissioners Nick Alberti, Andrew Hysell, J. Omar Mahmud, Sondra Phillips-Gilbert, Calvin Ward, Chris Ward, Jay Williams

Absent: Commissioner Gloria Nauden

The meeting was convened at 7:00 pm.

1. Agenda

Mr. Williams asked to have the discussion of the license renewal for Rock and Roll Hotel and the H Street Country added to the ABL Committee because they are in currently in discussion. The agenda, as amended, was agreed to without objection.

2. Minutes

The July 2014 minutes were accepted without objection.

3. Community Presentation

Mayoral Forum

Mr. Phil Pannell came before the Commission to request that the ANC co-sponsor a Mayoral Forum DC Federation of Civic Associations and the DC Federation of Citizen Associations. to be held at Eastern High School on October 21, 2014 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. The forum, to be moderated by Washington Post columnist Colby King, will be organized to give Eastern students a role in the proceedings. He asked that the ANC appoint someone to work with the Committee on the preparations for the event.

Motion: Mr. Alberti moved/Mrs. Phillips Gilbert seconded a motion to become a co-sponsor with the DC Federation of Civic Associations; and that Calvin Ward be appointed as the ANC's representative to the planning committee. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Officers' Reports

Chair

Seventeenth (17th) and Nineteenth (19th) Streets NE Safety Improvements

Chairman Alberti reported that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) plans to begin construction on Nineteenth (19th) Street, but has postponed construction on the Seventeenth (17th) Street portion until September 2015. Based on information we had in July, it was thought that the delay for Seventeenth (17th) Street was due to construction by DC Water and Sewer Authority (WASA). The ANC voted, based on that information, to send a letter to WASA requesting they complete their project as quickly as possible. Since then, the ANC learned that WASA has no plans for construction on Seventeenth (17th) Street north of East Capitol Street. Mr. Alberti questioned why they cannot proceed with the Seventeenth (17th) Street construction on the same schedule as the Nineteenth (19th) Street construction. He has expressed those concerns to the DDOT Director. Representatives of DDOT are scheduled to attend the September 15, 2014 Transportation and Public Space (TPS) Committee meeting to discuss the issue.

Gibbs School

Mr. Alberti reported that Deputy Mayor for Education Abigail Smith is looking for charter schools to occupy the Gibbs School, 500 Nineteenth (19th) Street NE. Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert said that her community wants to see a school that has vocational, GED, and other classes of interest to adults in the surrounding area.

Options Charter School

Mr. Alberti said that the Public Charter School Board (PCSB) would have a mid-September 2014 hearing on Options Charter School, and that Mr. Scott Pearson of the PCSB and Mr. Josh Kern, the person acting as the school's receiver, will be coming to the ANC's October 9, 2014 meeting.

Vice Chair

Mr. Mahmud reported that he has been hearing a great deal about trash in the neighborhood, and he plans to undertake the development of a comprehensive plan about resolving the problem.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Alberti presented the Treasurer's Report. He reported that the opening balance in the checking account was \$18,286.80 and the savings account balance was \$13,718.95. There was an allotment to the ANC from the DC Government of \$4,229.46 and an interest deposit of \$0.23 to the savings account. There were disbursements of \$180.00 to Roberta Weiner for transcription of the July 2014 ANC minutes (Check #1661); \$200.00 to Irene Dworakowski for the July 2014 agenda package (Check #1662); \$126.12 to the DC Treasurer for security for September ANC meeting (Check #1663); \$300.00 to Eliot-Hine Middle School for a grant (Check #1664); \$229.00 to FedEx Office for July 2014 expenses (Check #1665); \$191.43 to the Maury Elementary School Parent Teacher Association (PTA) for a grant (Check #167); \$248.00 to FedEx Office for June 2014 expenses (Check #1658); \$1,715.00 to Serve Your City for a grant (Check #1666), leaving a balance of \$19,766.14 in the checking account, and \$13,719.18 in the savings account.

Motion: Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Mahmud seconded a motion to accept the disbursements. The motion passed 6-1-0, with Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert in opposition.

Motion: Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Williams seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. The motion passed 6-0-1, with Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert abstaining.

5. Committee Reports

Community Outreach

Motion: Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert moved/Mr. Calvin Ward seconded a motion to not accept the Committee's report because she believes it excluded changes she had made to the document. The motion failed 5-1-1, with Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert in opposition and Mr. Calvin Ward abstaining.

The report of the Committee was accepted 5-1-1, with Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert in opposition, and Mr. Calvin Ward abstaining

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Williams seconded a motion that the ANC accept the Committee's recommendation to approve a grant of \$300.00 in support of the Miner Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) request for athletic equipment such

as kick balls and double dutch ropes. The motion passed 5-1-1, with Mrs. Philips-Gilbert in opposition and Mr. Mahmud not voting.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Williams seconded a motion that the ANC accept the Committee's recommendation to approve a grant of \$733.00 in support of the Maury Elementary School request for items to enhance their Math Resource Room; and \$1,760.00 in support of the aquatics component of the Serve Your City grant request. The motion passed 4-1-2, with Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert in opposition and Mr. Calvin Ward and Mr. Mahmud abstaining.

Alcoholic Beverage Licensing

The report of the Committee was accepted without objection

Mr. Williams reported that Vendetta's request to terminate its Settlement Agreement (SA) was dismissed by the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) for failure to attend a required hearing. He also reported that the Committee voted to take no action on licenses for Kitty's Saloon (1208 H Street) and Ocopa (1324 H Street NE), which have taken over the Settlement Agreements of the previous occupants of their spaces (Souk and Chicken Tortilla, respectively). Neither establishment has an endorsement for outdoor seating.

Rock and Roll Hotel, H Street Country Club and Little Miss Whiskey

Mr. Williams reported there appears to be outline of an agreement with the three establishments, the community and the ANC. The main outstanding issue is the hours of their outdoor rooftop spaces. However, he said, research shows that, to date, there have been no noise complaints.

Motion: Mr. Williams moved/Mr. Hysell seconded a motion that from Sunday to Thursday the establishments would continue to close their roof decks at 11:00 pm and, on Friday and Saturday, the back part of the deck—specifically designated—will close at 1:00 am, and the portion facing H Street will close at 2:00 am. The motion passed 6-0-0. Mr. Alberti did not participate in the discussion or vote. Mr. Hysell thanked Mr. Williams for his work on what was a difficult issue.

Transportation and Public Space

The report of the Committee was accepted without objection

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion that the ANC send a letter to DDOT requesting that they examine the traffic pattern at the intersection of F and Eleventh (11th) Streets NE, and indicating that the ANC would support changing it from a two-way stop to a four-way stop. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a recommendation that the ANC send a letter in support of legislation to name the 1100 block of Florida Avenue NE in honor of Ruby Whitfield. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a recommendation that the ANC send a letter to the Department of Public Works (DPW) concerning the process and policy for requesting litter cans in the community as well as specifically the ones at Twelfth (12th) and K Streets NE. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

Motion: The Committee moved/ Mr. Williams seconded a recommendation that the ANC send a letter to DDOT asking that they conduct an assessment of drainage, cleanliness and traffic conditions in the alleys in ANC 6A, including the 1200 block of Wylie Street, 1200 block of Linden Place, and the alley behind the 800 block of H Street NE, asking specifically for tools to address the situation, including additional signage to discourage vehicles from blocking the alley. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Williams seconded a recommendation that the ANC send a letter to the Director of DDOT, copying it to Councilmember Tommy Wells and the Chair of the DC Council Committee on Transportation to address the designation of street addresses for Zone 6 residential parking permits, noting particularly the 1000 block of Florida Avenue NE. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Williams seconded a recommendation that the ANC write a letter to DDOT asking for information regarding the process for issuing emergency no-parking permits and opportunities for the ANC to weigh in on longer term permits. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

Economic Development

The report of the Committee was accepted without objection

1229 F Street NE

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Mahmud seconded a recommendation that the ANC write a letter of support to the Bureau of Zoning Authority (BZA) for the request of special exceptions from the rear yard setback restrictions at 1229 F Street NE for a two-story garage addition. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

1419 F Street NE

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Mahmud seconded a recommendation that the ANC write a letter of support to BZA for the request for a special exception from the lot occupancy and rear-yard setback restrictions and for an addition to a non-conforming structure, for the addition of a screened porch at 1419 F Street NE. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

1215 Wylie Street NE

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a recommendation that the ANC write a letter to the Zoning Administrator calling to his attention that the permitted construction occurring at 1215 Wylie Street NE is occurring on a lot that measures only 825 square feet in area and therefore does not meet the minimum lot-dimension requirements for the R-4 district and requesting that the Zoning Administrator require that the developer obtain the appropriate zoning approval prior to continuing construction. In the event that the Zoning Administrator elects to take no action in response to the ANC's request, the ANC will appeal the Zoning Administrator's decision to the BZA. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

1000 C Street NE

Motion: The Committee moved/Mr. Chris Ward seconded a recommendation that the ANC write a letter to the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) relating recent observations regarding the condition of 1000 C Street NE and requesting that the property be inspected to evaluate whether it meets the criteria of a vacant or blighted property. The motion passed unanimously, 7-0-0.

6. New Business

DDOT Proposed Rules on Private Improvements to Pocket Parks

Mr. Alberti reported that DDOT has issued proposed rules that will govern the private improvements to pocket (triangle) parks that would

- Revise the definition of the term “public parking”;
- Explicitly exclude US reservations that have been transferred to the District of Columbia;
- Establish the Department’s policies and procedures to obtain occupancy permits for the purpose of making private improvements to reservations that are controlled by DDOT; and
- Make explicit DDOT’s authority to modify or remove private modifications made to such reservations.

Mr. Alberti suggested several comments on the policy document, which appears in the September 2014 agenda package and on the ANC website (anc6a.org).

§ 3314.5 - ANCs should be given the opportunity to review alterations to triangle parks, including those made for transportation purposes.

§ 3314.5 B - The time for ANC comment should be extended to forty-five (45) days.

§3399 - The definition of “triangle park” should be amended to one that fits the definition when jurisdiction was initially transferred to the District but due to subsequent alterations no longer fit the proposed definition: *Triangle park - an area of open space, generally triangular in shape located at the intersection of two (2) streets (generally one of which is orthogonal and one of which is diagonal) and that has been set aside for public ownership.*

Motion: Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Mahmud seconded a motion to send a letter to DDOT including the ANC’s comments on the agency’s policy on triangle parks. The motion passed 6-0-1, with Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert abstaining.

ANC Transparency Bill

Mr. Alberti reported that Councilmembers Mary Cheh and David Grosso have proposed legislation with the intent of making all ANC documents and action publicly available through the District’s Office of ANCs. ANCs would have to submit minutes, measures adopted by ANCs (recommendations to District offices, and recommendations on government actions and legislation), the ANC’s yearly calendar, agreements entered into by the ANC, reports issued by the ANC and bank statements. The proposed bill requires the ANC to report this information to the Office of ANCs within fourteen (14) days of a monthly meeting. (The proposed legislation is included in the September 2014 agenda packet.)

Mr. Alberti stated that the ANC 6A information is already included on the ANC’s website.

Motion: Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Mahmud seconded a motion to send a letter to Councilmembers Cheh and Grosso containing the following comments:

- The reporting requirements are very likely to require a substantial commitment of time on the part of the ANC. ANCs cannot simply send the documents - there will

need to be formatting requirements, rules for labeling and describing the content of files submitted. Fulfilling those requirements within fourteen (14) days will place an onerous burden on the ANC.

- Bank statements include account numbers. Making those publicly available presents security issues. The same information can be gleaned from an ANC quarterly report.
- There will be a significant fiscal impact on the ANC Office in organizing, managing and the posting of information from forty (40) ANCs, which will require a considerable addition to the staff resources of the Office. There may also be a fiscal impact to ANCs as well if they require someone to assist with the reporting requirements.

The motion passed 6-0-1, with Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert abstaining.

Congratulations Letter to Rev. Dr. Wendell O. E. Christopher, Sr.

Motion: Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Mahmud seconded a motion to send a letter to Rev. Dr. Wendell O. E. Christopher, Sr. of Phillips AME Church on the occasion of his fortieth (40th) Pastoral Anniversary. The motion passed 6-0-1, with Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert abstaining.

7. Single Member District Reports

Mrs. Phillips-Gilbert reported that Phillips AME Church hosted a summer camp program for the Rosedale Community during July and August 2014 with over fifty (50) children attending. She sponsored five (5) children to attend. She also said she attended the Transportation and Public Space Committee meeting in August to insure that the ANC followed through with DDOT on the delay in the Seventeenth (17th) and Nineteenth (19th) Street project. Finally, she reported that she organized the Rosedale community to attend a meeting on September 9, 2014 on the re-use of the Gibbs Elementary School. People are interested in having an adult education/vocational program. There is a high demand for programs to help adults gain skills to obtain gainful employment, and gain skills to make them more marketable in the workplace. The next meeting will be October 20, 2014 at 6:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.