

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A  
Minutes  
Miner Elementary School  
September 10, 2015**

**Present:** Commissioners Phil Toomajian (Chair), Matt Levy, Patrick Malone, Sondra Phillips-Gilbert, Calvin Ward, and Stephanie Zimny.

The meeting convened at 7:00 pm.

The minutes for the ANC July 2015 meeting and the agenda for the September 2015 meeting were approved without changes or objection.

### **Community Presentations**

#### Representatives from Mayor Bowser's Office

Mr. Seth Shapiro, Ward 6 Outreach Service Specialist provided copies of the six (6) month Progress report from the Mayor's Office. He also spoke briefly about proposals from the Mayor's Office regarding making improvements in the City's public safety operations, and a fact sheet outlining these proposals was distributed. Additionally, Mr. Shapiro provided information on a pledge initiated by the Mayor's Office to better serve the needs of the City's homeless population.

#### Madison Shelter Modernization Project Update

Ms. Jackie Stanley, Community Outreach Coordinator, Department of General Services (DGS), provided a brief overview of the status of the modernization project. Bid submissions are due September 14, 2015. Exterior security cameras are being installed and will monitor street activity. Updates on this project will be available monthly after the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) of each month through the DGS website upon designation of a General Contractor. Further information can be obtained by contacting Ms. Stanley at Jackie.stanley@dc.gov.

### **Education Forum**

Introductory remarks were given by ANC 6A Chair Phil Toomajian who hopes to develop a stronger partnership between the community and its schools through involvement of the ANC. The Chairman advised that the ANC has available funding for grants to schools, but no funds have been issued to date this year. By agreement of the Chair, it was determined that the forum would be conducted via a question and answer format. Present at the forum were: Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen and Ward 6 State Board of Education Member Joe Weedon; Ms. Rachel Skerritt, Principal, Eastern High School; Ms. Tynika Young, Principal, Eliot-Hine Middle School; Dr. Anne Evans, Principal, Miner Elementary School; Ms.Carolyn E. Albert-Garvey, Principal, Maury Elementary School; Mr. John Burst, Principal, School Within School (SWS) School; and Mr. Paul Gay, a member of the Local School Advisory Team (LSAT) for the Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School. Mr. Maurice Wilkins, a representative from the DC Public Schools Office of Family and Public Engagement Community Action Team (CAT) for Wards 5 and 6, was also present.

Councilmember Allen gave brief but detailed remarks regarding education issues:

School Funding: There has been a three hundred million dollar (\$300,000,000) decrease in education funding for DC schools. This decrease primarily affects the plans for the modernization of the middle schools in Ward 6. The reduction in funding results in pushing back the proposed modernization plans of the Eliot-Hine and

Jefferson Middle Schools back three (3) years. At present, approximately \$1.5 million dollars (\$1,500,000) have been allocated to each middle school to fund modernization plans this coming year. Additional funding has been allocated for Maury Elementary School due to an expansion of the residential boundary area for attendance to this school, and a wait list of several hundred students. Funds have been allocated to the Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School to make the play area safer. There was a discussion that the community hopes that Ludlow-Taylor will get a new playground.

At-Risk Student Program: There has been a change in policy for the implementation of the at risk student program. At risk funding will be tailored to the needs of an individual student as opposed to providing funding to the schools at large for at-risk students.

Food Service for DC Public Schools: The City Council has issued a disapproval resolution to the Chartwell Corporation, which is currently contracted to provide food service to the DC Public Schools through the 2015-2016 school year. As a consequence of the resolution, the contract with the Chartwell Corporation is not expected to be renewed. Currently there are several contractors pending application review with the city to provide food service to the public schools.

Mr. Joe Weedon State Board of Education spoke on reforming high school graduation requirements, improving the credentialing methods used for the General Equivalency Diploma (GED) program, standardized testing and proficiency issues, and the need for increased flexibility for the local schools to implement reforms in order to advance student achievement.

The school principals each gave an overview of activities and/or specialized program offered through their respective schools, such as International Baccalaureate (IB) programs at the middle school and high school levels, and enrichment programs and activities at the elementary school levels. Each principal made clear his/her commitment to ensuring that the best academic and learning environment be afforded to the students at their schools, and emphasized the need for public support for their schools. Members of the community with questions, comments, or concerns directed such to the appropriate representative(s) and were responded to accordingly. Councilmember Allen shared a report from DGS regarding plans to replace equipment on the Miner Elementary playground and Mr. Shapiro said that the Mayor's Office would assist with addressing maintenance needs at Ludlow-Taylor.

### **Officer Reports**

Treasurer's Report: Ms. Zimny presented the Treasurer's Report. The opening balance in the checking account was \$14,695.52, with a forwarding balance of \$23,658.92, (including Q1 and Q2 District Allotments of \$4,481.70 each). There were disbursements of \$500.00 to Irene Dworakowski (Check 1710) for agenda/web master services; \$200.00 for notetaking for July 2015 minutes; (Check 1711); \$1,012.80 (Check 1712) for the yearly fee for ANC meeting use of Miner Elementary; leaving a balance of \$21,946.12 in the checking account and \$13,720.77, with a \$0.21 interest deduction in the savings account. The report was accepted without objection.

### **Committee Reports**

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

No reports. The Committee did not meet in July and August 2015.

The next Committee meeting will take place at 7:00 pm, September 28, 2015 (4<sup>th</sup> Monday)

### **Alcohol Beverage Licensing (ABL)**

The July 2015 ABL report was accepted without objection.

**Motion:** The ABL moved and Mr. Mahmud seconded a motion that the ANC 6A support the request by Kitty's Saloon, 1208 H Street NE, to seek a summer garden and entertainment endorsement, provided the hours reflected on such endorsement line up with the hours discussed at the July 21, 2015, ABL Committee meeting (ending on 11:00 pm weeknights, and 12:00 am on weekends), and support a stipulated endorsement. The motion passed (6-0).

The Committee does not plan to meet in September 2015. The next Committee meeting will take place on October 20, 2015.

### **Transportation and Public Space Committee (T&PS)**

The T&PS July and August 2015 reports were accepted without objection.

**Motion:** The T&PS Committee moved and Mr. Toomajian seconded a motion that the ANC 6A send a letter of support of support for Vendetta's public space application provided the owners agree to adhere to the following conditions: no changes to the hours when the front windows are open, no changes to the current settlement agreement, maintenance of the adjacent tree box, and no placement of an umbrella over the table. The motion passed (7-0).

**Motion:** The T&PS Committee moved and Mr. Calvin Ward seconded a motion that the ANC 6A send a letter of support for the traffic calming application for the 400 block of Nineteenth (19<sup>th</sup>) Street NE. The motion passed (7-0).

**Motion:** The T&PS Committee moved and Mr. Calvin Ward seconded a motion for ANC 6A to support the plan to convert the parking area located in the middle of the square bound by Fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) Street NE, C Street NE, Sixteenth (16<sup>th</sup>) Street NE and D Street NE into a community space. The motion passed (7-0).

The next Committee meeting will take place at 7:00 pm, September 21, 2015 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday). Mr. Mahmud announced that the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) Parking Manager will be present at the meeting to discuss the resident-only parking issue.

### **Economic Development and Zoning (ED&Z)**

The August 2015 ED&Z report was accepted without objection.

**Motion:** The ED&Z Committee moved and Ms. Phillips-Gilbert seconded a motion that the ANC write a letter to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DCHD) in support of an application for DCHD funding by the owners of 1431 E Street NE to support the planned renovation of the ten (10) unit building. The motion passed (7-0).

**Motion:** The ED&Z Committee moved and Ms. Phillips-Gilbert seconded a motion that the ANC write a letter to the Bureau of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) in support of a special exception from the lot occupancy requirements under section 403, the rear yard requirements under section 404, and the addition to a non-conforming structure requirements under section 2001.3 to allow the construction of a rear spiral staircase at the existing flat at 1617 Gales Street NE (BZA 19104), on the condition that the applicant use best efforts to obtain letters of

support from the owners of the adjoining properties prior to the September 10, 2015 ANC meeting. The motion passed (7-0).

**Motion:** The ED&Z Committee moved and Ms. Phillips-Gilbert seconded a motion that the ANC write a letter to BZA in support of a variance from the off-street parking requirements under section 2101 to allow the construction of a new one family dwelling at 1028 D Street, NE (BZA 19084), on the condition that the applicant use best efforts to obtain letters of support from the owners of the adjoining properties prior to the September 10, 2015 ANC meeting. The motion passed (7-0).

The next Committee meeting will take place at 7:00 pm, September 16, 2015 (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday).

### **Single Member District (SMD) Reports**

Mr. Malone spoke briefly regarding matters at the Kingsman Dog Park.

Mr. Levy advised that Fourteenth (14<sup>th</sup>) Street NE has been re-paved, and that pedestrian signs had been placed that Fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) and A Streets, NE. Mr. Levy advised that he would hold a SMD meeting regarding public safety at a date to be determined.

Ms. Phillips-Gilbert gave an overview of activities in her district, including a community clean-up, a job fair, and a community fitness day. Ms. Phillips-Gilbert also attended a public safety meeting with representatives of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) and other officials.

Chairman Toomajian advised that Sherwood Day activities will take place on September 26, at the Sherwood Recreation Center from 10:00 am-2:00 pm.

Mr. Mahmud indicated that the 1200 block of Florida Avenue NE did not meet the residential parking criteria. Mr. Mahmud also mentioned that he was working on an H Street NE safety walk.

Ms. Zimny made brief remarks regarding H Street NE revitalization, crime on F Street NE, and her efforts to have Emerald Street NE re-paved.

Mr. Calvin Ward spoke about the recent Seventeenth (17<sup>th</sup>) Street NE alley paving event and expressed appreciation to the Mayor's office.

Community member Heather Schoell mentioned the "Halloween" event to take place on October 30, 2015, at Eastern Market from 5:30 - 7:30 pm. Booth or table space is currently available. Please call 202-321-0874, or e-mail [heathersdc@gmail.com](mailto:heathersdc@gmail.com), for more information.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.