

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A**  
**Minutes**  
**WebEx Meeting**  
**October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Present:** Commissioners Amber Gove (Chair), Mike Soderman, Ruth Ann Hudson, Brian Alcorn, Marie-Claire Brown and Sondra Philips-Gilbert. Commissioners Phil Toomajian and Stephanie Zimny were absent.

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

Commissioner Amber Gove called the roll and announced the presence of a quorum.

The minutes for the ANC September 2020 meeting were accepted, and the agenda for the October 2020 meeting was accepted by unanimous consent with the following change: Commissioner Sondra Philips-Gilbert moved and Commissioner Brian Alcorn seconded to add Andre Jackson's appointment to the Transportation and Public Space Committee to the New Business portion of the agenda. The motion passed 5-0-1 with Commissioner Gove abstaining.

#### **Community Presentations**

- Officer Anthony Walsh was unable to join the meeting to make a presentation on MPD Services for the Deaf and LGBTQ Communities.
- **Streeteries and Arts in the Right-of-Way Program - Emma Blondin, District Department of Transportation (DDOT) Transportation Planner, Neighborhood Planning Branch**  
Ms. Emma Blondin made a presentation on DDOT's Streatery and Arts in the Right-of-Way (AROW) Programs. DDOT's Streatery program will extend until the end of the Mayor's State of Emergency, currently through December 31, 2020, with a 5-day turnaround period for permits. The Mayor's office has a small grant program and is providing restaurants with \$6,000 to "winterize" their outdoor spaces (heaters, tents, barriers, etc.). DDOT is providing jersey barriers on a first-come, first-serve basis for these new outdoor eating spaces, though these specific barriers are not mandatory; they can be painted. There are 5 types of outdoor dining service opportunities: Sidewalk Cafes and Parklets (both of which individual businesses can apply for) and Streeteries, Alley Extensions, and Plazas (all three of which community organizations can apply for). Streeteries are beneficial to more than one restaurant (several on a block) while Parklets are defined as one establishment taking over adjacent parking spaces with the minimal social distancing standards of 6 feet between tables and a 6-foot clear sidewalk width. There are 6 approved parklets on H Street NE. Temporary Pick Up/Drop Off sites are also available. More information can be found on <https://coronavirus.dc.gov/recovery-business>. Ms. Blondin also presented on DDOT's Arts in the Right-of-Way (AROW) Program, outlining traffic control box beautification (a new program to put vinyl wraps on these boxes) and Micromobility Corral Art (stencils for sidewalk art). The AROW Program does not yet have funding, so interested community members must find funding elsewhere. Ideas for beautification can be submitted on the DDOT website or to Ms. Blondin directly: [emma.blondin@dc.gov](mailto:emma.blondin@dc.gov).

#### **Officer Reports Officer Reports**

1. The October 2020 Treasurer's report by Commissioner Brian Alcorn reviewed the 4 expenditures accrued in September: \$151.05 to FedEx for printing (Check 1942), \$465.89 for webmaster services (Check 1943), \$200.00 for meeting minutes (Check 1944), and

\$366.00 to USPS for annual mailbox rental (Check 1945). There are \$550.00 in outstanding checks not yet deposited. The opening uncommitted funds available were \$30,682.60 and after the afore-listed disbursements totaling \$1,182.94 and the \$550.00 in existing obligations, the closing uncommitted funds are \$28,949.66. The savings account opened at \$100.05, gained no interest, and closed at \$100.05. The Treasurer's report was approved by unanimous consent.

2. The FY20 Fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) Quarter Report was approved by unanimous consent.
3. The 2021 Fiscal Year started on October 1, 2020; ANC 6A will receive an allotment of \$21,782.24, the same allotment as in 2020. The pandemic has reduced the need for some budget items such as agenda package printing and increased the need for technology and communication expenses, and total proposed disbursements for 2021 are \$23,941.00, resulting in a deficit of \$2,159. There is a "rainy day fund" of about \$29,000.00 from previously unused allotments and this will serve to cover the proposed 2021 deficit. The budget can be changed by a vote at any time. Commissioner Marie-Claire Brown moved and Commissioner Mike Soderman seconded to accept the 2021 Budget Plan. The motion to adopt and approve the 2021 Budget Plan passed 6-0.

### **Standing Committee Reports:**

#### **Community Outreach**

1. The September 2020 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.

#### **Old Business**

2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded a motion that ANC 6A send letters to Commander Morgan C. Kane, Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) First District, and Commander William Fitzgerald, MPD Fifth District, to raise concerns about reports from constituents that MPD is not in compliance with current health and safety guidelines and other regulations pertaining to ensuring reasonable accommodations for all community members, including sign language interpretation. The recommendation passed 6-0.
3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded a motion that ANC 6A send a letter to the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) inquiring how they plan to ensure access to recreation centers and facilities for the community going forward. Commissioner Brown proposed an amendment to the letter which would recognize recent DPR announcements. The recommendation as amended passed 6-0.

#### **New Business**

4. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion that ANC 6A approve the updated Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A Grant Request Application Form (revised September 2020) for posting on the ANC 6A website. The recommendation passed 6-0.
5. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded a motion that ANC 6A approve a grant in the amount of \$3,000.00 to the Eliot-Hine (EHS) Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) for the establishment and operation of a community emergency relief pantry. Elizabeth Campbell of the Eliot-Hine Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) stated that the emergency relief package is intended to serve both immediate and long-term relief, through gift cards, toiletries, and the purchase of a refrigerator, freezer, and shelving. The recommendation passed 6-0.
6. Commissioner Sondra Philips-Gilbert moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded a motion that ANC 6A approve the appointments of Sarah Bell and Marc Friend to the Community Outreach Committee (COC). Both attended the most recent COC meeting. The motion passed 6-0.
7. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, October 26, 2020 (4<sup>th</sup> Monday)

### **Alcohol Beverage Licensing**

1. The October 2020 committee report was approved by unanimous consent
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion that ANC 6A take no action for the renewal application for Wen De Zhang & Yang You Feng, t/a China House, 1601 Benning Road NE (ABRA-025169). Commissioner Philips-Gilbert has been in contact with China House owners regarding trash pick-up and the ABL Co-Chairs will follow up on the issue. The recommendation passed 6-0.
3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion that ANC 6A take no action for the renewal application for Mochi, Inc. t/a DC Supermarket, 539 8 Street NE (ABRA-074927). The recommendation passed 6-0.
4. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, TBA (likely moving to 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, so November 24<sup>th</sup>)

### **Transportation and Public Space**

1. The September 2020 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. Commissioner Gove moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT in support of NOI #20-79-PSD for the proposed Advisory Bike Lane Project on Tennessee Avenue NE to include the following comments and recommendations:
  - Requesting raised crosswalks at the intersections of Tennessee Avenue NE with special attention to those at C Street, E Street and 14th Street NE, if determined to be feasible;
  - Additional traffic calming measures on the 200 block of 13th Street NE, potentially including raised crosswalks and/or speed humps and a clear connection for the southbound bike route from the 200 block of Tennessee Avenue NE;
  - Additional traffic calming measures in the 200-500 blocks of Tennessee Avenue NE, including speed humps, if feasible;
  - Installation of yield control and one way or do not enter signs at the intersection at south end of triangle park at north end of 100 block of Tennessee Avenue NE;
  - Installation of traffic calming measures, including speed humps, in the 100 block of 13th Street NE to prevent conflicts with the bike lane path;
  - Minimize, to the extent possible, any loss in linear feet of parking other than sightline setbacks required to protect vulnerable users;
  - Removal of proposed diagonal painted lines on the 100 block of Tennessee Avenue NE; and
  - Additional opportunity to review and comment (another NOI) for the intersection at 13th Street and Constitution Avenue NE.

Several of the above bullet points are Commissioner Gove's amendments to the original recommendation brought forward at the October 2020 TPS meeting and are direct requests from community members. There are concerns about parking signage, or lack thereof, regarding the 5 feet no-parking rules at alleys and 15 feet no-parking rules at crosswalks; DDOT has a plan to improve and add signage. The motion as amended passed 5-0-1 with Commissioner Brown abstaining.

Commissioner Ruth-Ann Hudson left the meeting at 9:00 pm.

3. Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert recommended and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT in support of public space application 353808 at 1660 Gales Street NE, conditional on the applicant resolving any potential issues regarding the

property line to DDOT's satisfaction and the Commissioners approving the fence design and materials. The motion passed as amended 5-0.

4. Commissioner Brown recommended Commissioner Soderman seconded a motion that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT requesting a postponement of the hearing for Public Space Permit application #358240 to install an 8x10 foot garden shed on public space in a corner lot at 205 15th Street NE due to insufficient notice and Incomplete information. A review of the application will be placed on the October 2020 TPS meeting agenda. The recommendation passed 4-0-1 with Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert abstaining.
5. Commissioner Soderman moved and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT expressing objection to insufficient notice and the [apparent] approval prior to the stated response date for Public Space Permit application #355976 at 618 14th Street NE. The motion passed 5-0.
6. Commissioner Alcorn moved and Commissioner Brown seconded a motion that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT calling attention to a pattern of insufficient notice for consideration of public space applications, specifically DDOT PSRA Permit Tracking# 359474, Review# 685885 for window wells at 331 15th Street NE. The motion passed 5-0.
7. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, October 19, 2020 (3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)

### **Economic Development and Zoning**

1. The September 2020 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded a motion that ANC 6A send a letter of support to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) for a special exception under Subtitle E § 5201 from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E § 304.1, to construct a one-story rear addition to an existing attached flat at 128 12<sup>th</sup> Street NE (BZA Case #20310) in the RF-1 Zone. The recommendation passed 5-0.
3. The Commission recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded a motion that ANC 6A send a letter of support to Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) for the raze permit request to demolish a single-bay accessory garage at 1511 A Street, NE, a four-bay accessory garage at 1513 A Street NE, and a six-bay accessory garage at 1515 A Street, NE, on the condition that the owner's intent and plans conform to the plans previously provided and approved by the BZA, and on the condition that the raze permit only covers the accessory structures. The recommendation passed 5-0.
4. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, October 21<sup>st</sup>, 2020 (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday)

### **New Business**

Commissioner Philips-Gilbert moved and Commissioner Alcorn seconded a motion to add Andre Jackson to the TPS Committee beginning with the November 2020 meeting, conditional on Mr. Jackson attending the October 2020 TPS meeting. The motion passed 5-0.

### **Single Member District Reports**

Commissioner Alcorn (6A08) acknowledged that neighbors at 18<sup>th</sup> and D Streets NE continue to have issues with fireworks, public urination, speeding, and other destruction to the neighborhood. Neighbors are proactively looking for creative solutions. There have also been two recent disruptions at 15<sup>th</sup> and A Streets leading to property damage and conflict de-escalation and he is working with residents to address these concerns.

Commissioner Brown (6A01) is compiling a list for rodent control which has been a prominent issue on 9<sup>th</sup> Street NE.

Commissioner Philips-Gilbert (6A07) passed out COVID-19 flyers in her SMD and the community was appreciative; she will send the electronic flyer to post it on the Facebook page.

The meeting adjourned at 10:06 pm.