

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Minutes
WebEx Meeting
November 12, 2020**

Present: Commissioners Amber Gove (Chair), Phil Toomajian, Brian Alcorn, Mike Soderman, Marie-Claire Brown, Sondra Philips-Gilbert, and Stephanie Zimny. Commissioner Ruth Ann Hudson was 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 October 2020 meeting were accepted, and the agenda for the November 2020 meeting was accepted by unanimous consent with the following addition: Commissioner Marie-Claire Brown moved and Commissioner Sondra Philips-Gilbert seconded the motion that discussion of 909-911 I Street NE be added to the New Business portion of the agenda. The motion passed 7-0.

Community Presentations

Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School - Olatundun Teyibo, Director

Director Olatundun Teyibo presented on the National Academy Foundation (NAF) Pathways and Phelps Architecture, Construction, and Engineering High School, located in Ward 5, summarizing the six pathways Phelps students choose from: Architecture, Carpentry, Electrical, HVAC/R, Engineering, and Cisco/IT Networking. Phelps offers its students several guest speakers, site visits, job shadows, mock interviews, informational sessions, and career fairs to enrich their experience. Students also have paid internship opportunities. All students, from all wards, are welcome to apply through My School DC. For more information, Director Teyibo can be reached at Olatundun.teyibo@k12.dc.gov or on @phelpsaoe on Twitter.

Officer Reports

1. The November 2020 Treasurer's report by Commissioner Brian Alcorn reviewed the 6 expenditures accrued in October: \$397.00 (Check 1946) for annual mailbox rental fee/keys, \$5.50 for stamps (Check 1947), \$200.00 for meeting minutes (Check 1948), \$765.89 for webmaster services (Check 1949), \$508.80 for printing of EDZ zoning signs (Check 1950), and \$3,000.00 (Check TBD) for the Eliot-Hine PTO community relief pantry. There were two credits from the DC Government quarterly allotments for the second and third quarters of \$5,445.56 each, totaling \$10,891.12. Finally, there are \$916.00 in existing obligations from checks not yet deposited (Check numbers 1920, 1922, and 1944), and a previous obligation to the US Postal Service in the amount of \$366.00 (Check 1945) was canceled as it was the incorrect amount. The opening uncommitted funds available were \$30,216.71 and after these disbursements totaling \$4,877.19, credits totaling \$10,891.12, and existing obligations of \$912.00, the closing uncommitted funds are \$35,314.64. 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.

**Standing Committee Reports:
Community Outreach**

1. The October 2020 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee moved and Commissioner Phil Toomajian seconded the motion that ANC6A approve a grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the Ludlow Taylor Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) for the continual use of IXL for virtual education. Rachel Turow presented on behalf of the PTO, noting that DCPS no longer has the funds to offer IXL (a computer program for blended learning of all subjects for ages 3-10 outside of virtual schooling) in all schools. This is a powerful tool and the PTO is seeking this grant to continue the school's access to it. The pandemic has not allowed for the PTO's regular fundraising of about \$85,000.00 and Ms. Turow anticipates the PTO will be able to only minimally fundraise, if at all, this school year. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee moved that ANC6A approve a grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the Ludlow Taylor Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) for the continual use of City Year to support best educational practices in the classroom. City Year is an AmeriCorps program that places young educators in classrooms to assist teachers; City Year fellows are especially helpful this year in virtual learning. The PTO has already committed to paying \$10,000 to City Year at the end of the school year from its own budget due to an administrative oversight in the school's budget. This grant would be paid to the PTO to offset the expense. Commissioner Toomajian moved and Commissioner Marie-Claire Brown seconded the motion to table this motion as the funds will not be paid to City Year until the end of the school year. The motion to table the recommendation passed 6-0-1 with Commissioner Mike Soderman abstaining.
4. The Committee moved and Commissioner Toomajian seconded the motion that ANC6A approve a grant in the amount of \$1,000.00 to the Ludlow Taylor Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) for school supplies. Ms. Turow noted that this grant would cover the cost of school supplies for students who can otherwise not afford them. In a normal year, these students receive supplies from a pool of supplies provided by parents, but this practice is not taking place in this year of virtual learning. Some of these supplies have already been purchased but as Term Two starts and students are transitioning, more supplies are needed. Supplies are distributed at the Principal's discretion and are not distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis. The motion passed 7-0.
5. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, November 16, 2020 (3rd Monday; usually 4th Monday).

Alcohol Beverage Licensing

1. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, November 24, 2020 (4th Tuesday)

Transportation and Public Space

1. The October 2020 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter of conditional support to DDOT for a fence in public parking at 205 15th Street NE [Public Space Application #358240], provided that it be placed on the line in the site drawing that the applicant provided to the ANC (attached), that it not to exceed 4 feet in height and that it be lattice (as specified in the application) or other open construction (at least 40% open). The applicant stated that her property is on a fairly busy corner which experiences a substantial amount of foot traffic; several people have intruded on her property in the past year and she would like more security. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT of opposition to DDOT for a shed in public parking at 205 15th Street NE [Public Space Application #358240], as the use is incompatible with public parking. (This is the same address and permit application as the previous

recommendation - the letters will be combined.) The shed would be 8' x 10' x 7' and is 16' and 20' from the front and side yards so as to minimally obscure public parking. The purpose of the shed is for gardening storage and the applicant has put together a presentation of her own research of sheds in her neighborhood, of which she found there to be about one in every ten properties. She will share this research with Commissioners. The applicant also made note that her property is not in the historic district and not subject to historic guidelines and that the shed is not an "architectural element" by definition as it is being treated, but rather a "permanent fixture". The motion passed 5-0-2 with Commissioners Alcorn and Toomajian abstaining.

4. The Committee moved and Commissioner Brown seconded the motion that ANC 6A complete the public restroom pilot survey indicating a first choice of locations at 8th and H Streets NE and a second choice at 12th and H Streets NE plus a note in the comments section in support of other locations on H Street NE. Commissioner Toomajian offered a friendly amendment of stating a first choice of 8th and H Streets and a "second feasible location on H St that meets criteria" (criteria including readily available plumbing and space). The amended motion passed 7-0.
5. The Committee moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT in support of Traffic Safety Assessment Service Request 20-00355070 for a red-light camera at the intersection of 9th and C Streets NE. The motion passed 7-0.
6. Commissioner Alcorn moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A request a postponement of DDOT Public Space application #343819, for Paving: Driveway(s) at 1518 North Carolina Ave. NE. Due date is currently 12/3/2020, insufficient notice for a meaningful review. ANC6A had previously opposed this same application in January 2020. The motion passed 7-0.
7. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, November 16, 2020 (3rd Monday)

Economic Development and Zoning

1. The October 2020 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A ANC submit comments to the full Zoning Commission making recommendations that facade preservation be included in any IZ FAR bonus, that the FAR bonus for IZ be subject to special exception relief, that guidance for FAR bonuses for PUD developments be included, and that the FAR bonus be capped at 2.0 for buildings under 85 feet. The goal of this is to avoid "piggybacking" where a developer, particularly on H Street, receives a facade preservation bonus and then an additional bonus for including IZ units. The EDZ recommends that in order to receive the H St FAR bonus, developers must include both facade preservation and IZ units. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter of support to BZA for special exceptions under Subtitle E § 5201, from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E § 304.1, and from the rear yard requirements of Subtitle E § 306.1, to construct a second-story rear deck addition to an existing semi-detached principal dwelling unit at 722 19th Street NE (BZA Case #20295) in the RF-1 Zone. Due to a scheduling mishap, BZA has already heard this case and is waiting on ANC input. The motion passed 7-0.
4. The Committee moved that ANC 6A send a letter of support to BZA for a special exception under the off-site parking spaces requirements of Subtitle C § 701.8 (f), applied for by District of Columbia Department of General Services, to relocate 8 of the required parking spaces to the adjacent street to enlarge the outdoor play area at Maury Elementary School, 1250 Constitution Avenue, NE (BZA Case #20323) in the RF-1 Zone. The Economic

Development and Zoning Committee (EDZ) recommends ANC 6A support the request on condition that the parking implications of this action be considered at the November 2020 Transportation and Public Space Committee (TPS) Commissioner Gove moved to table this item until the December 2020 ANC 6A meeting, giving TPS time to review this case. The motion to table passed 7-0.

5. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, November 18, 2020 (3rd Wednesday)

New Business

1. Commissioner Philips-Gilbert moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT in support of the Traffic Safety Assessment Questionnaire submitted by Mr. Burnett, including ANC 6A support for the request for installation of speed humps on 18th Street NE, at Gales Place NE and Rosedale Street NE. These areas surround the community center where there is significant foot traffic from children and community members. The motion passed 7-0.
2. Commissioner Philips-Gilbert moved and Commissioner Brown seconded the motion that that ANC6A approve the appointments of Andrew Burnett to the Transportation and Public Space Committee and Samuel Deluca to the Economic Development and Zoning Committee. The motion passed 6-0 (Commissioner Gove briefly lost connectivity and did not participate in the vote).
3. Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Philips-Gilbert seconded the motion that ANC6A approve the appointment of Daniel McPheeters to the Economic Development and Zoning Committee. The motion passed 7-0.
4. Commissioner Alcorn moved and Commissioner Brown seconded that ANC 6A approve an updated pricing schedule for agenda package and website services. These tasks have become significantly more time consuming and important in enabling the Commission to function during the pandemic. The last update in pricing was in February 2015. Given this, a new rate schedule of \$300/month and \$450/month for agenda preparation and website and meeting management services, respectively (up from \$200/month and \$250/month, respectively) is appropriate. This will be enacted retroactively starting in October 2020. The motion passed 7-0.
5. Commissioner Gove moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter to DCPS Chancellor Ferebee reflecting community concerns regarding the firing of School Without Walls Principal Trogisch. Several other ANCs have sent letters similarly advocating for Principal Trogisch and transparency from DCPS. The motion passed 7-0.
6. Commissioner Toomajian moved and Commissioner Brown seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter supporting apartment style housing and additional funding to support the unhoused during hypothermia season and opposing the proposed increased capacity and 24/7 use of Recreation Centers to house more than 50 people during this hypothermia in light of the serious health concerns posed by mass gatherings during the pandemic. Apartment-style or hotel rooms are preferable both for privacy and health concerns in this pandemic and the plan to have 60 people in the Recreation Center at this time is unsafe, unhealthy, and potentially very dangerous, both for these individuals and our communities. Chief of Staff at the Department of Human Services (DHS) Larry Handerhan spoke to this issue and mentioned that for housing individuals experiencing homelessness, this Recreation Center is just a small part of this year's Winter Plan to provide shelter to those without homes; four other Recreation Centers will be serving those in need. Three hotels and a handful of other sites have also been designated. John Stokes from the Department of General Services (DGS) noted that filters have been changed in the Sherwood Recreation Center and cleaning and maintaining social

distancing have become a priority across all housing sites. The filters, however, are not MERV or HEPA filters which are the filters required for DCPS. All shelter occupants and staff are required to wear masks at all times and additional personal protective equipment is available at the Centers. Melvyn Smith from DHS noted that while the stated capacity of the Recreation Center is 60, at no given time is DHS planning to have 60 people there at one time and these Centers rarely reach more than 50 occupants per night. Mr. Smith also noted several other plans to increase safety such as staggered mealtimes, increased distance between beds, and increased security and case management for those with behavioral and mental health concerns. The motion passed 6-0-1 with Commissioner Philips-Gilbert abstaining.

7. Commissioner Brown moved and Commissioner Philips-Gilbert seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter in support of an application for special exceptions under Subtitle C § 1500.4 from the penthouse requirements of Subtitle C § 1500, and under Subtitle E §§ 205.5 and 5201, from the rear addition requirements of Subtitle C § 205.4, to construct two new, attached, three-story flats with a penthouse at 909-911 I Street, NE (BZA Case #20369). This issue has been before the ANC Committee since April 2020 and the owners have done their due diligence and completed all outstanding requirements. The motion passed 7-0.

Single Member District reports

Commissioner Brown (6A01) mentioned that there was a fire in her SMD where property was damaged but no one was harmed. A potential gas leak on the 800 block of L Street NE was avoided after Commissioner Brown insisted that Washington Gas dig in that area. Finally, DDOT has approved the repair of the 700 block of 10th Street NE.

Commissioner Philips-Gilbert (6A07) noted that Councilmember Robert White has proposed sensitivity training for all new Commissioners and would like to see this training provided to all Committee Chairs and Members.

Commissioner Soderman (6A03) noted that there was a recent mugging on the 200 block of 10th Street NE; camera footage was provided to the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) which helped identify the suspects.

Commissioner Gove (6A04) noted that the recent ANC6A grant to Eliot-Hine is already reaping benefits; several families are receiving Thanksgiving baskets. Commissioner Gove was also invited to inspect and learn about filters at Maury Elementary.

Commissioner Zimny (6A06) offered congratulations to Robb Dooling who won the ANC 6A06 seat in the November 2020 election.

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 pm.