

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

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

The meeting convened at 7:01 pm.

The minutes for the ANC November 2015 meeting and the agenda for the December 2015 meeting were accepted without changes or objection.

Community Presentations

Representatives from Mayor Bowser's Office

Mr. Frank Maduro, Ward 6 Outreach Service Specialist and Mr. Gerard Brown, Program Manager, DC Department of Health (DOH) spoke at length about the rodent situation around H Street NE. Both took questions from the Commission and community members. Mr. Brown advised that both a walk through and an inspection was conducted on H Street NE and that abatement was conducted in the area between the 700 and 1100 blocks of H Street NE where the situation was most severe. Mr. Brown advised that the basis of the rodent problem appears to be a closed restaurant and adjacent fenced vacant lot located on the 900 block of H Street NE. Mr. Brown further advised that the DOH does not usually bait commercial properties, but that DOH representatives will check the affected area every week for the foreseeable future, in addition to inspecting the exteriors of private residences in the area (yards and alley ways). Mr. Brown also indicated that if a rodent issue stems from a private residence, individuals must first contact the DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA), which will refer the complaint to the DOH after a privacy release is obtained from the property owner referenced in the complaint. DOH will conduct ongoing abatement in the coming weeks until the problems have subsided. Individuals wishing to report a rodent control issue will want to call the DC 311 Call Center and should receive a response within three (3) business days.

DC Department of Transportation (DDOT)

Mr. Sean Moore of the Streetcar Outreach Team gave a brief overview of the progress of the proposed streetcar service operations. Mr. Moore spoke with Commissioners regarding the pace at which the streetcar program was currently operating and mentioned that safety outreach with the public was being conducted on Third (3rd), Eighth (8th) and Seventeenth (17th) and H Streets NE. Mr. Moore advised that the Hopscotch Bridge must be worked on before the streetcar route can be expanded to the northwest (NW) section of the city, but did not have a timeline for that work. Mr. Toomajian requested that DDOT provide an update on that issue.

Mr. Gregg Steverson, Supervisory General Engineer in response to questions regarding the Tenth (10th) Street and Maryland Avenue signal and other traffic calming requests:

- Tenth (10th) Street and Maryland Avenue NE pedestrian crossing signal assessment: The requested adjustments have been made on a temporary basis so that the pedestrian crossing signal will work on a pre-timed as opposed to a manual basis between the hours

of 7:00 am to 7:00 pm. Additional adjustments will be made after further study early next year.

- 400 block of Nineteenth (19th) Street NE traffic calming assessment: The matter is currently being evaluated and the evaluation should be completed in mid-January 2016. Mr. Steverson indicated that evaluations usually take between 90–120 days.
- 1200 and 1300 blocks of Constitution Avenue NE traffic calming assessment: This matter is currently under evaluation with a final response due to be issued mid-March 2016.
- Sixteenth (16th) Street and North Carolina Avenue NE traffic calming assessment: DDOT is requesting additional detail in the form of an application. The Transportation and Public Space Committee will follow up.
- Fourteenth (14th) and Fifteenth (15th) Streets and Tennessee Avenue NE request for a four (4) way stop: More information is needed before an evaluation can be completed.
- Thirteenth (13th) and I Streets NE request for a (4) four way stop. This request is pending evaluation.
- Fifteenth (15th) and A Streets NE traffic calming assessment. The application is pending evaluation.

Mr. Steverson can be contacted at: Gregg.Steverson [at] dc.gov.

Mr. Evian Patterson, Citywide Program Support Manager, took questions regarding the Residential Permit Parking (RPP) program. He advised that in response to resident concerns, several studies have been conducted, and that DDOT may soon publish new guidelines pertaining to the application of the RPP program. The City Administrator is currently reviewing the proposed regulations and has requested that applications come from ANCs rather than on a block-by-block basis.

Mr. Robert Horton, Project Engineer responded to questions regarding three longstanding requests. Mr. Horton advised that work had already been scheduled for the next week for the H Street NE requests and promised to follow up with Commissioners about other outstanding requests.

Mr. Steve McKindley-Ward indicated that new trees had been planted between Second (2nd) and Fifteenth (15th) and H Streets NE and acknowledged that numerous trees had died on H Street this year. Currently, approximately one half of vacant spots for new trees will be planted between now and April 2016. In response to a Commissioner's question about the spraying or removal of ginkgo trees, Mr. McKindley-Ward indicated that female ginkgo trees can be removed only if sixty percent (60%) of the affected residents formally petition the city for the tree's removal. More detailed information can be obtained by calling DDOT at 202-671-5233.

Officer Reports

Vice Chairman Mahmud announced a DC Council Public Roundtable on December 16, 2015. The public is invited to discuss the concept of the ANC's "Great Weight" provision of the DC Code. Additionally, the public will be given the opportunity to comment on the improving the ANCs responsiveness to the concerns of city residents. Further information can be obtained by calling 202-724-8900, or by e-mail at omontiel [at] dccouncil.us.

Treasurer's Report. Ms. Stephanie Zimny presented Treasurer's Report. The opening balance in the checking account was \$9,048,55, with a forwarding balance of \$17,224.95 (including Q1 and Q2 District Allotments of \$4,481.70 each). There were disbursements of \$450.00 to Irene

Dworakowski for agenda/web master services (Check 1717) and \$200.00 for November 2015 minutes; (Check 1718); \$137.00 to FedEx (Check 1719); leaving a balance of \$17,224.95 in the checking account and \$13,720.98, including a \$.021 interest deposit in the savings account. A Petty Cash Summary was included in the report showing a forwarding balance of \$25.00. The report was accepted without objection.

Motion: Ms. Zimny moved and Chairman Toomajian seconded a disbursement of \$3,561.46, to the Hill Rag newspaper. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

Committee Reports:

Community Outreach Committee (COC)

The November 2015 COC Committee report was accepted without objection.

Motion: Ms. Zimny moved, and Ms. Sondra Phillips-Gilbert seconded a request that ANC 6A approve a grant application from the Miner Elementary School PTO in the amount of \$760.00. The motion passed (6-0) with Mr. Omar Mahmud not participating.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 21, 2015 (4th Monday)

Alcohol Beverage Licensing (ABL)

The November 2015 ABL Committee report was accepted without objection.

Motion: The Committee moved and Mr. Patrick Malone seconded a motion that the ANC protest the request by Sol Mexican Grill for an extension of its hours for operation, alcoholic beverage sales and consumption, and live entertainment, unless the ANC and Sol can reach an acceptable agreement regarding Sol's management of garbage in its alley. The motion passed (7-0).

Motion: Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert moved and Chairman Toomajian seconded a motion that the ANC approve the addition of Mr. Mark Samburg to the ABL Committee. The motion passed (7-0).

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 15, 2015 (3rd Tuesday)

Transportation and Public Space Committee (T&PS)

The November 2015 T&PS Committee report was accepted without objection.

Motion: The Committee moved and Chairman Toomajian seconded a motion that the ANC send a letter of support for the 2016 Rock and Roll DC Marathon (RNRDC), scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 12, 2016, from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm, contingent on the provision of the following:

- A summary and description of the usage and location of Traffic Control Officers (TCOs) in and adjacent to ANC 6A;
- The summary provided to ANC 6B addressing their concerns about movement of participants out of the RFK area after the event and information about where to cross East Capitol Street;
- A description of the door hangers, including a quality control program to ensure the door hangers are not left in front yards;
- An update regarding efforts to find a C Street NE crossing;
- A description of the bus stop and/or bus notification campaign for X2, 90 and 92 buses;

- Confirmation that the Tenth (10th) Street NE checkpoint will be open to allow Capitol Hill Towers residents to access the building's parking lot entrance on Tenth (10th) Street NE between G and H Streets NE; and
- Notification regarding any other ANCs that express opposition to the event and the reasons for opposition.

Ms. Diane Romo Thomas, Community Relations, RNRDC addressed the conditions and answered questions. She advised that in response to the concerns expressed after the 2015 RNRDC event, there will be increased presence by the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) on Fourth (4th), Sixth (6th), Eighth (8th), and Tenth (10th) Streets NE for more efficient traffic control.

The motion passed (7-0).

Motion: The Committee moved and Chairman Toomajian seconded a motion that the ANC send a letter to the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) requesting traffic and pedestrian safety improvements at the intersection of Florida Avenue and K Streets NE, such as a stop sign, and the extension of parking for the entire length of the 1200 block of Florida Avenue, NE, with the elimination of curb cuts and addition of appropriate signage. The motion passed (7-0).

Motion: The Committee moved and Mr. Calvin Ward seconded, a motion that the ANC send a letter to DDOT requesting the installation of a crosswalk and pedestrian crossing signs on the east side of Ninth (9th) Street NE where L Street and West Virginia Avenue NE intersect. The motion passed (7-0).

Motion: The Committee moved and Chairman Toomajian seconded a motion that the ANC send a letter to DDOT requesting that the traffic light at Tenth (10th) Street and Maryland Avenue NE be retimed so the pedestrian walk signal automatically comes on when the light turns green, and removal of the push-to-walk ("beg") button. The motion passed (7-0).

The December 21, 2015 TPS meeting has been cancelled, and the T&PS meeting, scheduled for January 18, 2016, has been moved to the fourth (4th) Monday due to the Martin Luther King (MLK) Holiday.

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, January 25, 2016 (4th Monday)

Economic Development and Zoning (ED&Z)

The November 2015 ED&Z Committee report was accepted without objection.

Motion: The Committee moved and Mr. Mahmud seconded a motion that the ANC write a letter to the Board of Zoning Authority (BZA) in support for the request for variances from the FAR requirements under § 771, the lot occupancy requirements under § 772, the rear yard requirements under § 774, the nonconforming structure requirements under § 2003, and the height requirements under § 2507.4 at 1313-1323 Linden Court NE (BZA 19145), to allow the construction of five (5) one-family dwellings and a neighborhood-serving retail establishment in the C -2 -A District, and include a Residential Permit Parking (RPP) restriction for all five (5) of the units. The motion passed (7-0).

Motion: The Committee moved and Mr. Mahmud seconded a motion that the ANC write a letter to BZA in support of a special exception under § 223 to permit an addition to an existing, nonconforming one (1) family dwelling that exceeds the maximum lot occupancy and rear yard setback of § 403 and the minimum rear yard setback requirement of § 404 at 916 K Street NE (BZA FY-16-02-Z) in the R-4 residence zone. The motion passed (7-0).

Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 16, 2015 (3rd Wednesday).

Single Member District (SMD) Reports

Chairman Toomajian advised that a new playground will be constructed at the Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School this summer and thanked Mayor Bowser and Councilmember Allen for their leadership in securing the funding.

Ms. Zimny mentioned that a parent survey will be conducted regarding the Miner Elementary School, and a community meeting will be held concerning rodent abatement in the area around Thirteenth (13th) and Emerald Streets NE.

Mr. Mahmud indicated that all tenants have been removed from the H Street NE Connection and that demolition has been scheduled to begin by the end of this month. The 7-Eleven store has been relocated to Eighth (8th) and H Streets NE.

Ms. Phillips-Gilbert advised of a great turnout for the Halloween event at the Rosedale Recreation Center and said that the event will be repeated next year. Ms. Phillip-Gilbert also advised that the Trinidad Baptist Church has been sold, and that an SMD meeting with the developer will be held soon.

Mr. Levy shared that he is participating in the School Improvement Team at Maury Elementary where discussion relating to the school's expected renovation are occurring.

Mr. Malone relayed that in response to community concerns, the Mayor's Office relocated individuals residing in an abandoned property.

Community Comments

Mr. Bob Schlehuder from the Atlas Theatre provided information on the holiday season and other upcoming events at the Atlas Theatre, specifically a community conversation event scheduled for Wednesday, December 23, 2015 at 8:00 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.