

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A  
Minutes  
Miner Elementary School  
December 12, 2019**

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

The meeting convened at 7:00 pm.

Commissioner Toomajian, who chaired the meeting, called the roll and announced the presence of a quorum.

The minutes for the ANC November 2019 meeting were accepted, and the agenda for the December 2019 meeting was amended to include new business regarding sending a letter to DCRA about a raze permit for 425, 429 and 431 on Thirteenth (13th) Street NE. The amended agenda was accepted without objection.

**Community Presentation**

Though Dr. Lewis Ferebee, Chancellor of the DC Public Schools (DCPS) was scheduled to speak at the ANC 6A meeting, neither he nor a representative from his office was able to attend. The Commissioners chose to discuss issues related to DCPS instead. Commissioner Toomajian and members of the community shared their experiences from a recent public meeting held by representatives from DCPS discussing the future planned swing space in northeast DC. The DC government had set aside \$8 million to be used to construct this site and DCPS had gone as far as to present sites under consideration in 2018. This year, however, it seems that DCPS has scrapped the plan all together. Commissioner Toomajian, along with community members, many of whom are parents of children in DC public schools, expressed great confusion and frustration at this unexpected change, specifically DCPS's lack of transparency in how this decision came to be. According to those who attended the meeting, representatives from DCPS provided very few details regarding why the plan to install a swing space in northeast DC had been abruptly stopped and what will happen to affected students at SWS at Goding next year.

As a result of this conversation, Commissioner Toomajian moved and Commissioner Mike Soderman seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter to Mayor Muriel Bowser, Deputy Mayor Paul Kihn, DCPS Chancellor Dr. Ferebee, Council Chair Phil Mendelson, Council Education Chair David Grosso, DC Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen and DC Councilmembers Robert White, Jr., Anita Bonds and Elissa Silverman requesting that 1) DCPS return to the community within 30 days to engage with community members regarding DCPS's proposal for swing space to house the SWS students; 2) DCPS honor its prior commitment to locate a swing space in NE DC that would serve the SWS, J.O. Wilson, and Browne school communities during their modernizations over the next six years; 3) DCPS facilities staff prepare to accommodate SWS's children's needs and other unique attributes of the school, to include its award winning Regio Emilia curriculum and FoodPrints program during the two years that the school will be located in a swing space, and 4) DCPS communicate with the Commission regarding any plans to bus children from the SWS at Goding site to a swing space location, so that any required bus planning can be well-informed to minimize disruption to the school community and to the neighboring residents.

The motion passed 6-0.

### **Officer Reports**

1. Commissioner Toomajian reported a new Capital Bikeshare dock will be installed at the corner of Eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) and H Streets NE as well as the expansion of other existing docks at Eighth (8th) & F Streets NE and 10th and Maryland Avenue NE.
2. 65% Designs for the Florida Avenue Project have been released.
3. Disbursements totaled \$3,052.46: \$465.89 to Irene Dworakowski (check 1892) for agenda/webmaster services; \$200.00 (check 1893) for the November 2019 Minutes; \$221.01 (check 1894) for FedEx; \$1,015.56 to the DC Treasurer (check 1895) for Miner Elementary Security from 11/18 to 6/19 (check 1895; \$150.00 to the DC Treasurer (check 1896) for Miner Elementary Security for 12/19 and \$1,000.00 to Fresh Farm FoodPrints (check 1897) for the Ludlow-Taylor PTO Grant. There is a balance of \$12,721.63 in the checking account. There is a balance of \$13,733.77 after an interest payment of \$.23 in the savings account. The report was approved by unanimous consent.

### **Community Outreach**

1. The November 2019 Committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 16, 2019 (3rd Monday; usually 4th Monday)

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

Mr. Nick Alberti, Co-Chair of the ABL Committee, reported that the settlement agreement with Biergarten Haus at 1355 H Street NE has been signed.

1. The November 2019 Committee Report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. Commissioner Toomajian moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A take no action on license renewal applications for the following establishment: McKenzie Group, LLC t/a Ocean Lounge (ABRA-114106); Bespoke1337, LLC t/a Hill Prince at 1337 H Street NE (ABRA-104782); On the Rocks, LLC t/a On the Rocks at 1242 H Street NE (ABRA-106695); Red & Black, LLC t/a 12 Twelve DC/Kyss Kyss at 1210-1212 H Street NE (ABRA-072734); Fernando Postigo t/a Sol Mexican Grill at 1251 H Street NE (ABRA-092192); Felix Restaurant Group, LLC t/a The Pursuit at 1025 H Street NE (ABRA-113810); Truth DC 78, LLC t/a Truth DC 78 at 1220 H Street NE (ABRA-108602); The Pug LLC, t/a The Pug/Toki Underground at 1234 H Street NE (ABRA073166); Rock and Roll Hotel, LLC t/a Rock N Roll Hotel at 1353 H Street NE (ABRA072777). The motion passed 6-0.
3. Commissioner Toomajian moved and Commissioner Ruth Ann Hudson seconded the motion that ANC 6A take no action on the substantial change application for a class change from CR (Restaurant) to a CT (Tavern) license from Dangerously Delicious DC, LLC at 1339 H Street NE (ABRA-087422) if the licensee files a change of hours application with ABRA by December 12, 2019 and otherwise protest the application if the application for changes of hours has not been submitted. The motion passed 6-0.
4. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 17, 2019 (3rd Tuesday)

### **Transportation and Public Space (TPS)**

1. The November 2019 Committee Report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Toomajian seconded the recommendation that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT regarding DDOT's response of November 18, 2019 to ANC 6's pedestrian safety priority list, specifically item #4,

requesting additional speed humps on the unit-400 blocks of Tenth (10th) Street NE with a minimum of two humps on the 200 block of Tenth (10th) Street NE. The recommendation passed 6-0.

3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded the recommendation that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT requesting that trucks be restricted from using both Ninth (9th) and Tenth (10th) Streets NE, between Maryland Avenue and East Capitol Street. Mr. Toomajian offered a friendly amendment to extend the restriction north to H Street NE. The amended recommendation passed 6-0.
4. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 16, 2019 (3rd Monday)

Commissioner Marie-Claire Brown joined the meeting at 7:55 pm.

### **Economic Development and Zoning (EDZ)**

1. The November 2019 Committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Brian Alcorn seconded the recommendation that ANC 6A send a letter of support to BZA for special exceptions under Subtitle G § 409 and 1200 from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle G § 404.1, and under Subtitle G § 1201 from the rear yard requirements of Subtitle G § 405.2 to construct a second floor addition to an existing accessory building at 803 Maryland Avenue, NE (BZA 20171) to accommodate an apartment in the MU-4 Zone provided that the applicant provide sign-off of Green Area Ratio (GAR) compliance either through cite of DC regulations or via an advisory letter from zoning administrator or from the BZA and make best efforts to obtain letters of support from both adjacent neighbors and the neighbors directly across the alley. The recommendation passed 5-0.
3. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 18, 2019 (3rd Wednesday)

### **New Business**

1. Commissioner Hudson moved and Commissioner Philips-Gilbert seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter to DCRA requesting a delay in granting raze permits for 425, 429 and 431 Thirteenth (13th) Street NE until the following requirements have been met: 1. The developer of the project meet with neighbors; 2. The developer shares specific details and plans for the project; 3. The permits are prominently posted at the project site; and 4. The developer provides protection to the adjoining buildings. The motion passed 7-0.

### **Single Member District Reports**

Commissioner Brown (6A01), echoing concerns regarding raze permits mentioned by Commissioner Hudson, shared she has been working with a resident who discovered a developer had registered raze permits under her name for buildings she no longer owns. She also shared that the jersey barriers in front of 901 H Street NE are scheduled to be removed soon and that, by January 2020, the new building should be open for residents and retailers.

Commissioner Hudson (6A05) is working on having additional signage installed at the intersection of C and Thirteenth (13th) Streets NE indicating that C Street NE is one way as reports of cars turning the wrong direction continue.

Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert (6A07) reported that she testified on the Urban Farming and Land Leasing Act of 2019 regarding the process through which farming contactors are selected as well as making sure the ANC and the city at large have the opportunity to be involved. She thanked Amazing Love Health Services for donating turkeys and Toys for Tots for donating to the Rosedale and surrounding community.

Commissioner Toomajian (6A02) reported on the installation of a new basketball hoop at the Sherwood Recreation Center along with some improved landscaping. He continues to hear requests from residents to have speed humps installed on Ninth (9th) Street NE, which he plans to include in his next proposal of safety improvements sent to DDOT.

Commissioner Alcorn (6A08) thanked the TPS Committee and the Ward 6 DDOT Liaison, Andrew DeFrank for their respective efforts in addressing the ANC's list of traffic safety improvements. In response to regular unsafe driving on the unit block of Fifteenth (15th) Street NE, he has reached out to residents for suggestions on how they would prefer the problem be addressed. Suggestions range from repainting lane lines, adding planters or even adding back in parking to narrow the street and limit speeding. Lastly, he shared he has been through DCRA Resident Inspector Training which empowers trained residents to issue stop-work orders for after hour construction.

Commissioner Stephanie Zimny (6A06) continues to hear complaints about incidents around the bench and bus stop at Fourteenth (14th) and H Streets NE. She has reached out to both MPD as well as to Mayor Bowser's office for a solution. Regarding parking problems near Chick-Fil-A and Amazing Love Health Services, she reported that some faculty of Amazing Love Health Services seem to be improperly using DC visitor parking permits in direct violation of a 2016 agreement with Amazing Love with the ANC and the applicable regulations.

### **Community Comments**

Tyler Williams, Ward 6 liaison from the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, shared DCRA will hold office hours at the Northeast Library on Seventh (7th) Street NE. The Senior Wellness Center can assist with transportation. Regarding concerns about the bench and bus stop by H and Fourteenth (14th) Streets NE, Ms. Williams confirmed that the benches will be removed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.