

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A  
Minutes  
WebEx Meeting  
December 9, 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 November 2020 meeting were accepted, and the agenda for the December 2020 meeting was accepted by unanimous consent.

**Officer Reports**

1. The December 2020 Treasurer's report by Commissioner Brian Alcorn reviewed the 4 expenditures accrued in November: \$200.00 for meeting minutes (check #1952), \$3,864.00 (check #1953) to Capitol Hill Community News, \$2,000.00 (check #TBD) in grants to Ludlow Taylor PTO, and \$765.89 for webmaster services (check #TBD). The opening uncommitted funds available were \$40,225.00 and after these disbursements totaling \$6,829.89, and existing obligations of \$3,555.00 in checks to be deposited, the closing uncommitted funds are \$29,840.11. 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 November 2020 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Phil Toomajian seconded the motion that ANC 6A present an ANC 6A Community Leader Award to Fernanda Zavaleta. Ms. Zavaleta recently selflessly helped a robbery victim. The motion passed 7-0.
3. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 14, 2020 (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday; usually 4<sup>th</sup> Monday)

**Alcohol Beverage Licensing**

1. The November 2020 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Alcorn seconded the motion that ANC 6A take no action on the application by The Bodega Incorporated, t/a The Cupboard at 1504 East Capitol Street NE (ABRA #086607) for renewal of its Class B Retail License. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Mike Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A take no action on the application by Bella Market LLC, t/a Economy Market at 1804 D Street NE (ABRA #094127) for renewal of its Class B Retail License. While there have been continuing resident complaints of public drinking loitering in this area, this behavior is not attributed to this specific business. The motion passed 7-0.
4. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A protest the application by H St Liquors LLC t/a H Street Beverage Warehouse at 1431-1433 H Street NE (ABRA #117278) for a Class A Retail License unless a signed settlement agreement is submitted before the protest deadline, and appoint the Chair of the ANC and

Co-Chairs of the ABL to represent the ANC in negotiating and signing the settlement agreement and in any protest matters. The motion passed 7-0.

5. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Marie-Claire Brown seconded the motion that ANC 6A protest the application by Amazon Retail, LLC t/a TBD at 801 H Street NE (ABRA # 116873) for a Class B Retail License with Tasting Permit unless a signed settlement agreement is approved by the chair of the ANC by the protest deadline, and appoint the Chair and Vice-Chair of the ANC and Co-Chairs of the ABL to represent the ANC in any protest. Amazon was asked whether an effort would be made to source produce and recruit employees locally as these were residents' main concerns. The labor and hiring plan for this project is not yet done but Amazon representatives did confirm that usually efforts are made to locally advertise jobs. Residents also expressed concerns about data sharing, privacy, threats to existing small businesses, and ability to accept cash payments. Additionally, there was unease over a clause stating that the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) must be called if there is any illegal activity in the vicinity, and perhaps other appropriate agencies can be included in this clause. The motion passed 7-0.
6. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 22, 2020 (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday)

### **Transportation and Public Space**

1. The November 2020 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter to BZA in support of BZA 20323 (Maury Elementary School, 1250 Constitution Avenue), conditional upon DDOT's consideration of the ANC request for ROP (Resident Only Parking) on the west side of 12th Place NE and RPP (Residential Permit Parking) from 6:00 pm - 7:00 am on the east side of 12th Place NE; there are 8 parking spaces involved. The 8 east side spaces will be used by school staff during school hours (7:00 am - 4:00 pm), then RPP applies until the end of RPP hours on this block. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Alcorn seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT stating that ANC 6A reviewed and commented on Public Space Application #343819, 1518 North Carolina Avenue NE in March 2020. As the application is unchanged, DDOT should refer to the letter of opposition already sent. The motion passed 7-0.
4. Commissioner Toomajian recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter of support for #361713, fence on public space at 424 11th Street NE, conditional upon the fence atop the retaining wall being no higher than the current fence (36 inches) and of similar (open, iron) construction. The motion passed 7-0.
5. Commissioner Toomajian recommended and Commissioner Brown seconded the motion that that ANC 6A send a letter to DDOT requesting an extension on the review date for Public Space Permit application #363655 (paving, landscaping, fixtures, projections at 920 F Street NE) until after the January 14, 2021 ANC meeting, to provide adequate time for public notice and review. The application was received on December 3, 2020 with a review due date of December 24, 2020. The motion passed 7-0.
6. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 28, 2020 (4<sup>th</sup> Monday; usually 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday)

### **Economic Development and Zoning**

1. The November 2020 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter of support to BZA for a special exception under Subtitle E § 5201, from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle § 304.1, to construct a two-story rear addition

to an existing principal dwelling unit at 903 11th Street, NE (BZA Case #20365) in the RF-1 Zone. The motion passed 7-0.

3. Commissioner Soderman recommended and Commissioner Brown seconded the motion for a request for a special exception under Subtitle E § 5201 from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E § 304.1, and under Subtitle E § 5007.1 from the accessory building rear yard setback requirements of Subtitle E § 5004.1, to construct a second-story addition to an existing accessory structure in the rear yard of an existing flat at 114 12th Street, NE (BZA Case #20340) in the RF-1 Zone. The motion passed 7-0.
4. The Committee recommended that ANC 6A send a letter of support to BZA for a special exception from the minimum vehicle parking requirements of Subtitle C § 701.5 to convert an existing, detached, two-story, carriage house to a principal dwelling unit at 1608 East Capitol Street, NE (BZA Case #20393) in the RF-1 Zone, with the caveat that the applicant make best efforts to get letters of support from 1600, 1606, 1608, 1610 and 1612 East Capitol Street, NE, 1, 3, 5, and 7 16th Street NE, and the dwelling across the alley from 1608 East Capitol Street, NE. Commissioner Soderman recommended and Commissioner Brown seconded the motion to table this recommendation until either January or February 2021 as this will not be heard until March 2021 and the applicant has yet to contact neighbors. Several neighbors expressed concerns and oppositions and will be voicing them at the December 2020 EDZ meeting; this item will be added to the EDZ agenda.
5. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 16, 2020 (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday)

#### **New Business**

1. Commissioner Sondra Phillips-Gilbert recommended Commissioner Alcorn seconded the motion that ANC 6A request removal of the Metro Bus Shelter (but not the actual bus stop) located at 17th Street and Benning Road NE. The shelter is being used for illicit activity which bars metro riders from using the shelter as intended. Community members noted that this might hurt those experiencing homelessness in the area and removing the bus shelter will not solve the core problem in the community. Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert noted that the removal would be temporary and she will continue working with various agencies and community organizations to address the problem at hand. The motion passed 6-0-1 with Commissioner Toomajian abstaining.
2. Commissioner Brown recommended and Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert seconded the motion that ANC6A adopt Resolution 2020-001, an expression of zero tolerance for racism or other human rights violations and outlining follow-up actions to include creation of an Ad Hoc Committee to review and recommend changes to ANC6A bylaws, required training, committee selection processes and communications procedures to ensure improved outreach to all ANC6A residents. The resolution recognizes the community's diversity and will mandate human rights training for all elected and appointed representatives of ANC6A. The original resolution named and called for the removal of an appointed Committee member who, prior to the ANC6A meeting, voluntarily resigned and made a public apology at the meeting. Commissioners Soderman and Alcorn offered a joint friendly amendment to remove from the resolution the name and any reference to the individual who resigned given their longstanding service record, voluntary resignation, and apology. The friendly amendment also recommended to include a transcription of Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert's explanation of the Middle Passage in the resolution and community involvement in the Ad Hoc Committee for ANC6A operational review. The motion as amended passed 7-0.

### **Single Member District reports**

Commissioner Alcorn (6A08) recognized Ward 6 Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS) Coordinator Tyler Williams, who is moving on to another assignment, for her diligent work. The Commissioner also noted that he has heard an increased number of reports of street robberies and car jackings.

Commissioner Brown (6A01) noted that there have been robberies, smash-and-grabs, and a stabbing recently. She recognized Tyler Williams for her commitment and service and is excited for incoming Commissioners Robb Dooling, Keya Chatterjee, and Laura Gentile to begin their service. Finally, the Commissioner reminded the community of the resources and information that can be found at [www.coronavirus.dc.gov](http://www.coronavirus.dc.gov).

Commissioner Philips-Gilbert (6A07) mentioned that more than 50 people were provided treats during Halloween at Rosedale. The Commissioner was invited to speak at Monument Academy about the importance of voting. She has helped distribute 30 turkeys to community members and is partnering with a church in the community to put together 60+ Christmas baskets. Finally, she also recognized Tyler Williams for her work.

Commissioner Soderman (6A03) thanked outgoing Commissioners and Tyler Williams for their service.

Commissioner Gove (6A04) noted that bike thefts are increasing. She spoke to Girls Scout and Boys Scout troops about submitting 311 tickets. The Commissioner is working with Eliot-Hine on the reopening process and is proud that the Eliot-Hine food pantry put together 60 food baskets for the community. The Commissioner expressed appreciation for Tyler Williams and is looking forward to working with Talib Shakir, the new MOCRS coordinator.

Commissioner Zimny (6A06) expressed gratitude for all Commissioners, Committee members, and the ANC 6A administrator for their service, noting that this is her last meeting as a Commissioner after six years of service.

Commissioner Toomajian (6A02) noted that SWS is breaking ground in January and DCPS is looking to safely bring back students to schools in February. The Commissioner is working on putting more COVID signs up at the Sherwood Recreation Center and expressed gratitude for the service of Tyler Williams and outgoing Commissioners and Committee members.

The meeting adjourned at 10:38 pm.