

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A  
Minutes  
Virtual Meeting via Zoom  
December 9, 2021**

**Present:** Commissioners Amber Gove (Chair), Brian Alcorn, Robb Dooling, Keya Chatterjee, Sondra Philips-Gilbert, Laura Gentile, and Mike Soderman. Commissioner Phil Toomajian was absent.

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

Commissioner Keya Chatterjee moved and Commissioner Mike Soderman seconded the motion to amend the ABL portion of the agenda to include the nomination of Chair and Co-Chair of the ABL Committee. The motion passed 5-0-1; Commissioner Robb Dooling abstained and Commissioner Sondra Philips-Gilbert was not yet present.

Commissioner Amber Gove called the meeting to order and announced the presence of a quorum. The minutes for the ANC November 2021 meeting were accepted, and the agenda for the December 2021 meeting was accepted as amended by unanimous consent.

**Community Presentations:**

**DC Department of Behavioral Health (DBH): Update on DBH's Covid 19 response related to increased Pandemic-related Depression, Suicide Prevention and Gun Violence Trauma impacting our City's youth - Lanada Williams, Program Coordinator, Community Services Administration and Patricia Thompson, Ombudsman Program Officer**

Lanada Williams and Patricia Thompson from DC Department of Behavioral Health gave an overview on DBH, noting that the department provides prevention, intervention, and treatment services for those with mental or substance use disorders through community based outpatient and residential services. DBH's healthcare system focuses on high-quality service, data-driven and culturally appropriate care, community engagement, and combating the stigma associated with mental health and substance use disorders. DBH has noted the huge impact the pandemic has had on mental health and subsequently on suicide and gun violence, recognizing that there has been disproportional negative impact on Black and LGBTQ+ youth. DBH is working on expanding community access to technology and computers, providing free access to naloxone kits, offering services in nontraditional settings such as schools and jails, and training police officers. Ms. Williams noted the 24-hour Access Helpline - (888) 793-4357 - as well as same-day urgent care clinics for children and adults among other services across all eight wards. For more information, Ms. Williams can be reached at [lanada.williams\[at\]dc.gov](mailto:lanada.williams@dc.gov); anyone in need of services can call the 24 hour helpline or 911 and ask to be referred to mental health services.

**Redistricting - Declan Falls, Community Outreach Specialist, Office of DC Council Chairman Phil Mendelson**

Mr. Falls gave a quick update on redistricting and noted that the office has received numerous voicemails, emails, letters, and community input. There will be an upcoming virtual town hall meeting via Facebook Live at 5:00 pm on 12/13 and community members can submit questions for it through email ([dfalls\[at\]dccouncil.us](mailto:dfalls@dccouncil.us)), Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram and are also welcome to ask questions live during the meeting. The new map in question can be found here: [Redistricting Map \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com). Mr. Falls will be bringing several Commissioner and community questions back to the office for Chairman Mendelson's review.

Commissioner Brian Alcorn moved and Commissioner Sondra Philips-Gilbert seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter to DC Councilmembers and the Committee of the Whole reiterating ANC 6A's December 2, 2021 recommendations for a redistricting map to keep all of ANC 6A within Ward 6, in light of the Committee of the Whole's recommended map.

The new map continues to raise concern over dividing Wards 6 and 7 along residential 15<sup>th</sup> St NE as well as over school zoning (three schools would move into Ward 7) and racial equity, as the proposed map would move 52% of ANC 6A's Black residents to Ward 7. ANC 7E04 Commissioner Natasha Dupee spoke about the importance of racial parity and access to economic development and the document created that supports these principles in Wards 6 and 7. Ms. Dupee is seeking support from Commissioners in Ward 7 and ANC 6A and ANC 6B. Commissioner Gove offered a friendly amendment of adding a brief cover letter including the previous two sent letters and language around the new map not supporting Wards' 6 and 7 shared interests. Language will also be included that in lieu of a full Commission vote that is not timely possible, individual Commissioners will be signing the letter. Community member Necothia Bowens is assisting with a QR code project that will increase redistricting information available to those it will impact most. The motion passed as amended 7-0.

#### **Officer Reports:**

1. The December 2021 Treasurer's report by Commissioner Alcorn reviewed the 6 expenditures accrued in November: \$765.89 for webmaster services (Check #1994)\$250.00 for November meeting minutes (Check #1995), \$58.29 for Zoom Pro/Webinar (Check #1996), \$62.50 for December 2, 2021 ANC 6A special meeting minutes (Check #1997), \$4,452.00 for a year of meeting ads in Capitol Community News (Check #1998), and \$100.00 for FedEx printing of flyers on redistricting (n/a). ANC 6A had \$2,098.36 in uncashed checks (Checks #1988-1993) and a completed transaction of \$224.27for printing of checks. (Check #1987). The opening uncommitted funds available were \$39,865.50 and after these disbursements totaling \$5,688.88 and the cashed and uncashed checks, the closing uncommitted funds are \$31,854.19. Commissioner Alcorn will seek reimbursement for the \$100.00 flyer expense and asked to pre-clear the December 2021 expense for meeting minutes. The savings account opened at \$100.05, gained no interest, and closed at \$100.05. The Treasurer's report and pre-approval of the minutes expense was approved by unanimous consent without objection.

#### **Standing Committee Reports:**

##### **Community Outreach**

1. The November 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ANC 6A approve a grant in the amount of \$3,000.00 to Christ City Church to provide 150 \$20.00 gift certificates for families who live in ANC 6A to secure food for the holiday season. Church Elder Sarah Bell spoke on behalf of the church and noted that the gift certificates will be specifically food-related. The Church has partnered with Miner Elementary School and has been active in this community for 7 years. The goal is to provide these families with an entire holiday meal, free health services, and to connect community with resources. The church does not anticipate any other incoming funds. If community members would like to assist or to receive baskets, they can contact Ms. Bell at momto4bells[at]gmail.com. Commissioner Alcorn noted that the Commission will require some follow-up paperwork from the church a grant recipient. The motion passed 7-0.

3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Alcorn seconded the motion that the 2021 draft of the revised ANC 6A Bylaws and the newly developed Standard Operating Procedures and Codes of Conduct be sent to ANC 6A for adoption. Commissioner Laura Gentile gave an overview of the process of getting these new Bylaws, noting that almost a year of work and review has gone into it. Kris Garrity, Mark Friend, Roni Hollmon, Marc Samburg, Maddie Gitomer, Commissioner Mike Soderman, Marie-Claire Brown, and everyone else that helped were recognized for their involvement and service. Commissioner Alcorn proposed the friendly amendment of noting in the Bylaws language that officers will be elected from the Commission. The new bylaws will be effective January 1, 2022 and the Commission will let OANC know what edits were made to encourage adoption and efficiencies. The motion passed as amended 7-0.
4. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 13, 2021 (2nd Monday; usually 4th Monday). This will be a public safety symposium.

### **Alcohol Beverage Licensing**

5. The November 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
6. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Dooling seconded the motion that ANC 6A protest the application of Thompson Retail Group, LLC, t/a Milk & Honey, at 1116 H Street NE (ABRA #119672) for a Class C Restaurant License unless a Settlement Agreement is finalized prior to the protest deadline and that the Co-Chairs of the Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee as well as the Chair and Vice-Chair of the ANC be authorized to represent the ANC in this matter. The motion passed 7-0.
7. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Chatterjee seconded the motion that ANC 6A write a letter of support to ABRA for the Stipulated License application of Thompson Retail Group, LLC t/a Milk & Honey's application in the event that a Settlement Agreement is finalized prior to the protest deadline. The motion passed 7-0.
8. Commissioner Chatterjee moved and Commissioner Soderman seconded the motion that ABL member Ian Stanford be appointed to serve as Co-Chair of the Committee along with Mona Hatoum. The motion passed 7-0.
9. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 28, 2021 (4th Tuesday).

### **Transportation and Public Space**

1. The November 2021 committee report was approved by unanimous consent.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 14, 2021 (2nd Tuesday; usually 3rd Monday)

### **Economic Development and Zoning**

1. The November 2021 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 HPRB for the proposed construction of a two-story accessory building at the rear of the property that will not increase the number of dwelling units at 820 Constitution Avenue, NE (HPRB Case #22-036). HPRB Case scheduled for 12/16/2021. The lot adjacent to 12 adjoining properties and the homeowner reached out to all 12, 9 of which signed letters of support. The building is an extension of the home with an open area on the first level, stairs, a loft level and a bathroom. The homeowners received consent from the Capitol Hill Restoration Society. The motion passed 7-0.
3. The Committee recommended and Commissioner Chatterjee seconded the motion that ANC 6A send a letter of support to BZA for special exception zoning relief pursuant to Subtitle E § 5201 and Subtitle X § 901.2 from the rear yard requirements of Subtitle E § 306.1, and an area variance pursuant to Subtitle X § 1002 from the lot occupancy requirements of Subtitle E § 304.1, to construct a 2-story rear deck on the rear of their

existing single-family rowhome in the RF-1 Zone at 628 9th Street, NE (BZA Case# 20651) on condition that the lot occupancy remains at the same level as is included in the plans submitted (81.5%). BZA Case scheduled for 3/23/2022. The homeowners will replace a dilapidated one-story deck and are undergoing an interior renovation and would like to simultaneously do the rear deck renovation. The existing house is 73% over lot occupancy and will increase to 81.5% with the new deck. The motion passed 7-0.

4. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, December 15, 2021 (3rd Wednesday)

#### **Single Member District (SMD) reports**

Commissioner Chatterjee (6A01) expressed gratitude for Commissioner Dooling for sharing notes to other Commissioners for the H Street meeting during which business owners came to a consensus on the need to slow down traffic on H Street NE. They expressed interest in slowing the speed limit and more cameras, and would like to know the impact of the incoming bus lane. She reported that a few other speed bumps were installed in her SMD.

Commissioner Soderman (6A03) reported that the missing speed bump on the 200 block of 10<sup>th</sup> Street was installed and is working on getting raised crosswalk for the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE; there has been some improvement but still there is a high amount of traffic. He would like the Department of Public Works (DPW) to attend an upcoming meeting as there have been repeated issues with garbage trucks hitting buildings. Finally, there have been multiple complaints in the Commissioner's SMD of illegally parked vehicles in alleys and the Commissioner recommends using a secure location for package pick-up and setting up notifications to minimize package theft, especially during the holiday season.

Commissioner Gove (6A04) noted that with the support of ANC 6A's grant, 69 Thanksgiving baskets were shared with families in need through Eliot-Hine. The Commissioner spoke to two third-grade classrooms about being a Commissioner and reported that the TSI process has changed again (formerly TSA). The Commissioner advises all residents to use the 311 app or website to submit requests for traffic safety investigation of no more than one block. Anything prior to November 1, 2021 that was in process might need to be resubmitted. Finally, the Commissioner had a community walk with the DDOT director along the 1300 block of North Carolina Avenue NE and the Director reiterated support for protected bike lanes in this area.

Commissioner Gentile (6A05) reported a recent uptick in crime - carjacking, package theft, and homicide - and she has reached out to MPD to set up safety walks. The next one is December 14, 2021 at 5:00 pm on the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> and D Streets NE; Ward 6 Councilmember Charles Allen will be participating. The Commissioner will submit a TSI for the Tennessee Avenue and E Street NE intersection as well as 14<sup>th</sup> Street and Tennessee Avenue NE.

Commissioner Philips-Gilbert (6A07) has been working on redistricting and has a meeting on December 16, 2021 with Kevin Pham about the abandoned black van on 18<sup>th</sup> and D Streets NE.

Commissioner Dooling (6A06) stated that DDOT will be installing speed bumps in front of Miner Elementary School. He thanked Commissioner Gentile for hosting several safety walks and reported two armed carjackings in his SMD. The Commissioner is still addressing the removal of several parking spaces without public notice on Maryland Avenue NE.

Commissioner Alcorn (6A08) has participated in the First District MPD Citizens Advisory Council in which MPD indicated that there have been many “jump-in” car thefts. DDOT installed a push-button signaled crosswalk on 19<sup>th</sup> Street NE. Finally, the Commissioner reminded all Commissioners to look at the letter shared by Commissioner Dupee.

### **Community Comments**

COC Chair Roni Hollman noted that the special exception for grants is set to expire on January 7, 2022 and would like to know if this will be extended.

Kevin Pham shared some announcements including the delayed DPW leaf collection program ; round one of collection is scheduled for completion by December 19, 2021 and round two by January 5, 2022. If your area is not cleaned within 14 days of the schedule, please call 311. The Mayor is hosting an [annual senior holiday celebration](#) on December 15, 2021 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. Mr. Pham will be meeting with various district agencies about the unsafe black vehicle located at 18<sup>th</sup> and D Streets NE mentioned by Commissioner Philips-Gilbert.

The meeting adjourned at 9:37 pm.