ANC 6A Officers

ANC 6A elected new officers in January. They are: Nick Alberti, Chair, alberti6a04@yahoo.com; Omar Mahmud, Vice-Chair, mahmud6a01@gmail.com; David Holmes, Treasurer, holmes6a3@gmail.com; Calvin Ward, Secretary, cward6a08@gmail.com.

Thank you from Eliot-Hine

Eliot-Hine MS student knitters are enjoying the yarn donated by Buzz readers. The kids are putting it to very good use. Thanks so much to everyone who contributed!

Capitol Hill Village presents…

… “Transforming Your Home for Easier Living” on Friday, February 21, 10 a.m. - noon. Speakers will be Tori Goldhammer, an occupational therapist who helps adapt homes for safety and comfort, and Byron Buck, who renovates and modernizes homes, particularly kitchens. The seminar will take place at Hill Center, 921 Pennsylvania Ave. SE. Free to all but registration is required. Call 543-1778.
Pocket Park Update
There has been lingering confusion over the status of the pocket park formed by the intersection of 13th Street and Tennessee Avenue, south of Constitution Avenue – the southern part of Reservation 266. Last spring, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) granted planting permits to the owners of one of the adjacent properties without an opportunity for public input. The plantings are attractive and well maintained but do alter the ways in which the public interacts with the space.

In response to an inquiry from ANC 6A, DDOT stated that the homeowners do have the right to landscape that portion of the park as if it were their yard, but that they do not have control of the space and it is “still available for neighborhood use.” (Letter posted at www.anc6a.org/DDOTpubSpaceRess266Resp.pdf) However, neighbors have reported being asked to leave or limit their activities and, in at least three cases, the police have been summoned and/or legal action initiated.

In a recent meeting, Lt. Emerman, MPD Criminal Investigation Division, confirmed that it is his understanding that the public has a right to use the park and may walk anywhere they wish in it. He said there is an expectation that there will be normal wear and tear on the plantings as children play, dogs exercise, etc. Nevertheless, restraining orders have been requested against individuals who were walking between or through the bushes, so there is a risk of legal action if you do so.

Any activity that intentionally damages the plants (e.g., digging, cutting, pulling them up, stomping on them) is prohibited. The issues involved may be better understood as these legal actions proceed through the court.

Users of the space and passers-by may wish to know that activity at this location is recorded by adjacent cameras installed by the adjacent property owner.

ANC 6A and others are questioning DDOT’s decision as it conflicts with the purpose of the reservations and their status as a contributing feature of the L’Enfant Plan, which is landmarked. The DDOT decision also appears to conflict with other City laws and policy initiatives.

Other documents relating to the matter can be found at www.anc6a.org/Com6A04.html.

Capitol Hill Arts Workshop Presents…
• Drop-in Figure Painting, Fridays, Feb. 7 & 21, 6:30-9:30 p.m. $20. Work on drawings or paintings in front of a live model in a session without an instructor. Bring your own drawing materials.
• Family Friendly Gallery Activities with Camille Clifton, whose show is on display in the CHAW gallery, Feb. 8. Free, but reservations are required.
• Pre-K 10:00-10:45 a.m. What Do You See & Feel? Kids explore the works on display with flash cards and games, to identify signs, colors, shapes, and moods.
• Grades K-2 11:00-11:45 a.m. What Do You Find & Discover? Kids discover the works on show by comparing and sharing their thoughts and observations with critical thinking and games.
• Grades 3-5 11:50 a.m. -12:35 p.m. Can You Create & Wonder? Kids examine the works on show to create or re-create from a piece and learn to wonder about how a photograph stimulates the five senses.
• Sip & Paint, Fri. Feb. 14, 6:30-8:30 p.m. $30. Receive step-by-step instruction from teaching artists Ellen Cornett and Sheppard Bear and enjoy snacks and wine. CHAW is located at 547 7th St. SE. For more information on all CHAW events, call 547-6839 or visit www.chaw.org.