

Minutes
ANC 6A Community Outreach Committee (COC) of Advisory Neighborhood Commission
(ANC) 6A
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
Regular Meeting - January 23, 2023

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm.

Quorum present.

COC members present: Adina Wadsworth (Chair), Kelsey Grimes

COC members absent: N/A

Commissioners present: Keya Chatterjee, Amber Gove, Mike Velasquez, Roberta Shapiro, Rob Dooling, Steve Moilanen

Panelists: Rachel Manning, Food Waste Drop Off, DPW; Katie Wolff, Fresh Farms; Commissioner Moilanen

A round of introductions were made.

COC member nominees introduced and submitted for appointment by ANC 6A: Angelique Dorazio-Sanders (Gentile); Elizabeth Corinth (Shapiro); Clare Dougherty (Gentile); Stephanie Myers (Gove); and Gale Sullivan (Chatterjee). A vote was called to send these nominees to the February 2023 ANC 6A for approval. It passed unanimously.

Panel discussion #1: Rachel Manning from the Department of Public Works (DPW) Food Waste Drop Off composting program presented a plan to expand from 8 standing sites (one in each ward) operated by paid contractors to 10, with the added two operated by unpaid volunteers. She listed the requirements and eligibility for site applicants and discussed the operational and management requirements. For instance, a site must be operational on either a Saturday or Sunday year-round, staffed for at least 4 hours. Volunteers are required to set up, break down and store equipment (tents, tables, banners—all provided by DPW.) The existing sites currently in each ward are operated by paid contractors; who would also be charged with collecting full bins from volunteer sites.

Commissioner Keya Chatterjee pointed out that asking volunteers to store and manage the equipment is a “big ask,” especially when there is no funding.

Commissioner Roberta Shapiro pointed to Lovejoy Park as an example as a community-led composting effort that could be a model.

Community Member Sarah Walsh asked if the H Street Farmers’ Market could move to a year-round operation (as opposed to being closed during the winter months of January through March).

Panelist Katie Wolff, of Fresh Farms, did not think that would work because most farmers take those months off from selling produce (they are not growing much.) Neighborhoods complain when farmers’ markets are not selling farm goods.

Panelist Rachel Manning suggested there could be a way to have permitted compost volunteers operate at the H Street Farmers' Market site during the three months the market is not open.

Commissioner Shapiro suggested we seek out an area business to sponsor a site (Jenkins Hardware? AutoZone?).

Commissioner Chatterjee pointed out that it is not possible to submit an application by the January 31, 2023 deadline at this point, but that a letter of support from the ANC supporting a compost site would be worthwhile.

Commissioner Chatterjee moved that COC recommend that ANC 6A send a letter to the Department of Public Works (DPW) in support of curbside composting and additional compost drop off facilities. Commissioner Gove seconded the motion. Commissioner Chatterjee will author the letter. The motion passed unanimously.

Panel discussion #2: Commissioner Steve Moilanen led a discussion on how to honor a recently deceased long-time member of our community, Mr. William Outlaw.

Commissioner Dooling suggested there could be a plaque placed on a sidewalk, tree or pocket park, or a history marker for a walking tour.

Commissioner Gove suggested a "lighter lift" might be naming a regular community clean-up effort after Mr. Outlaw: "The Outlaw Community Clean-up". If it became part of the vernacular, it would have impact. She suggested reaching out to Councilman Charles Allen through his staff member Jen DeMayo. The COC agreed to put the issue on the February agenda to discuss further.

Community Comments: A community member inquired as to how one became a member for the COC. Commissioner Gove suggested, if she were interested, to read the ANC website for Standard Operating Procedures and contact her SMD Commissioner (Gove) to ask for a nomination.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.