

ANC6A Community Outreach Committee
February 25, 2013 Minutes
Church of the Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith annex, 1235 C St. NE

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Committee members present: Elizabeth Nelson (Chair), Jean Kohanek, Louis Barbash, Rose Williams, Maurice Cook, Gladys Mack, Pat Joseph (quorum)

Commissioners present: Sondra Phillips-Gilbert, Nick Alberti

Community members present: Dana Wyckoff, Chair, Friends of Rosedale Library

I. Agenda

Adopted.

II. Status report on ANC flyer (pamphlet), Capitol Hill Guide advertising and website updates.

1. Ms. Nelson reported that the Capitol Hill Guide ad is final and that it reflects the recent change to the chairmanship of the ABL committee.
2. Ms. Kohanek made the same changes to the ANC flyer/pamphlet and had copies at the meeting for review. She will wait a week or two to be sure there aren't any other last-minute changes and then order copies from Kinkos out of the COC monthly budget. They will not be folded.
3. The most recent versions of the flyer have been posted to the website as have all other changes of contact information and the new Chair of ABL.

III. Discussion of grant application from Friends of Rosedale Library (FORL)

1. Ms. Wyckoff presented the grant application on behalf of FORL. She explained that it is a new library and is very much in need of support of all kinds, advocacy, publicity, materials, fundraising, and volunteers. For example, FORL will be testifying before the Council on their behalf. They are also planning to create either a website or blog to improve community outreach; there will be links to the main DCPL site where Rosedale Library events are currently posted. The library staff host several small children's literacy events every month plus larger monthly and annual events. There is no budget for this, so the staff are covering most costs themselves. FORL is requesting funds to pay for basic art supplies to support these activities plus funds for seasonal items (pumpkins to carve, seeds to plant, etc.). FORL estimates that the annual cost of these materials will be \$475; they are requesting \$300 and expect to make up the difference themselves out of membership fees and other fundraising activities. They will be raising funds for other items, such as the website, books and other materials as well.
2. Ms. Joseph asked for clarification on the types of literacy activities. Ms. Wyckoff explained that the projects are related to books that are read with the children and reinforce the themes of the books and promote an interest in reading. For example, last fall they read books about pumpkins and then carved them. There was also a project that included making kaleidoscopes. This spring there will be a unit on planting and growing.
3. Ms. Williams observed that there is a definite need for the materials requested in the grant application as both the library and the "friends of" group are completely new. She has visited the library and reports that it is a wonderful facility and worthy of community support.

4. Mr. Cook asked what steps are being taken to notify the community that the library is available and the FORL exists. Ms. Wyckoff replied that, although the library is one of the most heavily used in the system, more can certainly be done to reach out to the community. That is one of the chief aims of FORL. Events are advertised on the DCPL website (and will be on FORL as soon as a blog or website can be established), FORL members are attending community meetings (Kingman Park, Rosedale Citizen Alliance/RCA already and will speak at March ANC 6A meeting) and reaching out to schools (Maury has already sent students to two events).
5. Ms. Mack questioned the legitimacy of the FORL organization; whether it has by-laws and an established relationship with DCPL. Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert followed a similar line of questioning, asking for documentation of the relationship. She also said that she would have liked to have been contacted earlier in the process because she is the commissioner for the SMD in which the library is located. Ms. Wyckoff replied that she has already asked the Chair (David Holmes) for time on the March agenda so that she can inform the entire ANC community as to FORL's formation and activities. Ms. Wyckoff assured the committee that they do have by-laws and an agreement with the Federation of Friends of the DC Public Library. She will provide hard-copy to Ms. Nelson who will scan the documents and email them to the commissioners and CO committee members. They also have a tax-id number as a committee of the RCA.
6. Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert pointed out that the ANC can't fund a grant request that would duplicate City services. She also asked why the budget did not include itemized costs of materials/equipment on the list. Ms. Nelson explained that this is standard practice when the cost of individual components are very small and it's not possible to determine in advance precisely which items will be needed. Commissioner Alberti (Treasurer) noted that recent grants to the Sherwood Recreation Center followed this model and pointed out that he would receive receipts for all items purchased before reimbursing FORL. Ms. Nelson said there had been a similar grant to the Friends of the NorthEast Library some years ago and that it doesn't duplicate City services since it is outside the scope of what DCPL will provide.
7. Mr. Barbash said that he "liked the grant from the minute he saw it" and that it seemed like a modest amount of money that would be well spent on the requested materials. Ms. Nelson said that she would support the grant application because it was a worthwhile expenditure and particularly needed as the library and "friends of" group are both new and haven't had time or opportunity to acquire basic materials. The grant and requesting organization meet all the funding requirements and, this being the first grant application received this fiscal year, there are sufficient funds in the grants budget.
8. **Motion: Ms. Kohanek moved that the COC recommend that ANC 6A fund the FORL grant application in full - \$300 - to purchase craft supplies and seasonal items in support of literacy activities at the Rosedale Library. Seconded by Ms. Joseph. Ms. Mack asked to amend the motion to add "assuming a copy of the by-laws and the agreement are provided". Amendment was accepted. Vote 8 in favor (including Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert) none opposed. [subsequent to the meeting, the requested information was provided]**

IV. Closing comment:

Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert thanked Ms. Wyckoff for establishing the Friends of the Rosedale Library group.

V. Confirmation of next meeting date.

The meeting will be held on schedule, the third Monday of March.

VI. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

VII. **The next meeting will be held March 18, 7:30 p.m. at 1235 C St. NE.**