

ANC6A Community Outreach Committee

May 20, 2013 Minutes

Church of the Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith annex, 1235 C St. NE

Meeting called to order at 7:40 p.m.

Committee members present: Elizabeth Nelson (Chair), Louis Barbash, Maurice Cook, Gladys Mack (quorum)

Committee members absent: Jean Kohanek, Rose Williams, Pat Joseph

Commissioners present: Sondra Phillips-Gilbert

I. Agenda  
Adopted.

II. Discussion of summer meeting schedule

There's no reason to meet in both July and August since the ANC won't meet until September 12. Since any grant applications for the fiscal year must be received a week prior to the last COC meeting before the September ANC meeting, it would be advantageous to potential applicants if it is scheduled as late in August as is feasible. Ms. Nelson will poll the committee members and see which of two dates, August 12 and 19, will allow the best attendance. She will publicize the ending of the grant cycle on the website, listservs, in the Buzz and in the ANC ad in the Hill Rag. She will request that it also be posted in the community calendar section of the Hill Rag.

III. Report on ANC/COC activities

The grant application from the Eliot-Hine MS PTSA was approved by the Commission. A list of toys/games will be final shortly and the invoice delivered to Commissioner Alberti. He will cut a check payable to Labyrinth, take it to the store, collect the toys/games and deliver to the school. This should happen within the next few days - good news as the children will have an opportunity to use them before the end of the year. Mr. Cook offered to assist with the delivery.

IV. Discussion of ANC outreach activities

1. The COC considered various possibilities for outreach activities to increase the visibility of the ANC. Ms. Nelson pointed out that serving as a commissioner is very time-consuming and that commissioners have, in the past, been unable to even establish a presence at events planned by others (such as the H Street Festival). So, she suggested that, if there is strong interest on the part of the commissioners, they join such a function or partner with another group as their first attempt.
2. The attendees then brain-stormed several possibilities and discussed their advantages and disadvantages.
  - a. H Street Festival - expenditures would be limited to booth rental. Rest facilities, street-closing, security would be provided. Food carts and water stations would mean that we wouldn't have to worry about food. But Ward 6 residents are a small percentage of attendees.
  - b. Bluegrass Festival - same as above except we wouldn't have to pay for booth rental but Ward 6 residents are a minority at this event also.
  - c. Ward 6 Family Day - same as Bluegrass Festival but the location this year is too far from ANC 6A. Might be a good idea if it's back at Rosedale next year (as it has often been in the past).
  - d. Clean-up day - very low cost and is clearly a public service. Would either have to stage several in various SMDs or perhaps do a street-cleaning/flower-planting on "shared" space - for example H Street. Would not require a tremendous amount of setup but would be hard work for the

commissioners and would require a lot of effort and publicity to recruit sufficient volunteers.

- e. Partnering with the Capitol Hill Restoration Society (CHRS) to do one or more walking tours as was done a few years back in Rosedale. CHRS is interested in doing this and it would be no-cost and easy to arrange.
- f. Holiday service project - for example a children's party at a Recreation Center or serving holiday meals at a soup kitchen or senior housing. This would make a good impression on the recipients but it could cause the appearance of conflict of interest if we solicit from local businesses on behalf of ANC 6A. It would work better in partnership with some other organization which would do the fundraising while the ANC organized the volunteers.

3. Mr. Cook pointed out that someone, probably (but not necessarily) a commissioner would need to assume a leadership role and have a concrete plan before proceeding. Ms. Phillips-Gilbert noted that if the decision is to do something associated with the holidays, planning would need to begin very soon. The attendees developed the following proposal:

Any ANC 6A Commissioner or Committee Member (any committee) who wishes to do so, should present a draft plan for consideration (of feasibility and appropriateness) by the COC at their June 17 meeting. Plans should be submitted a few days in advance and will include the following:

- a. Commissioner participation (will a reasonable number of commissioners be available and able to participate at date/time/venue/activity)
- b. Venue (incl. rest facilities, security, street closing, rain plan, etc. as appropriate)
- c. Organization (leadership, recruitment of volunteers, materials/equipment needed, and publicity)
- d. Funding/budget (keeping in mind limited resources, how ANC funds may be spent, and impropriety of the ANC approaching businesses who may later require ANC approval)
- e. Partnership agreements (would help with items c & d).

- V. Confirmation of next meeting date.

**The next meeting will be held June 17, 7:30 p.m. at 1235 C St. NE.**

- VI. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.