

ANC6A Community Outreach Committee

June 20, 2011 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 (no quorum)

Committee members absent: Necothia Bowens, Mark Roy, Rose Williams, Pat Joseph,

Community members present: Lilia Abron and George L. Nichols (DC SEU)

- I. Agenda
Adopted.
- II. Status report on ANC/COC activities
COC recommendations from April meeting (grants and advertising) were approved at May ANC meeting. The ANC voted to oppose the proposed Father's Day event at Sherwood Recreation Center, consistent with the COC's recommendation to deny support.
- III. Thank-you letters to organizations providing support to ANC 6A
 1. Ms. Nelson provided draft letters based on those sent out in the summer of 2009. None were sent out in 2010 - an oversight on the part of the COC.
 2. All agreed that sending such letters is the appropriate thing to do and that they should be sent to those organizations providing meeting space for ANC meetings and committee meetings: Miner ES, Capitol Hill Towers, the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith and the Sherwood Recreation Center. A letter should also be sent to Gallaudet University in recognition of their hosting of the website and related technical support.
 3. **Motion: Ms. Barbash moved that the COC recommend that ANC 6A send thank- you letters to Miner ES, Capitol Hill Towers, Church of the Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Sherwood Recreation Center and Gallaudet University. Seconded by Ms. Kohanek. Vote 3 in favor none opposed.**
- IV. Presentation by the District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Utility (DCSEU) Program Management Contract
 1. Ms. Abron and Mr. Nichols explained the program (a summary is in the attached email sent by Ms. Abron to Ms. Nelson). They are contractors hired by DDOT to administer the program, which is funded by fees assessed on DC utilities consumers. They were referred to the COC by CM Wells' office. They are seeking assistance in community outreach to identify low income housing units, small businesses and occupants of single family homes that might be interested in participating in the program.
 2. COC members provided contact information for The Hill Rag, The Hill Is Home, the Rosedale Citizen's Alliance, the pastors of local churches. Arrangements were made to run a short notice in The Buzz newsletter. The offer was made to post public service announcements to the local listservs (if provided by the SEU). Recommendations were also made with regard to contacts in the business community.

3. The COC further agreed to request that the ANC allow them to make a brief presentation at the beginning of the July ANC meeting.
4. **Request: COC requests that ANC 6A invite representatives of the DCSEU to make a presentation at the July 14 meeting.**

V. Discussion of summer meeting schedule for COC

1. In the past, the COC has only met once in July/August, since any recommendations made during that time frame will not be considered by the commissioners until the September ANC meeting.
2. All COC members present agreed that it would be better to meet in August than in July so that organizations contemplating grant applications would have more time to prepare.
3. There is some question of being able to achieve a quorum on the third Monday in August so the committee members present agreed to meet instead on the 4th Monday. As there are 5 Monday in August, that will still give sufficient time to prepare minutes prior to the deadline for the September agenda package.
4. Ms. Nelson will ask the COC members not present if this date will work for them but the tentative plan is to meet on August 22.

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

VII. **The next meeting will take place Monday, August 22, at 7:30 p.m. at 1235 C St. NE**

EMAIL FROM DCSEU

Dear Commissioner Knits,

The District of Columbia's Sustainable Energy Utility is up and operating and we need the help and support of ANC6-A. I am writing you in your capacity of Chairperson of the Outreach Committee for ANC6-A to transmit this timely information and seek your ANC District's help and support.

On behalf of the District of Columbia's Sustainable Energy Utility Program Management Contract, working under the leadership, guidance and management of the District's Department of the Environment (DDOE), I am seeking your assistance in Ward 6 and in particular ANC6-A in identifying:

1) low income, multi-family buildings and their contacts, if applicable,
2) commercial and institutional businesses employing less than 15 persons such as barber and beauty salons, piazza parlors, restaurants and other small eateries, convenience stores, dry goods, etc., and

3) single family, owner-occupied homes
for our quick start programs described below and in more detail at www.dcseu.com.

I am sending this email request to you seeking recommendations for buildings, businesses and homes in Ward 6 and your ANC District as candidates for these programs, and an appointment to speak at one your ANC6-A meetings to discuss with the commissioners how your Ward and single member districts should and could benefit from this program. I see from your website you are having a meeting on the 3rd Monday in June. Maybe I could attend that meeting and speak to the commissioners and attendees about the sustainable energy utility at that time. This is a 5 year + program that is being funded directly by our contributions to the sustainable energy trust fund (a line item on your PEPCO and Washington Gas bills) and we should benefit.

As you are aware, The Clean and Affordable Energy Act (CAEA) became law on October 22, 2008. CAEA establishes the following overarching goals for energy efficiency and renewable energy in the District:

- Reduce per-capita energy consumption
- Increase renewable energy generating capacity
- Reduce the growth in peak electricity demand
- Improve the energy efficiency of low-income housing
- Reduce demand growth for the District's largest energy users
- Increase the number of green-collar jobs

CAEA created an entity then identified as the sustainable energy utility and designated it to be the primary vehicle by which to attain these goals. The law charged the Mayor, through DDOE, to contract with a private entity to conduct sustainable energy programs on behalf of the District of Columbia. The intent of the law is for this program/contract to be the one-stop resource for energy efficiency and renewable energy services for District residents and businesses.

The SEU contract has been awarded to a partnership called the District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Partnership (DCSEP) with Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) as the prime contractor. VEIC is a non-profit organization committed to reducing the economic and environmental costs of energy use. The company has 25 years of experience designing and implementing effective and efficient energy programs for states, municipalities, and utilities and is known for developing and delivering the nation's first energy efficiency utility. The DCSEP consists of a team of experienced, national and local, well-known organizations and individuals that collectively bring together national and local leadership in energy efficiency, renewable energy, program planning and implementation, and local community networks.

Initially, for the first year (March 24, 2011 through September 30, 2011) we will focus on three sets of mini-programs we call "quick starts". These are:

1. Low-income, multifamily, residential energy efficiency projects
2. Residential energy efficient projects
3. Commercial and Institutional Direct Install Projects

The DCSEU contract and each of the "quick starts" are explained in more detail on our website, www.dcseu.com. When you visit the website you will read about all services being provided currently. There are many more to come. All services under the low income, multifamily, and commercial and institutional direct install, quick starts are provided free of charge. For the residential, single family retrofit quick start we will provide \$500.00 to \$800.00 worth of services for a co-pay of \$100.00. Again, this is all explained in detail at www.dcseu.com.

Commissioner Knits, we need your help now, immediately, in identifying potential projects in Ward 6 in general and ANC6-A in particular. Additionally, if there are community groups and organizations that we should reach out to in 1D for additional help, and to get the word out that the program is operating, please let me know about those as well. We are under DDOE mandate to have to all of our quick start programs completed and all the first year allocated funds (\$6.5 M) money spent by September 30, 2011.

Low Income, Multi-family (LIMF) Quick Start

We intend to provide services to about 6,000 units under the LIMF quick start. That works out to around 750 units to 1,000 units per ward, give or take a few here and a few there. I am requesting that ANC6-A nominate some buildings in your ward and/or district that might meet the income restrictions and are thus eligible for this program. The income restrictions are given on our website, www.dcseu.com. We need buildings now.

Single Family, Owner-Occupied Retrofit Quick Start

For the single family, owner-occupied retrofit quick start, we need recommendations for tight knit communities that might want to participate. ANC6-A has a mix of residential and commercial/retail properties so I suspect that you might have some tight-knit communities in your district that would be interested in participating in this program. I looked at the website for the neighborhood and civic associations in Ward 6 and there are not that many, but you have several in your ANC such as Lincoln Park, Stanton Park and Rosedale that seem to fit the criteria below. I am sure there are more and we need your help. We really need your input for this quick start program for Ward 6. We need the names of communities that you would recommend and a contact person for that association. We want to start with the contact for that neighborhood/civic/community association and then let them make recommendations for home owners that might want to participate. We do not want to, nor do we have time to go door to door looking for participants. We will provide about \$500.00 to \$800.00 of services to each home and are only requesting a \$100.00 co-pay. There is no income restriction on the single family home quick starts. The other criteria are:

1. Neighborhood should contain a cluster of owner-occupied, single family homes sufficient to support program goals (75-100 per ward).
2. Neighborhood homeowners should be able to afford the \$100.00 co-pay requirement.
3. Target neighborhood home clusters should be situated such the contractors can easily schedule several home installations for one day with minimal driving.
4. Target neighborhood housing stock should be at least 15 years old.
5. Neighborhood should host existing social network, community group, or homeowner's association.
6. Neighborhood participation should have support from appropriate ANC chair.

7. Neighborhood housing stock that characteristically will have significant opportunities for efficiency improvements

We anticipate that with the money available we can do about 25 homes to 30 homes per ward, thus the need to identify cluster with 75 homes to 100 homes per community.

This is the reason why we are asking for referrals from the ANC Commissioners and the Ward Council Persons. We cannot advertise this in a big splash yet, because many will be left out and we do not misrepresent ourselves and the program and disappoint.

We can get to all during the rest of the 4+ years of the program.

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Commercial and Institutional Direct Install Quick Start

With respect to the commercial and institutional direct install quick start program, we plan to provide free services to about 75 businesses to 100 business in each ward. Again, we need these businesses in clusters, so the contractor can walk up and down the street of a business corridor, provide the services efficiently, and not have to drive all over the ward each day to meet the goal.

The businesses should be small, one floor, retail operations, that employ less than 15 people and are not chains. I know there are several such business corridors in Ward 6 and perhaps in your District. Please recommend those that might be good candidates in your ANC District. Some of the services we will provide under this quick start are given, yes, on our website, www.dcseu.com.

Summary

When we start work in all programs we want to take pictures of the contractors, the business owners, the ANC Commissioner and the Ward Council person observing our money and residents at work and helping other residents and businesses to become more energy efficient and responsible citizens.

I am Lilia Abron and I have responsibility initially for community outreach and education. George Nichols, who resides in 6-A, will be assisting me with follow-up to this email. For the DCSEU he has responsibility for governmental affairs and outreach.

Thank you so much for your time and attention to this email. I look forward to hearing from you. Just hit "reply to" to respond to me by email.

Very truly yours,

Lilia Abron

Lilia A. Abron, Ph.D., PE, BCEE
DCSEU
202 352 7812

Draft Thank-you letters begin here:

August xx, 2011

Lavonne Taliaferro-Bunch, Principal
Miner Elementary School
601 15th St. NE
Washington DC 20002

Dear Ms. Taliaferro-Bunch,

For over eight years Miner Elementary School has provided a meeting place for Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A. We want to express our sincere appreciation for the time and effort you have put in to helping us hold these public meetings, which are crucial to the functioning of our city.

On behalf of the Commission,

David Holmes
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

August xx, 2011

Minister Thompson
Church of the Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith
1235 C St. NE
Washington DC 20002

Minister Thompson,

For the past eight years you have provided a meeting place for the Community Outreach Committee of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A. We want to express our sincere appreciation for the time and effort you have put in to helping us hold these public meetings, which are crucial to the functioning of our city.

Please extend our thanks to the members of your church family who have been so gracious in opening the building for us.

Once again, thank you.

On behalf of the Commission,

David Holmes
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

August xx, 2011

Mr. Raphael Marshall, Director
Sherwood Recreation Center
Corner of 10th and G Sts. NE

Dear Mr. Marshall,

For over eight years the Sherwood Recreation Center has provided a meeting place for Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A activities – the meetings of the Alcohol Beverage Licensing Committee and the Economic Development and Zoning Committee. We want to express our sincere appreciation for the time and effort you have put in to helping us hold these monthly public meetings, which are crucial to the functioning of our ANC.

On behalf of the Commission,

David Holmes
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

August xx, 2011

Queen Laney, Manager
Capitol Hill Towers
900 G St NE
Washington, DC 20002

Dear Ms. Laney,

For over seven years Capitol Hill Towers has provided a meeting place for Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A activities, in particular the meetings of the Transportation and Public Space Committee. We want to express our sincere appreciation for the time and effort you have put in to helping us hold these monthly public meetings, which are crucial to the functioning of our ANC.

On behalf of the Commission,

David Holmes
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

August xx, 2011

Dr. Robert Davila, President
Gallaudet University
800 Florida Ave. NE
Washington DC 20002

Dear Dr. Davila

For the past eight years Gallaudet University has hosted a website for Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A. This website (www.anc6a.org) is an essential component in our efforts to provide the greatest possible public access to our proceedings. Non-ANC related information of community interest is available as well. We want to express our sincere appreciation for the time and effort your staff has contributed to this endeavor.

Please share our thanks with Mr. Jon Mitchiner, Director, Information Technology Services, who has gone out of his way to provide the best support possible. His colleagues have been enormously helpful as well, especially Hatim Vali who shepherded us through a recent server upgrade. We also appreciate their renewing the domain name on our behalf.

On behalf of the Commission,

David Holmes
Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A