

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Community Outreach Committee (COC)
June 22, 2026, 7:00-9:00pm
Meeting Minutes**

Present

- Chair
 - Ashley Blake
- Commissioners:
 - Commissioner Shapiro
- Presenters:
 - Ami Angell - h3 Project
 - Anwar Saleem - H Street. Main Street./H St Heal
 - Warees Majeed - H Street Heal
- Community Members:
 - Daniel Aboagye - Community Member
 - Robert Smith - DC Prevention Center

7:05 pm - Welcome

- Attendees kicked off with a round of introductions and an icebreaker

7:15 pm - Community Round Robin

- Chair Blake facilitated a round of community event updates and highlights, including but not limited to:
 - Continued opportunity to engage with the H St Planning Study via the [H St. Planning Open House](#) and [Online Survey](#)
 - [Yoga District](#) as a resource for free or low-cost classes throughout the week, including at their H St. location
 - [Together for DC](#) has launched another campaign to support statehood advocacy nationwide
 - An upcoming documentary screening hosted through h3 project - flyer attached
 - A hand-dancing close hosted through H St. Main St.
 - International Overdose Awareness Day highlighting successful prevention tips

7:30 pm - Community Presentations

- ***H3 Project Presentation - Ami Angell***
 - Ami provided an overview of the mission and services of h3- see attached flyers
 - *Questions and Comments:*
 - Commissioner Shapiro: How does the outreach model work? And how is it funded?
 - Every staff member has an active client list and is often in the field

- Twice a day, two staff will be dispatched to targeted areas (often identified by BIDS) to connect hard-to-reach individuals and/or folks who have been identified as needed engagement (e.g., businesses may call if they've noticed someone is struggling)
 - All staff undergo extensive training and h3 also prioritizes lived experience
 - In terms of costs and contracting, it depends on the BID - what they are looking for and what they can afford
- Chair Blake: What is the best approach if someone is actively struggling
 - Introduce yourself before proceeding and ask "what can I call you?" and then "you doing ok out here?" and see where the conversation takes you
 - Helpful to have a list of resources that are handy to share if possible
- Chair Blake: What is the best way to combat statements or viewpoints about neighbors who are unhoused or experiencing mental or behavioral health challenges?
 - Helpful to understand that over 50% of people experiencing homelessness have a traumatic brain injury
 - Helpful to understand the complexities and trauma that drives mental and behavioral health challenges
- Community Member: Kudos for h3's model and a reminder that a number of neighbors around us may be struggling but not actively present as such- mental and behavioral health challenges impact everyone
- Community Member: Kudos for h3's model + presence, as well as a note re: an increase in folks who may be experiencing challenges around H and 15th - there's a group called Preventative Measures in the neighborhood supporting these individuals, and this community member is noticing an ongoing expression of concern or misunderstanding regarding how the services of Preventative Measures impact the neighborhood
 - This community member also expressed concern that this misunderstanding may have been exacerbated by ANC 6A comments
 - Commissioner Shapiro pushed back on this sentiment and assured the community member that ANC 6A has not taken any formal stance for or against Preventative Measures
- ***H St Main St/Heal St - Anwar Saleem and Warees Majeed***
 - Anwar and Warees provided an overview of the model of H St Heal and impact/engagement statistics over the last few months
 - H St. Heal team also shared information about an upcoming clothing giveaway on 6/24/2026 4pm-7pm Corner of 12th and H Street NE

- *Comments/Questions*

- Commissioner Shapiro: Underscored the need for this project, but highlighted concerns regarding the cost of it, as well as the fact that there was no competitive bid, no engagement with the community as the program was built out, and no performance metrics
- Commissioner Shapiro: How much of this \$290,000 that was allocated by the city is in management or overhead that's being paid to H St. Main St and how much of it is direct services?
 - Only 5-10% of funding is overhead and the rest is dedicated to direct services
- Commissioner Shapiro: Shared concerns with lack of transparency and finances
 - Anwar committed to sending the budget for awareness
- Chair Blake: Where can we find more info about/engage with Heal St.?
 - Email: Thehealteam26@gmail.com
 - Facebook: The Heal Team
 - Twitter: Thehealteam26
 - Instagram: thehealteam26
- Chair Blake: What is Starburst Plaza, as there has been a few references to it?
 - Location at the corner of 15th and Benning; sits at the intersection of Ward 5, 6 and 7
 - This particular intersection has suffered a significant loss of business activity and disinvestment, which has resulted in a concentration of need or, as one community member noted "an intersection of social vulnerabilities"
 - Community Member Robert Smith had insights to share here
- Chair Blake: Where can we find monthly impact reports?
 - Team is planning to add reports to a pending website + social media
- Chair Blake: Encouraged the Heal St. team to lean into more transparency and bi-directional communication with the ANC

7:45 pm - Adjourned

- Chair Blake reminded folks to please spread the word about the CoC and reach out with any questions or ideas