

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A
Community Outreach Committee (COC)
August 24, 2026 7:00-8:00 pm
Meeting Minutes**

Present:

- Commissioners:
 - Kymberly Butler-Spires
- Committee Members:
 - Lorena Gil
 - Gail Sullivan
- Community Members:
 - Daniel Aboagye
- Chair
 - Ashley Blake

7:08 pm - Introductions and Icebreakers: How do you get to know your neighbors?

- Attendees kicked off with an ice breaker and round of introductions

7:13 pm - Community Input: Round Robin

- JO Wilson is hosting an open house on Saturday, 8/29
- [Free DC's Ward 6 meeting is on 9/3 at 7pm](#); location TBD
- Reminder: Charles Allen shares a great newsletter - sign up if you have not already!
- There is a March on Washington event this Friday, 8/28 and Seniors Defending Democracy will be meeting up to attend
 - This update kickstarted a couple of additional conversations, including a note from Commissioner Butler that she is planning a townhall for seniors - more to come!
- The group discussed the desire for future in-person CoC meetings (starting in Sept and taking place quarterly), and brain-stormed potential space options:
 - Solid State Books
 - NE Library
 - AutoZone
 - Perhaps we host in someone's home!
- A member raised the issue of people with out-of-state plates regularly parking in the neighborhood- is there a

7:30 pm - Community Input: 6A Website

- Chair Blake shared that ANC 6A is exploring a transition to an Office of the ANC-sponsored website
- Chair Blake noted that the migration was originally scheduled for this fall, but due to upcoming ANC elections and transitions, we are now looking at Q127/Q227
- Chair Blake asked the group for input related to what resources and links would be helpful to include.

- *Comments and Questions:*
 - Important to ensure that any links included are up to date
 - We should be mindful of not overwhelming visitors with too many resources/links. To that point, we would like to see functioning and robust search option.
 - OANC rep noted that a prior ANC partner, Mark Friend, compiled a list of links and resources that we may be able to access
 - A Community Calendar would be helpful, particularly if it can showcase local events like Art All Night
 - We should consider including a more organized or categorized list of resources, i.e., for homeowners vs. renters
 - Ideas for additional links, i.e., links we do not see included in the current list:
 - Rat abatement
 - Rent or utility assistance
 - List of restaurants
 - List of childcare centers

7:45 - Community Input: 6A Grants Program

- Chair Blake provided context for the grants program and discussion at hand, specifically, whether the COC is interested in putting forth a formal recommendation to increase the allocation to the community grants program in the ANC 6A FY27 budget
- Chair Blake shared the additional context that minimal grants have been awarded over the last few years, mainly due to limited applications
- Unrelated, Chair Blake shared there is a pending discussion regarding the alignment of bylaws, but more discussion with ANCs is needed
- *Comments and Questions*
 - Do we have wiggle room to adjust the structure of the application? It is quite tedious
 - Unfortunately, no
 - Multiple members of the group noted the cumbersome process and discussed whether it may be discouraging applications
 - More money is helpful - could be an impetus for more people to apply
 - Important to note there are other grant resources out there that we can help direct folks to (if additional funding is needed due to our limited capacity)
 - Chair Blake put forth the formal motion to recommend that ANC 6A approve an increase to the annual grant budget by \$500:
 - Lorena Gilmore
 - Gail Sullivan seconded
 - Commissioner Butler voted yes
 - Chair Blake reminded the group to please give thought to how we can spread the word about our community grants program!

7:57 pm - Community Input: COC Membership

- Chair Blake provided context for the discussion, highlighting that there has been some renewed interest from community members to join the CoC, and the Committee will be voting on one of those individuals this evening: Daniel Aboagye
- Chair Blake invited Daniel Aboagye to share why he is interested in joining the COC:
 - Daniel noted his ongoing commitment to community; interest in leveraging civic engagement and community outreach to help define what community looks like and how it operates; the importance of diverse representation
- Chair Blake invited other members of the committee and group to ask questions of Daniel - none cited
- Chair Blake put forth the formal motion to recommend that ANC 6A approve the addition of new committee member, Daniel Aboagye
 - Lorena Gil moved
 - Gail Sullivan seconded
 - Commissioner Butler voted yes

8:09 pm - Adjourned