

ANC6A Community Outreach Committee

September 16, 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), Louis Barbash, Maurice Cook, Gladys Mack, Jean Kohanek, Rose Williams, Pat Joseph (quorum)

Commissioners present: Sondra Phillips-Gilbert, Nick Alberti, David Holmes

Community members present: Charles Vincent (Executive Director, Options PCS), Raphael Marshall (Director, Sherwood Recreation Center), Douglas Loesch (EnironMentors), Sarah Mack, Michael Herman, Sally Loesch, Dana Wyckoff (observers)

- I. Agenda
Adopted.

- II. Presentation by Doug Loesch representing the EnvironMentors program at UDC.
Mr. Loesch explained that it is a college access program designed to expose students to environmental issues and scientific research. Students are recruited from District high schools but most of the programming is presented at UDC. Funding sources vary from year to year but is fully funded at present. Ms. Nelson asked that the flyers be provided to the ANC, electronically; Commissioner Holmes added that this would allow us to post the information on the local listservs, thereby increasing public awareness.

- III. Discussion of fence installed by Options PCS, restricting access to public basketball court
 1. Ms. Nelson explained that the matter had been referred to the committee by the commissioners at the most recent ANC meeting, because there wasn't time for a full discussion and because the Options representatives present at the meeting were not fully prepared to address the topic. Subsequent to that meeting, Ms. Nelson contacted Derek Shultz at DPR (Options' contact at the agency) who informed her that Options had been directed to remove the fence because it was on DPR property and confirming that the basketball court was public property under the control of DPR.
 2. **Commissioner Holmes introduced the following motion (seconded by Nelson):**
ANC 6A send a letter:
 - 1/. of thanks to Options for removing the fence, if completed, and advising them to include the ANC in advance of future projects;
 - 2/. of thanks to DPR for their assistance in helping get the fence removed, noting our opposition to any restriction on access to this basketball court;
 - Or, if the fence is not removed by the October ANC meeting, send a letter:
 - 3/. to Options requesting its immediate removal from public space and advising them to include the ANC in advance of future projects; and
 - 4/. requesting the assistance of DPR and the Council in expediting the removal of the fence, and noting our opposition to any restriction on access to this basketball court.
 3. Dr. Vincent said that he was in support of the motion, that the fence would be entirely removed within a week and that it was not installed "with ill intent" but rather to address complaints from neighbors.
 4. Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert thanked Dr. Vincent for attending the meeting and questioned the need for such a motion, since Dr. Vincent had stated his commitment to removing the fence. Commissioner Holmes pointed out that his motion addressed both contingencies, if the fence is removed and if the fence is not removed.
 5. Ms. Williams noted that she and her son were among those who had been unable to use the court while the fence was in place and said that she did not think it should

have been done without input from the broader community. Ms. Wyckoff said (from the audience) that the ANC is “the greater body” and that Options and the ANC should work together cooperatively to solve these issues.

6. **Ms. Nelson then called the vote, which passed 8-1-1 (Nelson, Barbash, Kohanek, Joesph, Williams, Alberti, Holmes, Cook in favor; Phillips-Gilbert opposed; Mack abstaining).**

- IV. Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert introduced a motion that the COC meetings be moved to another location that would be quieter and have better ventilation and climate control and that it be a more public facility such as a recreation center.
 1. Commissioner Alberti said that he thought the ANC ought to maintain geographic diversity by keeping the meeting in the current location - the other committee meetings are held at Sherwood [which is at the western end of the ANC] and the ANC meetings are held at Miner ES [which is in the northeast corner of the ANC].
 2. Mr. Marshall indicated that it would be preferable to look to Rosedale rather than Sherwood [perhaps because the Transportation and Public Space Committee already meets there the third Monday of the month - though he did not specify.]
 3. After some discussion it became evident that Commissioner Phillips-Gilbert had intended to include a change of meeting time as well. Her revised motion (seconded by Mack:
That ANC 6A move the COC meetings to another location, such as the Sherwood Recreation Center or Rosedale Recreation Center/Library, and that the meetings begin at 7 pm. The motion passed, 5-3 (Joseph, Phillips-Gilbert, Mack, Kohanek, Barbash in favor; Alberti, Nelson, Williams, opposed; Cook, Holmes abstaining).

- V. Mr. Marshall asked if there was certainty that the entire basketball court was on DPR property. His question could not be answered definitively, in the absence of a plat. Mr. Herman asked if such a plat could be requested. Subsequent to the meeting, Mr. Schultz provided an Office of Planning plat. It shows that the basketball court is indeed on DPR property (as is the dog park) and that the fence erected by Options was on DPR property. The plat appears on the last page of this document.

- VI. Confirmation of next meeting date.
The next meeting will be held Monday, October 21, 7:30 p.m. at 1235 C St. NE.

- VII. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



DPR property is in gold.