

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A  
Miner Elementary School**

**Minutes  
March 11, 2010**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Alberti, Beatty, Holmes, Mack, Marshall, Robinson, and Ronneberg

**1. Approval of agenda**

Mr. Alberti asked that an allocation for the Post Office box be considered under the Treasurer's Report. Ms. Beatty asked that voluntary agreements be considered under New Business. Mr. Robinson asked that an H Street streetcar resolution be added to New Business, and that a letter regarding the 90/92 buses be added to Unfinished Business. The agenda, as amended, was approved without objection.

**2. Minutes**

The minutes for the February meeting were approved without objection.

**3. Community Comment**

Mr. Holmes announced a CHRS Preservation Café of Spring Cleaning and Closet Organization.

**4. Community Presentations -**

Shaeda Ahmadi, Mayor's Office of Community Relations. Shaeda Ahmadi, the new Ward 6 Outreach and Service coordinator for Ward 6, introduced herself.

Regan Ford, Levine School of Music. Regan Ford, director of the Levine School of Music at THEARC, presented information on the school's programs and invited members of the community to be part of them, either by taking classes or attending programs at the school, including Master classes. She mentioned an Open House on March 20, and a concert by a soprano of spirituals and art songs.

**5. Officer Reports**

Chair

Mr. Robinson announced an education series by the Department of Housing and Community Development, with a meeting on March 23 at their MLK Avenue headquarters.

He also reported that there would be another meeting with other Ward 6 ANC Chairs and Councilmember Wells to discuss ward-wide issues.

The Vice Chair and Secretary had no reports

Treasurer

Commissioner Alberti presented the Treasurer's Report. He announced that the quarterly allotment for the ANC had been released. The report shows that the opening checking account balance was \$23,108.78 and that the savings account balance was \$4,199.67. There was an interest payment to the savings account of \$.36, leaving a balance of \$4,200.03 in the savings account. There were

disbursements of \$ 25 to the ANC Security Fund (Check #1449); \$135 to Roberta Weiner for transcription of minutes (Check #1450); \$200 to Heather Schoell for preparation of the January agenda packet (Check #1451); \$158.14 to FedEx Office for January copies (Check #1452), \$1,983.14 to Weissan Designs for Dance (for an Eastern HS PTSA grant (Check #1453); and \$2,253.38 to Art Stone Theatrical (Eastern HS PTSA grant) (Check #1454), leaving a balance of \$18,354.12 in the checking account. **Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to approve the expenditures. The motion passed without objection. **Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved /Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. It was approved without objection.

**Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion that \$600 be approved for copying for ANC materials for February, and that up to \$60 be approved for copying for each Committee's materials and each SMD's materials for the next month. The motion was accepted without objection.

**Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to allocate \$250 to fund rental of the ANC's Post Office box. The motion passed without objection.

## 6. SMD Reports

**Mr. Marshall** reported on the status of the rerouting of the 90/92 buses because of the H Street construction. He said he had met with Alfonso Martin from WMATA, and they changed the route to go down K Street, right on 10<sup>th</sup> Street, and back to 8<sup>th</sup> Street on F Street rather than G. He said the problem is that the bus drivers are not reading the new directions.

He also reported that he met with Derek Hardy from DDOT, and the RPP signs are a go on the 800 and 900 blocks of 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets. However, because of the construction the signs will not be put up until the work is completed.

He also said that he has met with the merchants on the north side of H Street and Wylie Place, an area covering 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> Streets, north to I, and they agreed to take joint responsibility for the alley. He said there is a deserted building that has to be addressed, and that parking is still an issue.

**Dr. Ronneberg** reported that he is dealing with residents' complaints on the 90/92 buses. He also mentioned the construction and the street being torn up between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Streets and the impact on businesses. He said that Councilmember Wells has met with DDOT Director Gabe Klein to talk about parking and the possibility of setting up temporary parking lots. He said they have abandoned the idea of doing the construction in thirds, and are doing it all at once. He also reported that there is a vicious dog in his SMD.

**Ms. Mack** reported that a community meeting was scheduled for March 16 at Pilgrim AME Church, 512 17<sup>th</sup> Street NE, to discuss the impact of the proposed change of 17<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Streets NE to two-way traffic.

**Mr. Holmes** reported that he has received complaints about people not receiving permits for rooftop solar panel credits. He said the logjam seems to be cleared up.

**Ms. Beatty** reported that there were no longer any carjackings in her SMD.

## 7. Committee Reports

ABL

Capitol Liquors

This is a request for an exception to the single sales ban only for half pints (not beer or malt liquor). Ms. Beatty reported that the ABL Committee has approved a voluntary agreement for Capitol Liquor incorporating the exception to the single sales ban. She said that the ANC had led the other ANCs on the ward-wide ban, and that the ABL Committee had considered five or six requests for waivers to the ban that they had rejected. The reason that they looked at this one and wrote a new VA is that the ANC can't say it wants a partial ban under the standard VA. This VA is only in effect for one year and it has to come back to the ANC to be extended beyond the year. Capitol Liquor abuts three wards, 5, 6, and 7, and only 6 has a ban on half-pints. The owner, Young Woo, who was present, she said, is a responsible community member according to Ms. Mack, in whose SMD the establishment is located.

**Motion:** Ms. Beatty moved/Ms. Mack seconded a motion to accept the new VA for Capitol Liquors and to approve the exception to the single sales ban for the sales of half pints.

Dr. Ronneberg asked whether the VA and the exception go together and was told that they do. Mr. Holmes asked whether this was the exception the ANC had already voted against, and asked how this resolution differs. Ms. Beatty responded that the differences are that there is a different price point in the VA, and the VA is only in effect for one year. Mr. Holmes responded that he has a problem with a government body setting a price point, and it is not valid to limit sales to people who can afford it. Ms. Beatty responded that the argument that it keeps the poor from buying has been rejected by this ANC when we pursued the first H Street moratorium, and said that the reason for the price point was to protect the neighborhood from "street drinking" which often creates loitering and public urination and other problems. She said the owner can sell whatever he wants, and if he doesn't want to sell below \$3.99, he doesn't have to, but he wanted this price in the agreement in order to show the ANC that he's responsible. Mr. Holmes responded that the ANC should call on Ward 5 to institute a ban. Empty bottles drift into 6A's area. He said it's the only thing on which he has voted against the committee. Ms. Beatty said that 6A is not the ANC that's permitting most exceptions. Mr. Marshall said he lives north of H Street and he doesn't see the necessity of doing it. Mr. Robinson said that standards should be set for a price point, and there is a problem doing that without a study. However, in this case, the owner is coming forward to say he wants to do it.

**Motion:** Mr. Holmes moved an amendment to the original motion. It was seconded by Ms. Mack. The amendment is that section 1 (C) of the Voluntary Agreement with Capitol Liquors will be amended to read "The licensee may sell spirits in containers of a half pint." The amendment passed 6-0-1, with Mr. Alberti not voting.

Dr. Ronneberg expressed concern about setting future precedents. He said he believes that the exception should be granted, or urge Ward 5 to institute a ban. Ms. Beatty said that no precedent is being set, as this is a very limited exception, that the committee will consider each request for an exception individually, and allowing this one differentiates someone who is doing the right thing vs those that are not responsible owners. She added that she has no power to make Ward 5 do anything. The amended motion passed 3-2-2. Commissioners Alberti and Marshall voted present; Commissioners Holmes and Ronneberg voted against; and Commissioners Beatty, Mack and Robinson voted in favor.

The report of the committee was accepted without objection.

## **Economic Development and Zoning**

### **Union Station Air Rights Text and Map Amendment Project**

The Office of Planning has proposed a rulemaking for a text and map amendment to create a special zone for the air rights over the tracks behind Union Station. Among other issues, the zone proposes

to make the measuring point for the development at the top of the H Street Bridge rather than from the grade at 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NE. The EDZ Committee is considering the case because of its impact on the H Street Strategic Development Plan and Zoning Overlay that was meant to create a “Western Gateway.” According to Dr. Ronneberg, the proposed measuring point is in direct contradiction of the 2006 Comprehensive Plan, the 2002 Zoning Case (ZC 02-35, which changed the definition of building height to exclude bridges and viaducts, and recommendations made by the Office of Planning (OP) through the Zoning Regulations rewrite process to measure height from grade rather than from man-made structures like bridges. **Motion:** Dr. Ronneberg moved/Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to send a letter to the Zoning Commission opposing the proposed rulemaking on the Union Station Air Rights project. In response to a statement that the issue is not in ANC 6A and has no relevance, Mr. Holmes responded that the Office of Planning is doing this around the city to break down the zoning overlays block by block.

ANC 6C Commissioner Ryan Velasco said that it is misleading to say that it is the Office of Planning doing this on its own. He said there has been an extremely iterative process between ANC 6C and OP. He pointed out that it will be a mixed use development with 500 residential units, including affordable housing, and he said that it was elitist to oppose the development. Mr. Robinson suggested that 6C should have further discussion with 6A on the issue. Ms. Beatty said she was troubled that 6A was accused of having an elitist attitude, and asked why action had to be taken at his time. Dr. Ronneberg said that the hearing is scheduled for May and it is coming up. Mr. Robinson said he takes exception to the statement that 6A has been elitist in our dealings with our neighbors in ANC 6C and believes that we can have disagreements without being disagreeable. He acknowledged that it was OP that had stopped the process by asking for a postponement of the hearing. Mr. Robinson then asked whether there was a problem with putting off action on the issue for a month so the ANC can work with ANC 6C. **Motion:** Ms. Beatty moved/Mr. Marshall second a motion to table action on the Union Station Air Rights project. The motion passed 4-3, with Dr. Ronneberg, Mr. Alberti and Mr. Holmes in opposition.

### Vacant Properties

Ronneberg reported that two pieces of legislation dealing with vacant properties are pending before the City Council, both of which are inadequate. The EDZ Committee has developed a set of principles:

1. The current vacant property system is untenable and doesn't create sufficient financial incentives for owners of vacant properties to occupy or sell these properties. The complexity of the system and exemption allowances leads to many vacant properties to occupy or sell these properties. The complexity of the system and exemption allowances leads to many vacant properties not being taxed at the vacant property rate. This is a problem—we have a serious vacant property problem in our ANC.
2. A system of penalties should be designed that is easy enough to administer but that is sufficiently strict that it encourages reoccupation of vacant properties.
3. Overall goal of the vacant property and blighted property penalties is to encourage occupation of vacant properties and renovation of blighted properties for eventual occupation.
4. There should be a distinction between vacant and blighted properties.
5. The definition of blighted properties should be examined; the current narrow definition of “blighted” may not be strong enough.
6. Only a strictly limited number of exemptions should be allowed—military service being one specific exemption.

**Motion:** Dr. Ronneberg moved/Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation to send a letter to Councilmember Wells identifying principles for an effective vacant property tax system and asking him to oppose vacant properties bills (B18-546 and B18-448) or any other bill not tying vacant properties fees to the value of the building. The motion passed without objection.

The report of the Committee was accepted without objection.

### **Community Outreach**

The Community Outreach Committee had no report.

### **Transportation**

#### **Capitol Hill Classic**

**Motion:** Me. Holmes moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation to support the Capitol Hill Classic 10K race on Sunday, May 16. The motion passed without objection.

#### **Resignation**

**Motion:** Mr. Robinson moved to accept the resignation of Diane Hoover from the Transportation Committee. The motion passed without objection.

The Committee's report was accepted without objection.

### **Public Safety**

The Public Safety Committee had no report.

## **8. Unfinished Business**

### **Bylaws Amendments**

**Motion:** Mr. Holmes moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to amend the ANC 6A bylaws as follows: Article X, Section 2 be amended to include "(e) Transportation and Public Space." And renumber the following line as (f). The motion passed without objection.

**Motion:** Mr. Robinson moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a substitute motion for Mr. Holmes motion on Officer Duties: Article IX, section 2 (b) be amended to read: "The Vice Chairperson shall, during any vacancy in the office of Secretary, fulfill the duties of Secretary, unless he/she is also functioning as the Treasurer, in which case the Chairperson shall fulfill the duties of the Secretary until the vacancy for Secretary or Treasurer is filled." Subsequent subsections shall be renumbered as appropriate.

Ms. Beatty questioned the need for the amendment, saying the Commission had existed for many years without it. She said it was not coincidental that it was being offered now. She noted that she had nominated Mr. Holmes to be ANC 6A Secretary in January, but he declined the office. Mr. Alberti said it was being moved because there is a hole in the bylaws and there's no one to act in the Secretary's place if it's necessary to have someone to sign a quarterly report which can't be filed without the Secretary's signature. He expressed his disappointment that something is being read into it. Mr. Holmes said that he offered the amendment because he saw a hole in the bylaws. The motion passed 5-2, with Ms. Beatty and Ms. Mack in opposition.

(Ms. Mack left the meeting at 8 p.m.)

### H Street Connection

**Motion:** Dr. Ronneberg moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion that the ANC support the recommendations of the EDZ Committee to support the massing and design of the proposed building at 900 H Street NE (H Street Connection Redevelopment), as well as the following proposed community amenities:

- a. Developer support for the H Street Historic District.
- b. Participation in a Business Improvement District (BID) or Clean and Safe Program.
- c. Erect bollard to protect the nearest house on 8<sup>th</sup> Street.
- d. Re-engineer the drainage system in the alley to prevent flooding during heavy rains
- e. Security cameras to monitor alley traffic
- f. Development meets LEED Silver Certification requirements
- g. Transportation Demand Management measures recommended by TPS Committee
- h. Landscaping of Phase II area before Phase II building is erected<sup>1</sup>

*<sup>1</sup>The following applies to the open areas of the site not improved with buildings, hardscape or structures and their access with grass, shrubs, flowers and any other attractive plants or foliage to maintain such area in attractive condition:*

- 1. If the bank pad and existing structures are removed from the east end of the site, developer agrees to landscape that area other than the private alley and any structure that may be needed for the project such as the 10<sup>th</sup> Street curb cut and garage access in the event they are constructed as a part of phase one construction; and*
- 2. If the bank pad and other existing structures are not removed, the developer agrees to landscape the areas other than the retained improvements and the private alley.*

Randy Brandt, the closest resident to the developer said that there is a fundamental flaw in the project: its size. He said that the traffic flow will be terrible and the ANC and the City have done nothing to ameliorate the situation.

The recommendations passed without objection.

**Motion:** Mr. Robinson moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to accept the recommendations of the Transportation and Public Space Committees on the redevelopment of the H Street Connection:

### Amenity Proposals agreed to by the developer:

- a. Withdraw from consideration for residential parking permits for residents of the building. Assist, and not object to, any City and ANC efforts to accomplish the same.
- b. Unbundle the sale of parking spots in the garage from the sale or lease of residential units in the building.
- c. Limit the number of retail parking spaces to no more than 65 spaces.
- d. Locate ticketing kiosks for the parking garage at the base of the entry ramp.
- e. Develop a written plan for distribution to building residents, visitors and employees informing them of the various transportation options available with the goal of reducing

automobile ownership by building residents and motor vehicle trip generation to and from the building by residents, visitors and employees.

- f. Make one car share parking spot in the retail portion of the garage available to a care share provider such as Zipcar or another similar company at any time needed by such car sharing provider.
- g. Support adding up to three care share parking spots in adjacent public space.
- h. Develop a plan and parking price/valuation policies which will:
  - I. Encourage retail patrons and other visitors to the building to use the building's garage should they drive.
  - II. Encourage the use of public transit and car sharing; and
  - III. Encourage visitors to the building and residents to bicycle to/from the building.
- i. Provide 25 bike parking spaces for retail visitors and 50 bike parking spaces for use by residents in the parking garage, as reflected in the building plans provided to the ANC.
- j. Fund the development of a bike sharing station on or adjacent to the property on public space at a cost not to exceed \$45,000.
- k. Build and maintain conveniently located showers and changing areas in the building for employees who wish to bike to work, as reflected in the building plan provided to the ANC.
- l. Allow for bicycle access through garage ramps, which will include the use of shortened gate control arms.
- m. Use of aesthetically pleasing brick façade materials at and around garage entrance areas (i.e. no plain cinderblock walls).
- n. Use auguring construction techniques instead of drilling into the ground, which will minimize ground vibrations that disturb or even damage nearby buildings. The developer will also undergo an existing conditions study of the nearby buildings where access is permitted prior to construction/demolition.
- o. Undertake effective rodent control measures during demolition to ensure any disrupted rodent populations on the property do not invade nearby homes and other buildings.
- p. Designate and enforce garbage collection and storage in areas inside of the building (as shown on the building plans provided to the ANC) where garbage collection can take place by way of loading docks, and not in the back alley as is the current practice.
- q. Provide a reversible middle retail parking entrance lane that can be used to implement a second ticket kiosk entrance as needed (i.e. when the other kiosk is inoperable).
- r. Maintain a residential parking ratio of no more than .9 parking spaces per unit given other transportation demand management initiatives outlined above, DDOT's significant investment in public transportation targeting the H Street corridor and existing DDOT policies which encourage minimizing parking in areas targeted for transportation infrastructure investments, such as H Street.
- s. The developer will provide at least five designated guest parking spots in the retail portion of the garage during evening hours, for which the developer may charge a fee.
- t. Provide a \$20 Metro SmartTrip card to all initial and future building residents upon move-in and a one-time \$30 SmartTrip card for each employee of the retail businesses. This total commitment will be capped at \$15,000.
- u. Provide a one-time, one year car share membership (which shall include the cost for any application fees) for the initial occupant(s) of each residential unit, capped at a total commitment of \$19,000.

The recommendations were accepted without objection.

**Motion:** Mr. Robinson moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to accept the following additional recommendations from the Transportation Committee regarding the H Street Connection Development project to DDOT, following the developer's submission of its PUD application.

- a. Adjust signal timing at 8<sup>th</sup> and H Street to reduce congestion due to the garage entrance and to accommodate traffic flow to the maximum extent feasible along 8<sup>th</sup> Street.
- b. Consider moving bus stops along 8<sup>th</sup> Street so that traffic flow will not be impeded by buses stopping to pick up and drop off passengers, including moving the northbound 8<sup>th</sup> Street bus stop to a location north of H Street.
- c. Provide the ANC its final analysis regarding the feasibility of locating garage entrances along 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets.
- d. Consider widening 8<sup>th</sup> Street adjacent to the development site as necessary to create a left turn lane in the middle of the street. This can be accomplished by removing two feet of sidewalk from each side of the street. This change would improve traffic flow and provide a feasible left turn lane in the middle of the street.

Mr. Alberti asked whether these were part of the amenity package. Mr. Robinson responded that these recommendations were in addition to the amenity package and would be forwarded to DDOT rather than the Zoning Commission. Mr. Velasco said that ANC 6C is excited by the project.

The motion passed 6-1, with Mr. Marshall in opposition.

**Motion:** Dr. Ronneberg moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to support a recommendation for the inclusion of 100 additional city-funded parking spaces as part of the H Street Connection project and that the city allow for up to 10 of these spaces to be dedicated to car sharing use as demand warrants; and that the city fund all costs associated with traffic mitigation or other costs associated with the 100 city-owned parking spaces.

Omar Mahmud said that he is opposed to the motion because there are already 65 spaces and the additional 100 will create the need for a massive garage. He said the city is already making a tremendous investment in H Street. The H Street Overlay calls for diffuse sites along the corridor, not one massive garage in one location. Dr. Ronneberg said the recommendation is in the Strategic Plan, not the Overlay. He said there is a question for the ANC. A lot of people come to H Street, and where are they going to park. There are not really any other sites. What happens with out-of-area parkers? Mr. Alberti said it's a tough one for him. He said that while he understands the need for additional parking that the 65 spots will be there for someone to make money. He said he had enough doubt that he was going to vote against the motion. Mr. Mahmud said there are other places along the corridor, and the plan doesn't encourage parking in one place. Mr. Marshall said he doesn't support the resolution, and the money can be better spent. He also said that people are moving more toward public transportation. Mr. Robinson said he supports the additional spaces. He said that absent the additional spaces, it is likely that visitors will be inclined to will use the residential spaces. The motion failed 3-3, with Mr. Alberti, Mr. Marshall and Ms. Beatty opposed.

#### Letter on the 90/92 bus

**Motion:** Mr. Marshall moved/Mr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to send a letter to DDOT outlining the problems with the rerouting of the 90/92 buses on 10<sup>th</sup> Street NE and asking if there is any alternative route. The motion passed without objection.

## 9. New Business

### Vacant Property Tax Proposal

Dr. Ronneberg presented a proposal he has developed for a vacant property tax structure that will eliminate all exemptions except for military personnel who are on temporary reassignment. The system is fair and effective and would reduce the bureaucratic burden of the current system. **Motion:** Mr. Ronneberg moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion to send a letter to Councilmembers Bowser and Evans (cc's to the complete City Council) outlining the proposal for a new vacant property tax structure.

Mr. Alberti said he applauded Dr. Ronneberg for putting the proposal together. It addresses the old law and new, and it's a great proposal. The motion passed without objection.

#### Residential Parking Pass for the 700-800 blocks between 8<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Street

**Motion:** Dr. Ronneberg moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion to work on Residential Parking Pass Only (RPP) parking restrictions for the 700 and 800 blocks between 8<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> Street NE. The motion passed without objection.

#### Historic Designation for 1381 H Street NE

Dr. Ronneberg said that there is a vacant two-story frame building at 1381 H Street NE that is in danger of being torn down to escape having to pay vacant property taxes. He said that the ANC had lost the battle on 1309 H Street and there's not a good chance of getting the designation, but it's a good opportunity to engage the applicant to see if the building can be saved. The motion passed without objection.

#### Voluntary Agreements

Ms. Beatty said that ABRA had kicked back the voluntary agreement for Souk with changes that dictate specific language. If ABRA dictates language it is no longer a voluntary agreement between the parties. She said she had talked with Fred Moosally at ABRA and after she and Chair Robinson requested a public hearing on this matter that the ABC Board voted to allow it so that ANC's can comment. She said the ANC's should get involved in the conversation with ABRA. The VA for Chow [NOTE FROM BEATTY: I said Drew's, but I was confused, it is Chow. MB] tracks the ABC Board almost exactly which seems to indicate that the ABC Board is on the side of private attorneys who appear before the Board. The attorney representing Chow wanted us to omit all existing law in the VA, but instead we agreed to attach an appendix with the existing law, so that the owner understands the DC law that we expect him to comply with.

Mr. Alberti said that the Board has decided to take a look at VAs, because a lot of what has been approved in the past is unenforceable. The Board wants to take a look at the VA process, and it's moving quickly. There should be something out in about a month. **Motion:** Mr. Holmes moved/Mr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to appoint the Chair of the ABL Committee and the ANC Chair represent the ANC in this matter at ABC.

Mr. Alberti said that the full ANC should have the opportunity to review the ABC proposal before the hearings. Ms. Beatty agreed to do this. Ms. Beatty suggested that Mr. Alberti recuse himself because he has a conflict of interest. Mr. Alberti responded that he is talking process, not policy. He said he would vote against the motion because it's very important that the full ANC have a chance to look at the proposals. The motion passed 5-1, with Mr. Alberti in opposition.

## Trolley Resolution

Mr. Holmes presented a resolution written by Mr. Robinson and himself to not hold the trolley until wireless cars are available. **Motion:** Mr. Holmes moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to support the following resolution and send a letter to the City Council urging it to support the ANC's position.

WHEREAS, the District Department of Transportation (DDOT) is nearing completion of a new 1.7 mile street car line on H Street and Benning Road; and

WHEREAS, the goals of the streetcar are to link neighborhoods with a modern, convenient and attractive transportation alternative; provide quality a service to attract and reach new transit ridership; offer a broader range of transit options for District residents; reduce short inner city auto trips; parking demand traffic congestion and air pollution; and encourage economic development and affordable housing options along the H Street/Benning Road streetcar corridor; and

WHEREAS, an available overhead streetcar power solution has been identified that will allow such streetcars to come online quickly. The District should not want for power systems that have not yet proved themselves in actual use as this will take years to become fully developed and be brought to market; and

WHEREAS, an overhead power solution is consistent with the old streetcar system which used overhead wires outside the Old City (the L'Enfant plan), raising and lowering power poles mounted atop the streetcars, as they moved across the boundary of the Old City (L'Enfant); and

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised that the District should not move forward with service for streetcars until a non-overhead power source is identified; and

WHEREAS, there will be no damage to views of the monumental core of the city from the current route,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. ANC 6A calls on the City Council, the Mayor and the Department of Transportation to proceed immediately with the installation of overhead wires along the H Street/Benning Road line, and
2. The District continue its research and vigorous pursuit of non-overhead-line technology, which could be implemented on the H Street line should such technologies become available

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Mayor, the Council of the District of Columbia and the District Department of Transportation.

Dr. Ronneberg said that he was torn—he knows people opposed to overhead lines and advocates who say it's ready to go. He said he was ready to wait six or eight months, but not five years. Mr. Alberti said that the technology is rapidly developing—there is a test in Texas, in North Carolina and in France. The L'Enfant Plan says no overhead wires. He said the ANC should heed its own advice and wait a little bit longer. He said he would hate to rush because there would be overhead wires for 15 or 20 years. Mr. Marshall said he agreed with Mr. Alberti. Mr. Mahmud said his personal preference is for no overhead wires. Elizabeth Nelson pointed out that while the letter is only for H Street, it will be used all over for all the trolley lines. Mr. Holmes aid

that his preference is also no wires, but it would mean waiting until 2015-2016 for wireless. They are testing a system in Bordeaux which has a mild climate and conditions are different. The motion passed 4-2, with Mr. Alberti and Mr. Marshall in opposition.

**Motion:** Mr. Robinson moved that Dr. Ronneberg and he represent the ANC before the Zoning Commission for the H Street Connection redevelopment case. The motion passed without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.