

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

**Minutes**  
July 9, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Commissioners Alberti, Beatty, Fengler, Holmes, Marshall, Robinson, and Schultheiss  
Absent: Commissioner Mack

**1. Approval of agenda**

Mr. Fengler asked to add discussion of a resolution on ANC election legislation to New Business. The agenda, as amended, was approved without objection.

**2. Minutes**

The minutes for the June meeting were approved without objection.

**3. Community Presentation – Update on DCHA- owned properties**

A representative of the DC Housing Authority reported on the status of several vacant properties in the ANC 6A area: the economic slowdown has had an impact on the agency's plans to renovate or sell the buildings. For one example, a building at 1337 Emerald Street was among those approved by HUD for renovation, and they had a contract but it fell through. 1326 F Street NE has not yet been approved by HUD, and they are hopeful of receiving stimulus funds to do the renovations. There is also a building at 525 13<sup>th</sup> Street that is in the same position and three others elsewhere—two on Newton Street and one at 2123 3<sup>rd</sup> Street NE. They have sold one, and used the money for HAZMAT remediation. There is a waiting list of applicants for all the units, and money from sales will be used to rehab the building on F Street.

Mr. Schultheiss said he has been in contact with the residents of those neighborhoods and the properties have been vacant for as long as six to eight years. They said there was a plan last year that demolition of the buildings would be finished in May. The DCHA representative responded that a contractor has been selected for the F Street and 13<sup>th</sup> Street properties, but they don't have a contract because they are waiting for funds. They are the next buildings on the list, and the contractor is on standby. Mr. Robinson pointed out that there are a number of other properties that ought to be on the list. Mr. Schultheiss asked if there was anything the ANC can do to expedite the start of the rehabilitation, and was told that it's really just the money, and there was a missed opportunity during the heyday of the market.

**4. Community Presentation – Update of Police Station and Firehouse**

Gilberto Cardenas, principal in the Argos Group, the developers of the police and fire station projects, reported that they are currently working on the schematics for the project, and the program has not changed. They are still on the original schedule, with the project due to be finished by the end of 2010 or early 2011. They expect to go to Historic Preservation by the end of the year.

Mr. Holmes asked whether the ANC's original priorities were still in place. Mr. Cardenas assured him that nothing has changed—the number of units, amenities, the size of the units, community relations, etc. He said the facades will be fully restored, with all the changes on the inside. Mr. Schultheiss asked about the planned outreach to the schools, and Mr. Cardenas said they are

working with the Prospect School and the design team will go to the school some time in September. Mr. Fengler suggested that when they go to the school, they plan an evening event for the neighbors.

#### 4. Officer Reports

##### Chair

The Chair had no report.

##### Vice Chair

The Vice Chair had no report.

##### Secretary

The Secretary had no report.

##### Treasurer

Commissioner Alberti presented the Treasurer's Report. The report shows that the opening checking account balance was \$ 25,714.20 and that the savings account balance was \$4,194.09. There was an interest payment to the savings account of \$.79, leaving an opening balance of \$4,195.28 in the savings account. There were disbursements of \$12 TO David Holmes for parking (Check #1419); \$127.50 to Roberta Weiner for transcription of minutes (Check #1420); \$200 to Heather Schoell for preparation of the agenda packet (Check #1421); and \$216.16 to FedEx Office for photocopying (Check #1422), leaving a balance of \$25,158.54 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 /Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. It was approved without objection.

**Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to approve the Quarterly Report for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of FY09. The Report was approved without objection.

**Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Holmes seconded a motion that \$600 be approved for copying for ANC materials for each of July and August, 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.

#### 5. SMD Reports

**Mr. Alberti** reported that the traffic lanes on North Carolina Avenue have been repositioned and made wider, but that no bike lane has been approved for the block. He has requested a narrowing of the traffic lane.

**Ms Beatty** reported that speed bumps have been installed in the 1200-1400 blocks of E Street NE. She said it took about a year to get it done, but it's happened.

**Mr. Fengler** reported that there are now parking restrictions on both sides of 10<sup>th</sup> Street between F and G Streets.

**Mr. Schultheiss** reported that the Public Space Committee has provisionally approved curb cuts for 1400 Maryland Avenue NE.

**Mr. Marshall** reported that Cricket Telecommunications is opening on H Street and putting a lot of money into its building. He said there have been few complaints about fireworks this year. He also reported that they haven't begun work on the mural yet, and he will have an update at the next meeting.

## 6. Committee Reports

### ABL

Ms. Beatty reported that Buka, 1413 H Street, requested ANC support for a stipulated license to serve wine and beer, but did not present enough information on what kind of license they were requesting. However, the establishment has placards up for its application for a regular CR license, which should come through at the beginning of July if the ANC approves its application. **Motion:** Ms. Beatty moved/Mr. Fengler seconded a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation to not approve Buka's request for support for a stipulated license. The motion passed 6-0-1, with Mr. Alberti not voting.

**Motion:** Ms. Beatty moved/Mr. Fengler seconded a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation and not protest the CR license of Buka, providing they sign a VA before July 2. The motion passed 6-0-1, with Mr. Alberti not voting.

Mr. Fengler said that Drew's, an establishment at 1245 H Street NE, has applied for a CR license. The petition date is August 17 with a roll call hearing scheduled for August 31. He said that he is not anticipating any problems, but the establishment abuts back yards. He said there was a VA with the previous owner of the property, but the protest vote will serve as a placeholder in case anything is discovered. **Motion:** Mr. Fengler moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to protest the license for Drew's, 125 H Street NE. The motion passed 6-0-1, with Mr. Alberti not voting.

**Motion:** Ms. Beatty moved/Mr. Fengler seconded a motion to accept the resignation from the Committee of Mary Kosinski. The motion passed without objection.

The Committee's report was accepted without objection.

### Economic Development and Zoning

There was no EDZ Committee meeting or report. **Motion:** Mr. Fengler moved that the resignation of Rich Luna be accepted. The motion passed without objection. He said the next Committee meeting would be on August 19.

### Community Outreach

Elizabeth Nelson asked for ANC support of a grant of \$200 to the Kingsman Basketball League for game balls and mesh vests. Andre Sullivan, who was present at the meeting, explained to the Committee that additional vests are needed because of expansion of the League, and balls must be replaced annually. **Motion:** Mr. Fengler moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation and support a grant of \$200 to the Kingsman Basketball League. The motion passed without objection.

**Motion:** Mr. Fengler moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to support the Committee's request for \$900 for the printing of the ANC brochure. The motion passed without objection.

Ms. Nelson reported that the Committee is taking on the responsibility for stocking ANC agenda packets in eight locations. She also reported that the Committee has drafted letters of gratitude to organizations supporting the ANC. **Motion:** Mr. Fengler moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to

accept the Committee's recommendation to send letters of appreciation to Sherwood, Recreation Center, Miner ES, Church of the Lord Jesus Christ of the Apostolic Faith, Capitol Hill Towers, Gallaudet University, Kirkpatrick Stockton and the Options School. The motion passed without objection.

**Motion:** Mr. Fengler moved/Mr. Alberti seconded a motion to accept the nomination of Necothia Bowens as a member of the Committee. The motion passed without objection.

The Committee's report was accepted without objection.

### **Transportation**

Committee Chair Omar Mahmud was not present. Mr. Fengler said he wanted to thank Mr. Mahmud publicly for his hard work on behalf of the ANC, as illustrated by this committee's report. He suggested that Mr. Robinson's request to the Transportation/Public Space Committee for ANC bulletin boards in public space be funneled through the Community Outreach Committee.

The Committee's report was accepted without objection.

### **Public Safety**

Rebecca Sibilia presented the Public Safety Committee's report, including concerns expressed at the meeting by the Rosedale Citizen's Alliance (RCA) about traffic on C Street in the vicinity of 18<sup>th</sup> Street NE, where a speed camera is located. **Motion:** Mr. Robinson moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation that a letter be sent to the MPD's Homeland Security Bureau requesting a speed camera on C Street. The motion passed without objection.

Mr. Robinson reported that the ANC has specific responsibilities for notification of the community in case of a disaster or other emergency. **Motion:** Mr. Robinson moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to accept the Committee's recommendation that ANC 6D work with the DC Department of Homeland Security and others to plan, organize and co-host an ANC-specific Homeland Security training session, and that invitations be extended to all ANCs within Ward 6. The motion passed without objection.

Committee's report was accepted without objection.

## **7. New Business**

### **H Street NE Environmental Art Installation Project**

Sarah Loveland presented a plan for the location of 57 H-shaped planters along H Street while construction is moving forward. They have lined up 45 business owners to each adopt a planter, which will be in five different colors. They will be temporary and auctioned off at the end of the project. The shop owners will be responsible for maintenance. They are working with perennials for the boxes. Mr. Alberti expressed his reservation about people watering the trees, and if the project is to be successful the boxes will need diligent care. Mr. Holmes said he thinks it's a great idea and wants to see it succeed. Mr. Fengler said he initially had reservations because he thought it might slow down the streetscaping, but he is now very supportive. **Motion:** Mr. Fengler moved/Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to support the H Street Environmental Art Installation. The motion passed without objection.

### **Mamie Johnson and Rosedale Recreation Center Field**

Jerome Gray presented the proposal to name the field at the Rosedale Recreation Center Field after Mamie "Peanut" Johnson, one of three women who played in the Negro Baseball League, is one of the founders of the Rosedale Center and still lives in the neighborhood. He said that while things are not supposed to be named for living people, the field at Banneker is named for Maury Wills. He said that baseball is not as popular as it once was and it is a way to help bring baseball back and encourage girls to play. He said there was a story in the Washington Post recently about Mamie Johnson.

Ms. Beatty asked who, if the ANC supports the naming, would have to be asked, and was told that Councilmember Wells will submit a bill to the City Council which has to approve it. **Motion:** Mr. Robinson moved/Mr. Marshall seconded a motion to support the naming of the Rosedale Recreation Center field for Mamie "Peanut" Johnson.

Ms. Nelson said that there should be outreach into the community to see what its views are, including a community meeting. Mr. Robinson responded that there have been discussions in the community, and when the legislation is introduced there would be a wider opportunity for input. Mr. Holmes noted that the issue had been previously raised at a meeting when there were representatives of several Rosedale community organizations present and nothing was said at that time. Mr. Alberti said he is concerned about getting public input. Ms. Nelson pointed out that they did not ask for a letter at the time of their original presentation to the ANC and at that time, they had very little specific information about the name-change process. She also stated that, during a subsequent email exchange, she advised them to develop the idea and community support and then make a more complete presentation to the ANC, perhaps at a COC meeting. The motion failed 3-3, with Commissioners Beatty, Alberti and Holmes in opposition.

**Motion:** Mr. Fengler moved/Ms. Beatty seconded a motion to refer the issue to the Community Outreach Committee for their August meeting to make a recommendation. The motion passed 5-1, with Mr. Robinson in opposition.

#### Resolution on Legislation Modifying ANC Election Procedures

Mr. Fengler reported that he had received just hours before the meeting a resolution being circulated to Ward 6 ANCs opposing legislation introduced by City Councilmember Mary Cheh which would change the date of ANC elections from the November elections to the date of primaries. The resolution says that moving the election would be detrimental to the ANCs.

**Motion:** Mr. Fengler moved/Mr. Robinson seconded a motion to support the resolution opposing legislation that will move the date of ANC elections. The motion passed without objection.

Gottlieb Simon said that he plans to testify that the petition-gathering should be moved earlier than it is right now, to the end of August instead of the end of September. **Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to support Gottlieb Simon's testimony to the Council and ANC supports moving the petition period earlier.

Mr. Marshall said that it should remain the way it is, and the Board of Elections should just do a better job in organizing the election. The motion passed 4-3, with Commissioners Robinson, Marshall and Beatty in opposition.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.