

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A**  
**Minutes**  
**Miner Elementary School**  
**July 8, 2010**

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

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Ms. Beatty asked to have a discussion of Kahn's Barbeque added to the ABL Committee agenda; and also the nomination of Adam Healy to serve on the committee.

Mr. Robinson asked to have Josh Hopkins added to the beginning of the meeting.

Mr. Alberti asked to have a discussion of the Quarterly Report for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of FY 10 added to the Treasurer's Report.

The agenda, as amended, was approved without objection.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes were presented; Mr. Alberti raised a concern about a statement in the section of the minutes about the ABL Committee discussion about Taylor Gourmet and Sticky Rice. Mr. Alberti said that the minutes reported that the two establishments were guilty of significant things that in truth were not significant and well within bounds, and the minutes should be modified to reflect that. Mr. Robinson said the items had been referred to the ABL Committee because there was a suggestion that some action should be taken for the future. He said the record should stand. Mr. Alberti said he had made an inaccurate statement and would hate for his action, relying on his memory, to scar the licensee. Ms. Beatty suggested that the statement attributed to Mr. Alberti be asterisked with a sentence indicating that Mr. Alberti had withdrawn the sentence. Mr. Alberti said he was fine with that and that Taylor Gourmet had not stayed open after hours, but had sold to minors. The amendment to the minutes was accepted without objection.

Mr. Holmes asked whether Ms. Mack wished to clarify her remarks about disparate treatment of establishment owners. Ms. Mack responded that it was not inaccurate and it was what she had said.

The minutes, as amended, were accepted without objection.

**3. Community Presentation**

Update on Sale of H Street Properties

Josh Hopkins, now of the office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development, reported that the District was moving on the disposition of two surplus parcels of land it owns on H Street – 1113-1117 H Street. It will require legislative action by the Council, and there will have to be a public announcement and an official community meeting prior to the Council action.

Mr. Marshall asked whether there were only two parcels included and was told that this process was for only the two. Mr. Holmes asked how those two properties were surplus. He was told that the Land Disposition Agreement (LDA) had not been completed when the NCRC was disbanded. The LDA process is retroactive and doesn't materially affect development. He added that the community meeting will be important because they want to work with the community. Mr. Alberti asked whether the community will have input into further development. Mr. Hopkins said the LDA had never been completed, and if development is to move forward it has to be.

Mr. Robinson said that the government has to get itself organized because of the location of the power station on Wylie Place. He said that when he left the recent Wylie Street meeting it was his understanding that the District was to come back with a list of other properties they own, and he asked what the rationale is behind why particular properties should be surplus. Mr. Marshall added that 1251 Wylie should be included. Mr. Hopkins said that it is not one of the properties included in this particular process. Mr. Robinson added that Wylie Street is determined that it is not surplus because there's a public use for it. The Wylie Street people may have something to say about it. Mr. Hopkins repeated that it is not in the DC surplus property portfolio and it could be used by a private developer. Mr. Holmes pointed out that at the last meeting on Wylie Street no-one was present from the office of the Deputy Mayor for Planning and Economic Development.

#### 4. SMD Reports

**Ms. Beatty** reported that she and Mr. Holmes had worked to get stop signs at 12<sup>th</sup> and C Streets NE and that Councilmember Wells' office was involved. She said that DDOT is exploring what other steps can be taken.

She also reported that there was meeting with the principal of the Options School, and there had been a complaint from a parent. They have come up with plans for a community day for students and the surrounding community.

She also reported that Richard Sundberg, who had been a member of the ABL Committee and active in the community, had passed away.

**Mr. Alberti** reported that dead trees in his SMD had been marked but not removed.

**Mr. Schultheiss** reported that DCHA reported that 1337 Emerald Street NE has been sold. He also reported that DCHA is doing outreach to homeless people who have been hanging out at 1400 Maryland Ave. NE.

**Dr. Ronneberg** reported that a transformer blew at AutoZone and that Pepco is working on it. He also said that he had hoped to bring back the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the 7-11 but it's not ready. He also reported that the petition process for Residential Permit Parking (RPP) is going on, and he said there is a website that lists all the streets with RPP parking.

**Mr. Holmes** reported that a pocket park at 9<sup>th</sup> and A Streets and Massachusetts Avenue had been dedicated in memory of Nola Beaver, a longtime resident of the corner. He also said he had testified at the City Council about the street cars. Finally, he reported that HPRB had approved the construction at 1222 Constitution Ave. NE.

**Mr. Marshall** reported that there had been a meeting with DDOT at the Atlas Theatre, but that no-one with any information had showed up. Derek Woody said he wanted to work on the Wylie Street transformer issue, but wants to wait until things are further along.

He said that during the power outage, Sherwood had served as a cooling center, but no pets were allowed by the City, so the Humane Society came and picked them up.

He said that 70 kids from the Mayor's Youth Conservation Task Force had been assigned to Sherwood, but they need things to do.

He reported that Damon Howery, a resident who's working on Residential Parking Permits, had said that after the construction was completed the RPP signs would go up. It has been three weeks and the signs haven't gone up.

He said that on Father's Day a man had gotten shot in the chest, and the next night a house at 919 I Street got shot up. He complained at the PSA and sent an e-mail to Lt. Parker. It turns out the guy who was shot was staying at the house, and the police were there.

Finally, he reported the opening of Rita's Ices on H Street.

**Mr. Robinson** reported that the sign at Mt. Moriah church is back after the ANC had dealt with the issue in March and June of 2007. They received permits at that time, but did not engage the community. They will have a community meeting now prior to the installation of a sign. Mr. Alberti said that in 2007, according to DCRA, there had been questions about the sign meeting necessary conditions.

## 5. Officer Reports

### Treasurer's Report

Mr. Alberti presented the Treasurer's Report. It shows that the opening checking account balance was \$21,980.85 and the savings account balance was \$4,201.06. There was an interest payment to the savings account of \$0.36. There were disbursements of \$200 to Heather Schoell for the agenda package (Check #1466); \$135 to Roberta Weiner for the June 2010 minutes (Check #1466); and \$192 to FedEx Office for copying expenses for May (check #1468), leaving a balance of \$21,453.85 in the checking account and \$4,201.42 in the savings account. **Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to approve the disbursements. It passed without objection. **Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. It passed without objection.

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

Mr. Alberti said that he was presenting the Quarterly Report for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of FY10 early because there was no meeting in August. He said there is a check listed that is an electronic debit to Walmart that came in the June statement, and it has been taken care of, but the bank will not say what the error was. He also mentioned that the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter disbursement has been released.

**Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Mr. Holmes seconded a motion to approve the Quarterly Report for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter of FY10. The motion passed without objection.

## 6. Committee Reports

### Alcoholic Beverage and Licensing

#### The Atlas Room - 1015 H Street NE

Ms. Beatty reported that Matt Cordes, the owner, was taking over the space vacated by Napa and is planning an up-scale modern American restaurant with a changing menu and both a wine-by-the-glass and creative cocktail program. He is applying for a CT license and is not carrying over the Napa license. He is renovating the space and plans 35 seats in the restaurant and 20 in the bar. There is no outdoor space, and there will be only recorded music. Mr. Cordes is applying for a stipulated license. The committee recommended unanimously that the ANC not oppose the stipulated license. Ms. Beatty said that clarification is needed from ABRA on whether it is a new license or a substantial change from the Napa license. **Motion:** Ms. Beatty moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to accept the committee's recommendation that the ANC support the temporary stipulated license of the Atlas Room. The motion passed 7-0-1 with Mr. Alberti not voting. **Motion:** Ms. Beatty moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to accept the committee's recommendation to protest the license application of the Atlas Room unless there is a signed, approved voluntary agreement with the applicant prior to the petition date of August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The motion passed 7-0-1 with Mr. Alberti not voting. The motion passed 7-0-1 with Mr. Alberti not voting.

#### Desperado Pizza - 1387 H Street NE

This is a new license for a brick oven pizzeria, which will have 30 seats in one of two rooms with a brick pizza oven. There is no entertainment endorsement requested and there will be no bar, just wine and beer served with food. They will be open for lunch. **Motion:** Ms. Beatty moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to accept the committee's recommendation that the ANC protest the application of Desperado Pizza unless there is a signed approved VA prior to the petition date of July 26<sup>th</sup>. The motion passed 7-0-1 with Mr. Alberti not voting.

#### Sticky Rice - 1224 H Street NE

Sticky Rice is renting space in the adjacent building—1222 H Street NE. It's a three-story building and will open a larger back patio area and install a larger dumpster. The second and third floors will be for an additional dining room and for an additional sushi bar, but there will not be any additional bar space. They will also expand the deck space in the rear. The space will add another 40 or so seats inside and another 10 outside. The committee unanimously recommended that the substantial change application of Sticky Rice unless the ANC receives a signed, approved addendum to their VA by July 26<sup>th</sup>. **Motion:** Ms. Beatty moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion to accept the committee's recommendation that the ANC protest the substantial change application of Sticky Rice unless the ANC receives signed approved addendum relating to noise in the outdoor space by the petition date of July 26<sup>th</sup>. The motion passed 7-0-1 with Mr. Alberti not voting.

## The Pug - 1234 H Street NE

The Pug is planning to expand upstairs, adding a noodle and dumpling kitchen and 25 seats. They will open for lunch. It will go under the existing VA and will retain the same hours. No petition date has yet been set. The committee unanimously recommended that the ANC support the substantial change requested by the Pug. **Motion:** Ms. Beatty moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion that the ANC accept the committee's recommendation to not protest the substantial change application of the Pug for a space expansion. The motion passed 7-0-1 with Mr. Alberti not voting.

The Committee's report was accepted without objection.

The Community Outreach, Public Safety, Transportation and Planning, Zoning and the Environment Committees did not meet. Their reports were each accepted without objection.

## 7. New Business

### Reconsideration of 100 Extra Parking Spaces for the H Street Connection

Dr. Ronneberg said that he had heard from Derek Woody, who told him that the 100 additional parking spaces for the H Street Connection will not be considered without ANC support, and Mr. Woody really wants the ANC to take a position one way or another. **Motion:** Dr. Ronneberg moved/Ms. Mack seconded a motion to support the inclusion of 100 additional public parking spaces in the H Street Connection development.

Mr. Schultheiss said that including the parking spaces will increase the debt burden of the project, as it goes to tax financing—TIF funding. Mr. Marshall asked wasn't the trolley meant to discourage parking, so why build a new parking structure? Dr. Ronneberg responded that some people will continue to drive. It will cost \$35 million for 100 people to park. Mr. Holmes said he has ambiguous feelings—he hates the idea of spending money to bringing cars into the area, but he keeps hearing that there's no place to park.

Ms. Beatty said she can't support additional parking spaces—the recommendation from the Transportation Committee opposed it and that weighed heavily for her, and now, in addition she hears it's taxpayer funds that will pay for it. Mr. Mahmud said that everyone understands the need for parking for H Street business, but this way is shortsighted. The developers have already proposed 65 spaces for retail (plus 300 for residential), and it's already a massive suburban parking structure. And people will park on the street, rather than pay for a commercial parking space. The City is moving away from massive parking and TIF funding can be put to much better use. Elizabeth Nelson said that if retail is to do well, consideration has to be made for people with mini-vans. A community member added that he appreciates that people need a place to park, but this is a short sighted solution. Anwar Saleem said that most traffic will be coming from Anacostia and there is need for more parking to bring people to H Street and keep it from becoming like Adams Morgan or Barracks Row—if you eliminate parking, you eliminate retail.

Dr. Ronneberg reiterated that there will be 65 spaces just for use by that building and the 100 spaces are for the greater community. Mr. Mahmud said there will be a mix of parking and public transit, and the 65 spaces can be used for the neighborhood. This is counter to

the H Street plan—parking should be spread out, not concentrated in one location. Mr. Schultheiss said that he is sensitive to the issues, and that the plan called for shared spaces. He said the buildings have private parking and no agreements for sharing. He said he was going to hold his nose and vote for it because he’s looking for balance. Finally, he said, metered parking could push people into a garage. The motion passed 5-2-1, with Mr. Alberti and Ms. Beatty in opposition, and Mr. Marshall abstaining.

## **8. Community Comment**

Mr. Alberti announced that the ANC’s finances would have a regular audit.

Ms. Mack announced that she had testified in support of naming the Rosedale baseball field in honor of Mamie “Peanut” Johnson.

Anwar Saleem asked for a letter of support of an exemption for the signature requirements for the H Street Festival. **Motion:** Mr. Alberti moved/Dr. Ronneberg seconded a motion for a letter of support from the ANC for Mr. Saleem. The motion passed without objection.

Mr. Mahmud inquired as to the process for reconsidering the issue of the parking spaces. Mr. Alberti added that he hates being the fall guy. If the ANC doesn’t approve it, the City will come up with a decision on its own - he said he didn’t like being in that position.

## **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.