

**ANC 6C Minutes**  
**Wednesday, June 14, 2017, 7 pm**  
**Heritage Foundation**  
**214 Massachusetts Avenue N.E.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

**Quorum**

A quorum of 6 out of 6 commissioners was present (Mr. Eckenwiler, Ms. Edelman, Ms. Healey, Mr. Miller, Mr. Price, and Ms. Wirt).

**Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved without objection. **Motion:** Mr. Price/Mr. Eckenwiler.

**Approval of the Minutes**

The May minutes were approved unanimously, with the usual caveat that commissioners would have one week to report any inaccuracies or typographical errors before the minutes are posted on the ANC 6C website. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/ Mr. Eckenwiler.

**Treasurer's Report**

The treasurer presented three reports: April, May, and the second quarterly report for 2017.

The April report shows a deposit of \$3,337.28 from the DC government. Three checks were written: check 1340, \$2,383.50 to Scott Price for the Little Libraries grant; check 1342, \$1,550.00 for emergency services for the Capitol Hill Cluster School PTA to support the annual race; and check 1343, \$1,750 to Casey Trees for the Reservation 84 park improvement project. There was a Bank of America interest payment of \$0.35. There was a Bank of America stop payment fee of \$30.00 for an ANC 6C check lost in the mail. The closing balance on 4/28 was \$38,556.70.

The May report shows check 1341, \$423.83 to Mark Kazmierczak for purchase of a projector and related equipment for use of ANC 6C and an interest payment from the Bank of America of \$0.32. The closing balance on 5/31 was \$38,133.19.

The second quarterly report for 2017 covered January through March 2017. It included a direct office cost, which was payment of \$287.50 to office assistant Susan Eads Role for administrative support; grants totaling \$2,986.00; local transportation (taxi for a commissioner to attend a meeting), \$8.00; purchase of services totaling \$682.77; and an ANC security fund charge of \$25.00. Total disbursements were \$3,989.27. The closing balance for the quarterly report was \$40,932.57.

The commissioners approved the three reports unanimously. **Motion:** Mr. Miller/Mr. Eckenwiler.

## **Brief Community Announcements**

1. At-Large Council Member Robert White addressed his priorities: transportation subsidies for DC adult learners similar to those for young students; more staff for tenant advocacy; more case workers for returning previously incarcerated persons; and entrepreneurship training for previously incarcerated persons wanting to start small businesses. He helped accelerate funding for Capitol Hill Montessori and promoted affordable housing and TANF support. His current bills include promotion of a study to develop affordable housing using unused commercial buildings and making scholarships available for top graduates of UDC. He gave his contact information as [rwhite@dccouncil.us](mailto:rwhite@dccouncil.us) and (202) 724-8174.
2. Commissioner announcements included Mr. Miller naming Gina Geffard to the ANC 6C Grants Committee to replace Carolyn Fleming and a report on delayed progress on the alley next to 732 6<sup>th</sup> Street NE. Ms. Edelman announced Christy Kwan replaces her on the ANC 6C Transportation and Public Space Committee. She nominated Jason Starr to represent her on the Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee. The Trail Way Finding Project has a meeting June 29, 5-7 pm at Wunder Garten. Ms. Healey announced that the Historic Preservation Office is accepting applications from homeowners in the historic district to make alterations on their homes. The grants are for as much as \$25,000. The deadline is July 5. More information is available on the ANC 6C website under “Hot Topics.”

## **Consent Calendar**

1. 501 H Street NE, Public Space application 204464—A request to install bollards and railings in the alley adjacent to this address to protect the neighboring house from damage caused by vehicles using surface parking spaces located off the alley.
2. 301 N Street NE, Public Space application 203998—A traffic control plan and public space construction for new development. Trucks are directed away from residential streets. Public space improvements include greenery, seating elements, and bike racks.
3. New D.C. Council legislation, which was recommended for support was by the ANC 6C Transportation and Public Safety Committee addressing bicycle and pedestrian safety, personal delivery devices, and electric vehicle public infrastructure expansion (the latter two involving personal delivery robots on public space and electric car charging stations). Legislation on rodent control will be addressed later by the committee.
4. The need for a follow-up letter by ANC 6C to the Committee of the Whole, DC Council, regarding DCRA oversight addressing fines for construction violations, referring such inquiries to the DC Auditor, failure to require building permit applications certified by duly licensed architects or qualified engineers, and lack of confidence in the DCRA director’s stewardship and willingness to bring about reforms in the agency.

The commissioners voted unanimously to approve the consent calendar. **Motion:** Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Wirt.

## **Grants Committee**

Ms. Victoria Lord, citizen co-chair of the committee, stated that the grant application submitted by Capitol Hill Arts Workshop for support for an anniversary performance festival was discussed with the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions and the DC Auditor. Questions were raised by these offices including support of a “festival” and difficulty in tracking how the grant would benefit ANC 6C residents only. A meeting is planned by the ANC 6C Grants Committee with these offices to clarify grant regulations going forward.

## **Parks and Events Committee**

Phil Tahtakran, citizen chair of the committee, reported on three nonvoting items.

1. NoMa Parks update – The 3<sup>rd</sup> and L park is almost at the end of permitting; there is an RFP to secure a contractor; plans are still in place for fall completion. NoMa Green is undergoing concept review by the Commission of Fine Arts; the budget issue regarding timing of funding has been resolved. The M Street underpass project is awaiting sign off from Amtrak.
2. 3<sup>rd</sup> and L mural project—permission could not be obtained from the owner of the Loree Grand to add a mural to its wall. The building is in the midst of a transaction and declined to approve a mural. The committee requests more prior notice and opportunity for community input if/when this issue is revisited.
3. The problem of homeless encampments at the underpass still exists; the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services briefed the committee regarding this problem. Resolution will involve several DC agencies. The encampment is currently the largest in the City. The Deputy Mayor offered to return in several months to inform the full ANC on progress.

### **Alcoholic Beverage License Committee**

Steve O’Neal, citizen chair of the committee, reported on three ABRA licenses.

1. Buredo, 625 H Street NE, ABRA-106051, new class C restaurant – The commissioners voted unanimously to protest the license on the basis of disturbance to the peace order and quiet, negative effect on nearby property values, and negative impact on vehicular traffic. ANC 6C hopes to work with the applicant to obtain a settlement agreement. Upon signing the agreement, the ANC automatically approves a stipulated license. Mr. O’Neal was designated as representative of ANC 6C at ABRA proceedings regarding this application.
2. Farm Bird, same address, ABRA-105994, new class C restaurant – The commissioners voted unanimously to protest the license on the basis of disturbance to the peace order and quiet, negative effect on nearby property values, and negative impact on vehicular traffic. ANC 6C hopes to work with the applicant to obtain a settlement agreement. Upon signing the agreement, the ANC automatically approves a stipulated license. **Motion** (covers both Buredo and Farm Bird): Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler. Mr. O’Neal was designated representative of ANC 6C at ABRA proceedings regarding this application.
3. Fare Well, 406 H Street NE, ABRA-097260, class C restaurant seeking entertainment endorsement and summer garden applications – The applicant was present and expressed the wish to work with the ANC. The commissioners voted unanimously to protest the license on the basis of disturbance to the peace order and quiet, negative effect on nearby property values, and negative impact on vehicular traffic. ANC 6C hopes to work with the applicant to obtain a settlement agreement. **Motion**: Mr. Miller/Mr. Eckenwiler. Mr. Miller was designated as representative of ANC 6C at ABRA proceedings regarding this application.

### **Transportation and Public Space Committee**

The citizen chair of this committee, Mark Kazmierczak, reported on the following.

1. NoMa bicycle study—DDOT is soliciting preliminary input on how to build out the bicycle infrastructure network from K to N Streets and from 6<sup>th</sup> Street NW to 6<sup>th</sup> Street NE. Comments will be accepted through June 15 at the DDOT website, <http://nomabicyclestudy.com>. Results will be shared with the DC Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Councils and public. This is a nonvoting item.
2. Indigo 243 K Street NE, sidewalk café – Indigo continues operation of its sidewalk café without a permit. ANC 6C voted to support the initial application in 2015, but no permit has been issued. There is some confusion over the request, whether it is for a summer garden or a sidewalk café. The commissioners voted unanimously to send a letter to the DDOT director inquiring why public space approval has not been finalized and whether DDOT intends to process the summer garden application without either Public Space or ANC approval. **Motion**: Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Wirt.
3. 150 M Street NE, closure of M Street between First Street NE and Delaware Avenue, westbound traffic beginning June 12 to accommodate construction of 150 M Street NE – Notification was given to

ANC of the closure plans by email less than a week before, with no 30-day notice to the ANC as required by statute. The commissioners voted to oppose the closure plans based on short notice that denied community input and lack of sufficient details of the traffic plan, including accommodation of shuttle buses bringing shoppers to the Harris Teeter grocery store from residences nearby. The vote included a request to have the traffic plan reviewed in detail by the ANC 6C Transportation and Public Space Committee in July. **Motion:** Ms. Edelman/Mr. Price.

4. M Street cycle track – Mr. Kazmierczak raised the issue that construction of the M Street cycle track, which ANC 6C supported in April 2016, has yet to be installed. DDOT claims installation will begin in mid- to late- June. The commissioners voted unanimously to send a letter to the DDOT director inquiring why installation has not begun despite original assurances that it would be installed in 2016 before winter. **Motion:** Ms. Healey/Mr. Eckenwiler. Agreement was reached to wait to see if there is action in June.

### **Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee**

1. 501 C Street NE, application of MGM Public Policy LLC for concept approval for alterations to the façade and the rear addition – Changes were made to the plans between the time the committee met and the ANC Commission meeting, including adding an iron fence so that no parking could take place on public space on the 5<sup>th</sup> Street side and windows on the 5<sup>th</sup> Street side. The stucco treatment to the rear addition did not change, despite committee encouragement to avoid it. Questions were raised about the need for such a tall elevator shaft at the rear and the potential for noise from gatherings on the rear roof deck. Lack of outreach to the neighbors was also a concern. Residents who testified were Paul Hyden, Rob McCulloch, Robyn Hinson Jones, and Mary Louise Hodginson. The director of MGM Public Policy stated she would be personally available to address any community concerns once the building opens. A community use agreement was suggested to address the noise and hours when the deck would be used for gatherings, inasmuch as the Historic Preservation Review Board would not be concerned with noise. Although the commissioners approved of the historic improvements to the main building, they had problems with alterations to the rear addition. The commissioners voted unanimously to oppose the application. **Motion:** Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Wirt.

2. 525 A Street NE, application of Capitol Hill Baptist Church for Historic Preservation Review Board concept approval to construct five new town houses on 6<sup>th</sup> Street, each with two units, to house church employees, pastors in training at the church, and their families, HPA 17-417. Residents nearby were concerned with the impact on street parking, the growth of church building in the area, and lack of outreach to the community by the church. Five members of the church offered support of the development. Residents who testified against the application were Chris Benich, Nelson Snyder, Donna McLean, Quinn Bowman, Nelson Rimensnyder, and Kristen Mattern. Josh Cuber, Sam Arora, Pat Hulehan, Jonathan Keesley, May Smith, and Alex Harris from the neighborhood testified in favor of the application. Associate Pastor Jamie Dunlop stated the new housing will replace rental housing the church already has in the neighborhood for pastor trainees. The commissioners voted to support the committee recommendation and approve the concept. The vote was 4:2, with Mr. Miller and Ms. Wirt in opposition. **Motion:** Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Edelman. Ms. Wirt suggested that the temporary residents of the town houses in training not be allowed to bring vehicles during their stay, an approach that has been used in other Capitol Hill training/internship situations, such as the building next to the Heritage Foundation that houses temporary interns. Ms. Healey stated she believed the project met historic preservation standards (on a street zoned for residential flats), and offered to assist in trying to improve communication between the church and its neighbors.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.