

ANC 6C Minutes
Wednesday, May10, 2017, 7 pm
Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Avenue N.E.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm.

Quorum

A quorum of 5 out of 6 commissioners was present (Mr. Eckenwiler, Ms. Edelman, Ms. Healey, Mr. Price, and Ms. Wirt).

Approval of the Agenda

Removed from the agenda was the May 20 NoMa walking tour and the request for ASL funding. The Capitol Crossing matter was moved to the consent calendar. The agenda was approved as amended without objection. **Motion:** Mr. Price/Mr. Eckenwiler.

Approval of the Minutes

The April minutes were approved without objection, 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

Because the treasurer was absent, the April treasurer's report was put off until the June meeting.

Mr. Eckenwiler presented receipts for \$3.48 and asked for reimbursement. The receipts were for drinking water for the Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee (\$2.99) and postage regarding a zoning matter (\$0.49). The expense was approved without objection. **Motion:** Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Wirt.

Brief Community Announcements

1. Ms. Sarah Fashbaugh from the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration (ABRA) announced community training for commissioners and citizens on ABRA regulations to be held on May 18, 6:30-8:30 pm at the Reeves Center at 14th and U Streets NW. In September ABRA will begin reviewing class B grocery stores' licenses for beer and wine. In March of 2018 ABRA will review liquor store licenses. She gave the ABRA enforcement hotline number, (202) 329-6347, for complaints regarding liquor license holders after business hours or observations of violations of settlement agreements.
2. First District MPD Commander Morgan Kane addressed several ANC 6C concerns: Marathons and coordination with MPD (with follow-up communication with Mr. Price); BID work with MPD regarding homeless encampments in the underpasses at K, L, M, and N (with information on DHHS assistance from Mr. Melvyn Smith); traffic enforcement to ensure pedestrian safety at stop lights/signs; and the recent armed robbery at Grubbs Pharmacy. Her contact information is morgan.kane@dc.gov.
3. Commissioner announcements included Ms. Edelman's mention of two bicycle studies seeking comments: the NoMa bicycle study regarding New York Avenue (NewYorkAvenueproject.com) and a

study of east-west connectivity (NoMabicyclestudy.com) She also mentioned the closing of the Union Kitchen incubation facility on Congress Street at the end of June (it has another facility elsewhere). She also mentioned two meetings: The ANC 6C Parks and Events Committee will meet June 6 at 7 pm to discuss the underpass homeless encampment problem with DHHS and MPD at Kaiser Permanente on 2nd Street NE; and the BID murals festival May 17-27. More information is available on the BID website. Ms. Healey announced she has asked the ANC 6C Transportation/Public Safety Committee to address the rodent problem on Capitol Hill. Council Member Allen is working on legislation to address the rodent issue.

Consent Calendar

1. 3rd and L Street park and dog park—An application from the NoMa BID for public space elements including benches, permeable pavers, and landscaping on public space. The dog park as well as the play structure are entirely within the property line. One suggestion from the ANC 6C Parks and Events Committee was to include LED lighting of 3,000 Kelvin or less.
2. Capitol Crossing—A public space plan for 222 Massachusetts Avenue NW, including trees, planting beds, sidewalk and accent pavers, and bicycle racks. The project will reconnect F and G Streets over I-395, with F Street being a through street and G Street serving as a low-traffic, pedestrian-friendly thoroughfare.
3. 630 Lexington Place NE—An application to construct a rear addition (replacing an existing sleeping porch) and increase the height of the attic roof. The applicant provided letters of support from the owners of both adjacent properties. The rooftop addition will not be visible from Lexington Place. Additional study of the rear façade is recommended, with emphasis on reducing the scale and/or mass of the rear third story.
4. 516 3rd Street NE—An application to add a front basement entrance, add a 6-foot rear addition, and demolish an existing garage that is in disrepair. Several modest concerns were the width of the lead walk, the use of brick as a paving material, the low brick barrier running from the base of the stoop, and the replacement of the noncontributing iron stoop with a salvaged historic stoop or one similar to those on the same block.
5. 1125 7th Street NE – This is an appeal of the construction permit to expand the existing two-story rowhouse to three stories and to build an equally large structure at the rear connected by a corridor partially below grade. The permitted structure would dwarf nearby residences. The vote would be to appeal to the BZA, with the letter sent to the Council, the OAG, and the Mayor calling for the revocation of the permit and an investigation into the circumstances of its issuance. The vote will include designation of Mr. Eckenwiler to represent ANC 6C in matters pertaining to this case.

The commissioners voted unanimously to support the consent agenda. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Ms. Edelman.

Transportation and Public Space Committee

1. Florida and New York Avenue NE traffic design – Two representatives from DDOT presented one of the five design plans most likely to be implemented. Goals are to simplify the complex intersection and to ensure safety of pedestrians, bicycles, and vehicles. Concerns included pedestrian safety including providing pedestrian refuge islands, continuation of bicycle lanes, a north-bound lane on Eckington Place, and lane changes on south-bound traffic on Florida Avenue. The commissioners stated that outreach was minimal and rushed regarding this project and that robust public engagement is needed. DDOT will return with modifications based on this meeting. The commissioners voted unanimously to send their comments to DDOT. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.
2. K Street traffic study – Three alternatives were presented for traffic calming on K Street NE, a study requested by ANC 6C. None of the alternatives seemed adequate and bulb-outs were suggested. The

goal is to reduce traffic speeds without causing congestion while preserving parking. Modifications were discussed of changes to the intersections of K Street 8th Street, and West Virginia Avenue, with emphasis on closing the segment of West Virginia Avenue to vehicular traffic. Coordination of traffic signals was also discussed. No vote was taken, as the discussion with DDOT will continue in June.

Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee

1. 17 6th Street NE, revised application for rear, rooftop, and garage additions—The proposal is to construct a new three-story, two-flat building, starting at the front façade with a new projecting two-story bay and reworked fenestration. The revised application pulls the proposed addition away from the lot line abutting the light well at 19 6th Street NE and creates a closed court. The noncontributing garage is rebuilt and narrowed to bring lot occupancy under 60%, and the applicant retained the changes to the front stairs and cornice supported by the ANC in April 2017. An owner of the 19 6th Street apartment expressed concern about the impact of the proposed construction and design particularly for the tenants in units around the closed court.. The PZE Committee recommended that the lead walk should be made narrower, with the path widened only as necessary to accommodate the new basement entrance. The commissioners voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the committee for the Historic Preservation Review Board application, with the recommendation from Ms. Healey that the applicant continue talking with 19 6th Street owners to resolve remaining issues.
2. 507 2nd Street NE – In this case the applicant seeks after-the-fact zoning relief for an already built structure. The rooftop HVAC unit and required screen wall were not built according to the approved permit drawings. The commissioners voted to oppose the zoning relief on the basis of the poor precedent that would be established by approving a contractor’s error in construction. **Motion:** Mr. Price/Mr. Eckenwiler.

Alcoholic Beverage License Committee

No business this month.

Grants Committee

No business this month.

Parks and Events Committee

No business this month.

New Business

Ms. Healey brought up the Comprehensive Plan deadline of May 26, the first stage of revision plans. It was decided that ANC 6C would wait for the revised version to be released for public comment and weigh in at that time.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.