

ANC 6C Minutes
Tuesday, September 19, 2017, 7 pm
Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Avenue N.E.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

Quorum

A quorum of 4 out of 6 commissioners was present (Ms. Edelman, Ms. Healey, Mr. Miller, and Ms. Wirt).

Approval of the Agenda

Several changes were made: 10 3rd Street N.E. was removed from the consent calendar and placed under the Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee for discussion. An after-hours permits item was also added to the Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee report. The agenda was approved as amended without objection. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Miller.

Approval of the July Minutes

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

Treasurer's Report for July and August

The opening balance on June 30 was \$40,530.03. Check #1345 for \$178.00 was written to Karen Wirt to reimburse her for paying the ANC 6C post office box rental. There were two interest payments of \$0.34 from the Bank of America. The closing balance on August 30 was \$40,352.71. The Treasurer's report was approved without objection. **Motion:** Mr. Miller/Ms. Healey. The commissioners also voted to accept the 2017 ANC 6C annual budget as the same budget for 2018. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Ms. Healey.

Brief Community Announcements

1. Dr. Jennifer Smith, director of the recently established (October 2012) D.C. Department of Forensic Services, briefly described the department's mission, staff professional background, the nature of the department's work, and internships. She announced an open house for the public on September 20, 5:30-8:00 pm at the department headquarters, 401 E Street S.W.
2. Commissioner announcements included Ms. Healey's attendance at the Mayor's Special Events Task Force Group meeting on lessons learned from the Rock n' Roll Marathon 2017 event, with a focus on problems such as the 13th Street traffic backup; and nomination of Brianna Battle as at-large member of the ANC 6C Parks and Events Committee, to replace Daniele Schiffman. The nomination was approved without objection. **Motion:** Ms. Healey/Ms. Wirt. Ms. Healey also asked for a vote to approve a request from D.C. Fray to use the J.O. Wilson Elementary School field for soccer games from September 21 through November 9 on Thursdays from 6 pm to 9 pm. **Motion:** Ms. Healey/Mr. Miller. Ms. Edelman

announced the North Capitol Main Street/NoMa BID Art All Night event scheduled for Saturday night, September 23, and provided an update of the homeless encampments at K, L, and M underpasses, which had decreased, but now are beginning to increase again. She continues to work with DDOT on this situation regarding use of public space. She nominated Jason Starr to serve as an at-large member of the ANC 6C Grants Committee. The nomination was approved without objection. **Motion:** Ms. Edelman/Ms. Wirt. Mr. Miller provided an update on the collapsed alley next to 732 6th Street NE.

Consent Calendar

1. V Street restaurant, 600 H Street N.E., new liquor license class C, ABRA 107118—ANC 6C requested a delay in the deadline of the protest schedule due to rescheduling the ANC meeting from September 13 to September 19. The applicant was not opposed to the delay and the request was approved. The commissioners voted unanimously to protest this license with the hopes of negotiating a settlement agreement. Approval for the protest is recommended.
2. 626 Lexington Place N.E., HPA 17-521, alteration of roof line and rear elevation. The applicant plans to bump up the roof height and construct a mansard with dormer at the rear. No increase in footprint will result, and the addition will not be visible from Lexington Place. The ANC has supported several similar proposals on this same block in the past. Approval is recommended.
3. 434 4th Street N.E., HPA 17-577, application for permit approval for side and rooftop additions. The applicant proposes to add infill to an existing dog leg and to construct a rooftop addition at the rear of the building. The addition would not be visible from 4th Street or E Street. Letters of support were received from adjacent neighbors. Approval is recommended.
4. 304-308 K Street N.E., BZA 19575, subdivision of two lots into three lots and construction of three attached flats. Submitted documents were inadequate, and there were possible adverse impacts of the project. The design and scale of the project are not in harmony with the character of existing two-story structures in the same row. Opposition is recommended.
5. 1100 block of 3rd Street N.E. The residents of this block, facing the Uline Arena, submitted a petition asking for resident-only parking on this block due to the increased parking pressure from the Uline building and REI located there. Patrons of REI seek free curbside parking rather than pay the REI parking garage fee. The residents request the ANC to send a letter to DDOT supporting this request for resident-only parking. Approval is recommended.
6. 4th Street N.E. streetscape and bicycle lanes. Because the New York Avenue Study group is meeting September 19, it was decided that the item would be held for the October ANC 6C meeting. No vote will be taken at this time.

The consent calendar was approved without objection (with opposition recommended for item 4).

Motion: Ms. Wirt/Mr. Miller.

Parks and Events Committee

1. NoMa Parks update, nonvoting item—Amtrak reversed its position and allowed NoMa Parks Foundation to proceed with the M Street installation without modification. The project should be completed by November. The L Street underpass will be completed by the end of the year. Homeless encampments still need attention of city agencies. Construction of the 3rd and L Street N.E. park should be completed by the end of November. Competition for naming parks continues. The final names submitted by the community will be submitted to the Council and the Mayor for approval. Fall 2018 is the target date for completion of NoMa Green. Land is being sought for the Civic Plaza park concept.
2. D.C. services and neighborhood issues, nonvoting item—Naomi Mitchell from Council Member Charles Allen's office attended the September committee meeting. Issues of concern were addressed,

including homeless encampments, removal of dead trees that pose safety hazards, and maintenance/pruning of younger trees to remove lower branches.

3. Art All Night—This event, sponsored by North Capitol Main Street/NoMa BID, is scheduled for September 23, 7 pm to 3 am. Two events are to be in ANC 6C: one at the front entrance to REI on M Street N.E. and the other at N Street. At ANC 6C’s recommendation, there will be no amplification at these locations and no music after 10 pm as a courtesy to nearby residents.

Transportation and Public Space Committee

1. K Street traffic study—At a joint meeting held by both ANC 6A and ANC 6C, at the request of ANC 6C transportation committees, four DDOT options were discussed for K Street N.E. between North Capitol Street and Florida Avenue N.E. At the meeting, people spoke both for and against bike lanes, with the majority opposed because bike lanes would mean less curbside parking for residents. Many comments pertained to the 600 block of K Street. The committee’s objective is to increase safety for all who use K Street: bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists. The committee recommended supporting traffic calming, to include bike lanes, but to coordinate with DDOT as the NoMa Bike Study progresses; support for bulb-outs as part of traffic calming; and closing West Virginia Avenue between K and 8th Streets N.E. The commissioners decided to postpone a vote until the NoMa study is complete next month. Several residents, including Ms. Thorp-Lewis of the 600 block of K Street N.E., opposed removal of street parking on K. The community is invited to continue discussion at the next ANC 6C Transportation and Public Space Committee on October 5.

2. Daytime School Parking Zone Amendment Act (B22-0351)—This legislation would create a regulatory framework for curbside parking for faculty and staff of D.C. public schools and charter schools during school hours, including school activities and after care. A series of recommendations in a draft letter prepared by Mr. Eckenwiler (who is absent from this meeting) was circulated to commissioners previously. The committee recommended that testimony be provided based on the Eckenwiler recommendations. Discussion focused on the potentially negative impact on residential parking near schools. The commissioners voted to oppose the legislation based on concerns for residents who would lose scarce parking. The vote was 2:1:1. **Motion:** Mr. Miller/Ms. Wirt. (Note: Mr. Eckenwiler previously sent the recommendations to the Council under his own name.)

3. 4th Street N.E., streetscape and bicycle lanes—As part of the New York Avenue streetscape design project, potential bicycle infrastructure is possible on 4th Street between Florida Avenue and New York Avenue. Ms. Edelman requests recommendations for bicycles be considered as part of the design. The item was postponed until the study is further along. No vote was taken.

Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee

1. 10 3rd Street N.E., BZA 19574, application to permit conversion of an existing residential building to an apartment house with three units and a roof deck in the R-3 Zone. Eleven neighbors supported the project by the time of the ANC meeting (and ten more subsequently). Ms. Fowler provided an update, stating the applicant had removed the roof deck and met with Office of Planning. She requested the BZA hearing be delayed to allow more time to work with that office. The commissioners voted unanimously to delay the ANC action to allow the discussion between the applicant and the office to continue. **Motion:** Ms. Healey/Ms. Wirt.

2. 104 8th Street N.E., BZA 19575, application for a special exception from the nonconforming structure requirements and a variance from the height requirements. The applicant seeks to construct a new story

occupying the rear portion of the siting roof. A parallel application to HPRB is also pending. The committee supported the special exception but opposed the variance request because of the precedent it would set for four-story structures in the historic district. Ms. Fowler, the architect, provided an update, stating the application had dropped the height to 35 feet, and that the project should be considered three floors plus a basement. The commissioners voted unanimously to support the revised application.

Motion: Mr. Miller/Ms. Edelman.

3. N Street N.E. alley closure. Ms. Edelman asked for a vote to recommend closing a portion of the alley, which was part of a PUD that ANC 6C supported in July 2016. The ANC did not vote on the alley at that time because the alley closure was not part of the PUD. The commissioners voted unanimously to support the alley closure. **Motion:** Ms. Edelman/Mr. Miller.

4. After-hours permitting. This is to request that DCRA after-hours permits only be granted in situations when construction is needed because of health and safety issues. Currently these permits are issued to any entity that asks for them. The issue was raised by Mr. Eckenwiler, whose SMD has had these issues in the past. The motion to support was unanimous. **Motion:** Mr. Miller/Ms. Edelman.

5. Designation of Mr. Eckenwiler to represent ANC 6C in zoning cases before the ANC today except for BZA 19575. The commissioners voted unanimously to support this designation. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Ms. Edelman.

New Business

Ms. Wirt asked for approval of a direct expense of \$400 for beautification of tree boxes in the 500 block of E Street N.E., a request submitted by Mr. Price (who is absent for this meeting). The motion was supported without objection. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Ms. Edelman. Mr. Price is developing guidelines for tree box beautification, which he will circulate to ANC 6C commissioners and OANC Director Gottlieb Simon. He will present the guidelines at a future meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.