

ANC 6C Minutes
Thursday, December 14, 2017, 7 pm
Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Avenue N.E.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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

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

Approval of the November Minutes

The November 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/ Mr. Price.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Wirt suggested that due to the absence of the treasurer, the treasurer's report for November would be postponed until the January meeting. Authorization for ASL interpretation at the December meeting up to \$580 was approved unanimously. **Motion:** Ms. Edelman/Ms. Healey

Brief Community Announcements

1. Cameron Windham, Ward 6 representative from the D.C. Office of the Attorney General, described the activities of that office, including public safety cases, consumer protection, public advocacy, and civil litigation. Juvenile prosecution is a particular focus of the office, as is human trafficking. Current concerns include illegal funeral service practices, nuisance properties, and recidivism. He gave his contact information as cameron.windham@dc.gov and (202) 724-5503.
2. Doug Klein of the U.S Attorney's Office, who is prosecutor for Ward 6, introduced Stephen Rickard, who is a new prosecutor for felony major crimes. Mr. Klein underscored the importance of community impact statements, which can be submitted by ANC commissioners, to inform judges of the effect of violent crime on the community. Mr. Klein gave his contact information as douglas.klein@usdoj.gov . and (202) 660-2150.
2. Commissioner announcements—Ms. Wirt appointed Matt Mayeski, who is a financial analyst, to represent ANC 6C02 on the ANC 6C Grants Committee. Ms. Edelman announced the new name for the park at 3rd and L Streets: Swampoodle Park.

Consent Calendar

1. Allure Lounge, 711 H Street NE, ABRA-108303—Application for a sports bar, 2 floors and a roof bar. The ANC 6C Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee recommends protesting on the basis of negative effect on property values; the effect on the peace, order and quiet; and the effect on residential parking needs and vehicular and pedestrian parking. The goal of the protest is to negotiate a settlement agreement. A stipulated agreement is requested upon successful completion of a settlement agreement. Steve O'Neal, citizen chair of the ANC 6C Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee, is designated as the ANC 6C representative regarding this application, with Commissioner Chris Miller as his alternate.

2. 518 6th Street NE, HPA 18-108—Application for concept approval of a rear addition. The new owner’s proposal for this property differs markedly from unsatisfactory proposals submitted by the previous owner. The Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee recommends support with several caveats: HPRB and HPO should examine the historic compatibility of materials and design of the proposed front grate and the dimensions/material/thickness of the areaway retaining wall; and bricks used to infill the top of the existing front cellar widow opening should match the bricks on the original façade. Mr. Eckenwiler is designated to represent ANC 6C at the hearing.
3. 210 A Street NE, HPA 18-071—Application for a permit to install a security gate and a fence on top of a retaining wall. The applicant seeks to construct a 3’ iron fence on top of a 3’6” retaining wall at the sidewalk for security reasons. The property is subject to a L’Enfant conservation easement that does not allow the proposed fence. Moreover, a high barrier such as that proposed is not typical of or consistent with Historic District front yards. The Planning, Zoning and Economic Development Committee recommends opposition. Ms. Healey and Mr. Eckenwiler are designated to represent ANC 6C at the hearing.

The consent calendar was approved unanimously, 5:0:0 (protest for item 1, support with caveats for item 2, and opposition for item 3). **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.

Grants Committee

Ms. Lord, the chair of this committee, requested support for a grant application seeking \$2,355.12 submitted by J.O. Wilson Elementary School PTA to purchase equipment for movie nights at the school, “Screen on the Green.” The movie project is proposed to bring families together and strengthen relationships both within the school and with the community. Other benefits include teaching students marketing/outreach skills and training and supervising students to manage concessions during the events. The commissioners voted unanimously to support the grant. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/ Mr. Eckenwiler.

Transportation and Public Space Committee

1. D.C. Streetcar Program Update (non-voting item)—An environmental study is in progress for the Benning Road Extension, to be completed in early 2018. Construction will begin in 2022-2023. Four additional cars will be added. The Georgetown Extension is approximately 5 years behind Benning Road. Fifteen cars will be added. DDOT is currently identifying sites. One potential site is Union Station, another is the Hechinger Mall. Both will require coordination between government entities and the developers. A public meeting is planned for the week of January 22 to discuss the environmental study for the Georgetown Extension.
2. Metropolitan Branch Trail (non-voting item)—The NoMa BID continues its design study to improve the MBT through better signage and other features to make the trail easier to use and better connected to surrounding neighborhoods. Signage will be more visible, larger, and color will be added. Kiosks, vertical information posts, will feature maps and nearby attractions. Pavement markings will be at most entrances of the trail. Implementation is expected in summer 2018.
3. 226 Massachusetts Avenue NE—Presenters were Brian Stephenson, Harold Bingham, and Eric Korsvall, with an application to improve the public space in front of 208,214, and 226 Massachusetts Avenue NE. The proposed plan has been updated to incorporate comments by DDOT, HPRB, and ANC 6C, including better relating the public space area to the sidewalk; adding fences and piers at 42” height or less; opening up the view, where previously a tall hedge had limited visibility; adding paved terraces reduced in size; reducing the height of seat walls around terraces; and providing benches and bicycle racks. The overall design consists of fencing typical of Capitol Hill. The entrance is in front of 214 Massachusetts Avenue, with fencing that ends halfway up to the building to allow more access to the public space on either side of the entrance path. Large flower containers add security at the entrance to the path. Landscaping adds color and is low to allow visual access to the entire area. The applicant presented

a letter of support from the Capitol Hill BID. The commissioners voted 4:1:0 to support the project.

Motion: Ms. Wirt/Ms. Healey.

4. Storey Park, 1005 First Street NE, Public Space #3221687—The presenter was John Camera from Perseus Realty, with an application for the design of the Storey Park public space. The loading entrance has a 35' curb cut, which is necessary because of the sharp angle of the ramp. The commissioners understand the constraints of the space, and suggest the builder consider adding lighting and/or mirrors to improve visibility. A single lay-by is in the plan to ease loading and unloading of hotel guests. Although this is designed to ease traffic backups, the commissioners suggested two lay-bys rather than one because a single lay-by seems inadequate for a hotel with 235 rooms. The commissioners voted unanimously to support the plan with these caveats recommended for study by DDOT. **Motion:** Mr. Eckenwiler/Mr. Price.

Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee

1121 Abbey Place NE, BZA 19622—A revised application for special exceptions from lot occupancy requirements and rear yard requirements to add a third floor and construct a four-story rear addition to an existing single-family residence in the RF-1 Zone. The ANC 6C Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee opposed the first revised proposal for this project. The second revised proposal showed the roof deck less visible, although an additional height reduction of 3' was recommended. In the last few days additional drawings have been submitted, with sightline studies on file at the BZA. They appear to comport with the recommendations of the committee. The project has support of both adjacent neighbors. Ms. Edelman, in whose Single Member District this project is located, objected to the visibility of the roof deck. The commissioners voted unanimously to support the project with the recommendation that the walls of the roof deck be made of glass or some other material to reduce visibility. Mr. Eckenwiler is designated representative of ANC 6C at the hearing. **Motion:** Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Edelman.

Parks and Events Committee

Ms. Wirt announced that the chair of this committee, Phil Tahtakran, is stepping down as chair due to work travel commitments, but he wants to remain a member of the committee and will attend committee meetings as his schedule allows. Joe McCann, a current member of this committee, has offered to serve as chair in 2018. Commissioners must vote to approve this change in chairmanship at the December meeting (rather than the January meeting when voting traditionally takes place for ANC 6C officers and committee chairs) because the committee first meets on January 2 in the new year. The full-Commission meeting in January is later, January 10. The commissioners unanimously voted to support Mr. McCann as chair of this committee. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.