ANC 6C Minutes
Thursday, February 15, 2018, 7 pm
Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Avenue NE

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

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
Cameron Windham from the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia was added to community announcements. Cava Grill was moved to number 3 position under the Transportation and Public Space Committee. The agenda then was approved without objection. Motion: Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.

Approval of the January Minutes
The January 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. Healey.

Treasurer’s Report
Mr. Miller presented the treasurer’s report for January (during the transition of ANC 6C treasurer from Mr. Miller to Mr. Price.) The beginning balance in January was $46,403.04. There were three expenditures: check 1349, $459.81 to Deaf Access Solutions for American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation; check 1350, $178.00 to reimburse Ms. Wirt for renewing the ANC 6C post office box for six months, until July; and check 1351, $27.87 to reimburse Ms. Healey for ANC 6C web-related maintenance fees. There was a January interest payment of $0.39 from the Bank of America. The ending balance was $45,737.75. The treasurer’s report was approved without objection. Motion: Mr. Price/Mr. Miller.

Votes of Approval
The commissioners voted unanimously to approve appointing Josh Linden as co-chair of the ANC 6C Transportation and Public Space Committee (Motion: Mr. Eckenwiler/Mr. Miller) and Ms. Brianna Battle as ANC 6C office assistant to work with the ANC 6C treasurer in preparing financial records and with the ANC 6C Grants Committee in completing grant documentation (Motion: Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler). Mr. Linden currently serves as a member of the ANC 6C Transportation and Public Space Committee; Ms. Battle serves as a member of the ANC 6C Parks and Events Committee.

Brief Community Announcements
1. Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia—Cameron Windham announced an informational session to describe the roles of the U.S. Attorney’s office for the District of Columbia and the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia. The event is scheduled for Thursday, February 22 at 441 Fourth Street NW, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
2. Commissioner announcements—Mr. Miller noted that there is an at-large vacancy on the ANC 6C Parks and Events Committee. He also stated that an ABRA settlement agreement has been negotiated with Giant Food on H Street NE that includes conditions at the loading dock. Mr. Eckenwiler addressed
two items pertaining to the intersection of 3rd and H Street NE: DDOT has not yet opened the DC Streetcar station that was demolished by a bus, and DDOT is now looking into improving the pedestrian traffic signal at that intersection. Ms. Healey announced that repair of the alley between 6th and 7th Streets, East Capitol and A Streets NE will begin February 26. Ms. Edelman announced two events: the Mayor’s FY2019 budget forum on February 22, 6:30 p.m. at Watkins Elementary School, 420 12th Street NE; and Council Member Charles Allen’s budget town hall, April 23, 6:30 p.m., also at Watkins.

Consent Calendar
1. Peet’s Coffee, 1275 1st Street NE—Application for an unenclosed sidewalk café. This café consists of four tables, two chairs each, with nearly 9’ of clearance from the edges of the tables to the closest obstruction (benches). Furniture will be secured on site during off hours. Hours of operation are 5 a.m. – 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.
2. DCRA oversight hearing, March 8—Performance oversight will be the focus of this hearing, followed by a budget oversight hearing later this spring. Mr. Eckenwiler asked for approval to testify on behalf of ANC 6C concerns regarding DCRA. Ms. Healey requested that a draft of the testimony be sent to ANC 6C commissioners in advance of the hearing.

The vote to approve the consent calendar was unanimous, 6:0:0. Motion: Mr. Eckenwiler/Mr. Price.

Grants Committee
Ms. Lord, chair of this committee, announced an ANC 6C grants seminar scheduled for April 21 to provide nonprofits with information on the ANC application process. The seminar will include a presentation on procedures and deadlines and a series of roundtables to assist potential grant applicants. The location has not yet been determined.

Parks and Events Committee
1. 2018 Rock ‘N’ Roll Marathon, March 10—MPD is requiring “Clean Route” parking restrictions on streets where runners will travel in DC. This no-parking policy will apply to 17-20 streets on Capitol Hill during the event. The Clean Route policy, now part of the work of the Mayor’s Special Events Task Force Group, is in response to the use of a vehicle in a terrorist attack in New York. Discussion included questions such as will all alleys that cross the affected streets be staffed by MPD or have barriers to prevent vehicles getting on the closed route? Is it too late to impose Clean Route policy for this March 10 event? Where will the cars park? Who would pay for the placement of no-parking signs and vehicle towing? Will there be mitigation to assist events that benefit the community versus no mitigation for commercial, for-profit organizations such as this marathon? The commissioners voted 5:1:0 to write a letter to the Mayor, MPD, and council members who serve on the judicial as well as transportation committees stating (1) ANC 6C opposes the Clean Route policy because it is not well thought-through; it is not documented; and it has significant gaps and omissions that undermine its effectiveness. (2) If the Clean Route policy is implemented for the Rock ‘N’ Roll Marathon, then include the recommendations of the ANC 6C Parks and Events Committee, specifically ensure that DC agencies, including MPD, work to minimize the impact the Clean Route policy will have on people who live along the marathon route; explore options for designating local parking lots for vehicles that must move during the event; ensure that MPD follows policy regulations; and allow the public to comment on the new policy. Motion: Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Edelman.
2. 2018 Capitol Hill Classic, May 20—Jason Levine, event organizer, stated that the Clean Route policy could threaten the event that has been held for the past 40 years. The event raises approximately $100 K for Capitol Hill Cluster Schools (Peabody, Watkins, and Stuart-Hobson Schools). The Clean Route policy is estimated to cost the event sponsors approximately $10 K, as DDOT work (signage, towing,
etc.) to prepare for any event would need to be paid by the event sponsor. Conversations with the Mayor’s office suggest that that office will try to mitigate negative effects of the Clean Route policy for events that benefit the community, including reimbursing race organizers for the $10 K and providing residents and church goers placards that allows them to park along the event route (approximately 33 blocks will be included in the route, the same route as last year). The Mayor’s office should consider not applying the Clean Route policy to this small event (approximately 3,000 runners, compared to more than 20,000 runners in the Rock ‘N’ Roll Marathon). The commissioners voted unanimously to support the Capitol Hill Classic event and to request that the Clean Route policy not be applied to this event.  

**Motion:** Mr. Price/ Mr. Eckenwiler.

3. Update on NoMa parks—NoMa park representatives provided a spreadsheet of anticipated activities, with more detail to be provided at the next ANC 6C Parks and Events Committee meeting.

**Transportation and Public Space Committee**

1. Dockless bike share—(Nonvoting item, information only). Discussion included concerns regarding this pilot program: bicycle parking enforcement, bike conditions, regulation enforcement, program management, bike maintenance, operation costs, scale of operation, and bike locations. The pilot runs until April 30, 2018. DDOT intends to have recommendations in place before that date for a new pilot program. It appears unlikely that DDOT will grant permanent allowance of dockless bike share entities to operate in DC.

2. Indigo restaurant, 243 K Street NE, application 10553703, conversion of an unenclosed sidewalk café to an enclosed sidewalk café—This application came before ANC 6C last month, at which time the commissioners asked the applicant to return with specific details that were missing in the original presentation. Two sections of the patio will be covered, neither will extend more than 20’ from the restaurant and together will not comprise more than 60 percent of the available area. Both areas will use covering with clear, plastic sides that can come down in bad weather. A pergola or covering will be over the entrance/walkway area. Plexiglass panels will be added on the NW corner only (to block wind and dust: dimensions are from the northern edge of the unclosed area around the bar toward K Street; from the corner going east, only to the first brick pillar; maximum 7 feet high). Plexiglass will not extend all the way around the perimeter. The number of seats and operating hours will not change from the existing permit. Ms. Edelman and the chair of the committee canvassed neighbors close to the Indigo restaurant. Most were supportive of the enclosed café. One resident, Ms. Sylvia Sanchez who lives next door to Indigo and attended the ANC full-Commission meeting, expressed concern about possible negative effects of the café enclosure on her view of 3rd Street. Mr. Eckenwiler explained that she would be able to see through Plexiglass covering when it is in place during inclement weather, and it would be rolled up during good weather. The commissioners voted unanimously to support the conversion of the unenclosed sidewalk café to an enclosed café. **Motion:** Ms. Edelman/Mr. Eckenwiler.

3. Cava Grill, 523 H Street NE, request to add an unenclosed sidewalk café—(Nonvoting item, information only). The proposed café will be on the 6th Street side and consist of tables with 2 or 4 seats for a total occupancy of 28 patrons. No ropes or fencing will surround the café and a minimum of 10’ clearance will be maintained to the nearest obstruction (trees). There will be no awnings or umbrellas. Alcohol is not served at this location. All furniture will remain on site during off hours, chained together and locked. Hours of operation are to be 11 a.m.-10 p.m. seven days a week. There was concern about the proximity of the café to nearby residents and the potential for noise disturbance. A trial period and graduated seating approach was suggested, starting out with fewer patrons and gradually adding more following a period of no complaints. The applicant was amenable to the suggestion. The commissioners will vote on this application after the applicant files formal paperwork with DDOT.
Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee
1. 214 A Street NE, HPA 18-209, concept approval, side and rear additions and garage—The ANC 6C committee originally had six concerns pertaining to roofline, the electric meter, paving in public space, the front areaway, the exterior stairway to the basement, and pedestrian access to the carriage house that will replace the current garage. The applicant subsequently provided revised drawings that responded to these concerns. Ms. Healey stated she had put out flyers in the neighborhood regarding this proposed renovation and received no negative feedback. It was noted that the carriage house plans should improve the alley. The motion to support the concept, which was approved unanimously, included authorizing Ms. Healey and Mr. Eckenwiler to testify at the February 22 hearing. Motion: Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Healey.

2. 311 F Street NE, HPA 18-208, concept approval to construct a full-height rear addition—The ANC 6C committee originally had four concerns. New drawings subsequently received reflect the spirit of the committee concerns: the electric meter, brick paving in public space, placement of the AC units, and the rear elevation. Mr. Rodney Morehead Sr. of 313 F Street NE and his son Rodney Jr. attended the committee meeting and opposed the concept stating they believe that this type of addition has not been allowed in the Historic District. (This is not correct; rear additions that are not visible from the street are approved by HPRB). Mr. Morehead Sr. also attended the full-Commission February 15 meeting to again voice his opposition. Ms. Cynthia Sparrow of 309 F Street NE in communication with the committee expressed concern that the shared gutter system running from her roof in front to the drain pipe on 311 be maintained. She was assured that this shared situation would not change. She later indicated concerns about possible conversion of the residence into four units (the plans show two units only) possible windows on the west side interfering with her privacy (the plans show no windows there), and materials planned for the façade of the addition (Brick is planned, but the plans do not clearly indicate this.) The commissioners voted unanimously to support the concept. The commissioners advised Mr. Morehead to attend the HPRB meeting to express his views. The vote included authorizing Mr. Eckenwiler to represent ANC 6C at the February 22 hearing. Motion: Mr. Eckenwiler/Mr. Miller.

Issue raised by a member of the audience
Ms. Nancy Simpson stated concerns in general pertaining to sidewalk cafes: rats and not enough passage space on sidewalks for pedestrians. The commissioners offered suggestions on how to ameliorate these conditions when they exist. Mr. Eckenwiler mentioned the DDOT oversight hearing (which includes Public Space matters) scheduled for 3:30 p.m. on February 27, which is an opportunity to complain if residents have concerns regarding specific locations.

Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee
No business this month.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m. Motion: Mr. Miller/Mr. Eckenwiler.