ANC 6C Minutes
Wednesday, January 10, 2018, 7 pm
Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Avenue NE

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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
The agenda was approved without objection. Motion: Mr. Price/Mr. Eckenwiler.

Approval of the December Minutes
The December 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. Eckenwiler.

Treasurer’s Report
Mr. Miller presented the treasurer’s report for both November and December. The opening balance in October was $46,997.61. There were two expenditures: check 1346, $600.00 to Wright House for American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation, and check 1347, $1,994.00 to Friends of NoMa Dogs, Inc. to support a grant for park improvement. There was an October interest payment of $0.39 from Bank of America. The opening balance for November was $44,404.00. There was one expenditure, check 1348, $1,338.99 to Capitol Community News for a year’s worth of ANC 6C ads in the Hill Rag. A quarterly allotment from the District of Columbia was received, $3,337.28. Two interest payments were received, $0.36 for November and $0.39 for December. The ending balance was $46,403.04. The treasurer’s report was approved without objection. The vote included approval of the first quarterly report. Motion: Mr. Miller/Mr. Eckenwiler.

New expenses were submitted and authorized unanimously: $459.81 for ASL interpreting at the December ANC 6C meeting, $27.87 for web-related maintenance, $178.00 to renew the ANC 6C post office box for six months until July, and $25.00 for the ANC security fee required annually by the D.C. Auditor. Motion: Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Wirt.

Elections of Officers and Committee Chairs and Confirmation of Committee Members
Officers were elected unanimously as follows: Chair, Ms. Wirt. Motion: Mr. Eckenwiler/Mr. Miller. Vice Chair, Mr. Miller. Motion: Mr. Miller/Mr. Eckenwiler. Treasurer, Mr. Price (who agreed to serve in this position through August 2018). Motion: Ms. Wirt/Mr. Miller. Secretary, Ms. Healey. Motion: Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.

Committee chairs were confirmed unanimously with a single vote: Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee, Mr. O’Neal; Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee, Mr. Eckenwiler;
Transportation and Public Space Committee, Mr. Kazmierczak; Grants Committee, Ms. Lord; Parks and Events Committee: Mr. McCann. **Motion:** Ms. Healey/Mr. Eckenwiler. (Note: Mr. McCann was appointed chair of the Parks and Events Committee previously at the December meeting.)

Committee members were appointed and confirmed unanimously as follows: Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee—Charles McMillan, 6C02; Emily Beline, 6C04; Sally Donner, 6C05; Jason Starr, 6C06. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler. Grants Committee—Jennifer Newton, 6C01; Matt Mayeski, 6C02; Sonte DuCote, 6C05; Gina Geffrard, 6C06; Dan Griggs, at large; and Jason Starr, 6C06. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler. Parks and Events Committee—Vira Sisolak, 6C01; Luz Dejesus, 6C03; Erik Heilmann, 6C05; Phil Tahtakran, at large; Caitlin LaRocco, at large; Brianna Battle, at large. **Motion:** Mr. Eckenwiler/Mr. Price. Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee—Bobbi Krengel, 6C01; Dru Tallant, 6C03; Joel Kelty, 6C05; Chris Mitchell, 6C06; Bill Sisolak, at large; and Lauren McHale, at large. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler. Transportation and Public Space Committee—Jay Adelstein, 6C01; John Wirt, 6C02; Katie Kamerer 6C03; Mark Eckenwiler, 6C04; Emily Diamond-Falk, 6C05; Christy Kwan, 6C06; Josh Linden, at large. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.

**Brief Community Announcements**

1. D.C. water main breaks—Vince Morris of DC Water provided data on water main breaks in the neighborhood and around the District. He stated since December 30th DC Water had repaired 77 breaks and 15 repairs were still in progress. Mr. Price inquired about meters being read. Mr. Morris said that water meters in tree boxes and at curbside are being replaced. It is important to keep the meters uncovered, as covering them can affect meter readings. If a water main break is seen, especially during this very cold weather, the best number to call 24/7 is the command center at (202) 612-3400.

2. Streetcar update—Raka Choudhury described future plans to include 15 cars when the streetcars are extended to Georgetown and a storage site is needed. Union Station was once considered as a possible storage site, but has now been taken off the list due to complications of other developments at Union Station. Ms. Choudhury announced a public meeting to update the public on streetcar development from Union Station to Georgetown and discuss the environmental assessment: January 23, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., George Washington University, 2201 G Street NW, Funger Hall, room 108; and January 24, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m., Department of Employment Services, 4058 Minnesota Avenue NE. (The same presentation and materials will be available at both meetings.) Mr. Eckenwiler asked for attention to the streetcars and red light crossing for pedestrians at the intersection of Third and H Streets NE.

3. Commissioner announcements—Mr. Miller noted that a pro bono attorney will assist with the alley problem next to 732 Sixth Street NE. Mr. Eckenwiler stated that the alley improvement project between Fourth and Fifth Streets, F and G Streets will begin January 11. Mr. Price announced a new Bikeshare station at Seventh Street and Massachusetts Avenue NE as well as two new Zip Car stations two blocks away to increase transportation options in the neighborhood. Ms. Edelman announced the city will pick up Christmas trees between January 13 and February 2 this year from the trash and recycle bin pickup locations, not from tree boxes as in previous years. She announced J.O. Wilson School’s summer camp fair on Thursday, January 25 at the school, 660 K Street NE, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. She also announced that neither the constituent requesting ASL nor the ASL interpreter is in attendance at tonight’s meeting.

(Note: Mr. Miller left the meeting at 7:30 p.m., with a quorum of five commissioners remaining.)
Consent Calendar
1. Follow-up to an ANC 6C letter requesting a protected bicycle route on Louisiana Avenue from Union Station to the Capitol—Mr. McCann circulated a proposed letter addressed to the Architect of the Capitol and the Mayor requesting action, because no response has been received since ANC 6C first requested this action in 2015. A vote of support was recommended.

2. 1108 Fifth Street NE, BZA 19667, special exception to construct a two-story rear addition—The request is for a two-story rear addition and a new third story on an existing two-story row house. Special exception relief is necessary because the rear addition will extend more than 10 feet past the adjacent houses. The applicant provided letters of support from the owners of the two adjacent houses. A sight-line study shows the addition will not be visible from the street. A vote of support was recommended.

3. Proposed changes to zoning rules of measurement of basements, cellars, and building heights—ZC 17-18, proposed by the Office of Planning, changes the definition of a cellar. The Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee had several concerns: (1) how the proposed rule would apply to “ground floor” having multiple levels; (2) what qualifies as “areaways” adjacent to structures; and (3) whether the stairs leading down to an “areaway” would count toward the 5 feet maximum dimension proposed in the definition of a cellar. A vote of support was recommended, along with statement of these concerns. The vote included Mr. Eckenwiler designated to represent ANC 6C at the hearing.

The vote to approve the consent calendar was unanimous, 5:0:0. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.

Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee
1. Travel Traders Retail, Inc., 400 New Jersey Avenue NW, ABRA-080595, request to make single sales of beer available in the Hyatt Regency Hotel gift shop. The Committee recommended protesting the application, both sales limited to hotel guests and sales that are offered to anyone. The CCNV shelter is one block away, and the CCNV director stated that single sales could have a negative impact on CCNV residents who have alcohol addiction problems. The commissioners voted unanimously, 5:0:0, to support the Committee’s recommendations and protest the application, with Ms. Wirt the designated representative of ANC 6C and Mr. O’Neal as her alternate. **Motion:** Ms. Healey/Mr. Eckenwiler.

2. Giant Food, 360 H Street NE, request to hire an attorney to assist with the protest hearing mid-February. The goal is to seek options in a settlement agreement to avoid truck idling and ensure both pedestrian and vehicle safety at the loading dock on Third Street NE. Mr. Eckenwiler requested expenditure of up to $5,000 to retain an attorney. The request was approved unanimously. **Motion:** Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Wirt.

Transportation and Public Space Committee
Indigo restaurant, 243 K Street NE, application 10553703, conversion of an unenclosed sidewalk café to an enclosed sidewalk café—The commissioners had concerns about the insufficient detail provided on the proposed enclosures, including design, materials, operation, and amount of seating. Other concerns were the potential that a large number of patrons could cause a disturbance to the neighborhood and the structures could be unsightly and diminish the pedestrian experience. Although sufficient detail was not provided in the plans to accurately assess these impacts, ANC 6C would withdraw its objections if the applicant voluntarily postpones the hearing and provides the additional information for the commissioners to review at a future ANC 6C meeting. The commissioners voted unanimously to support stating these concerns. **Motion:** Mr. Price/Mr. Eckenwiler.
Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee
Suggestions for amending zoning rules for rooftops, upper-floor additions, and special exception standards—In the past, this Committee has found the provisions of Subtitle E, sections 206 and 5203, which address rooftop additions and special exception criteria, to be confusing and contradictory. The Committee chair, Mr. Eckenwiler, drafted a proposed set of revisions based on his review of the regulations and a previous conversation with Jennifer Steingasser in the Office of Planning (OP). It was noted that OP and DCRA expect to discuss these same issues in the near future. Mr. Eckenwiler committed to exploring these issues with OP as those agency discussions progress. No vote was needed at this time. The Committee will revisit the issues when appropriate at a future Committee meeting.

Parks and Events Committee
1. Update on NoMa parks—(1) M Street underpass: Amtrak has approved permits. Lighting installation will begin mid-January. There will be rolling closures of sidewalks during the installation. (2) L Street underpass: permits have been issued. Installation will begin mid-January and be completed by the end of April. (3) Swampoodle Park, Third and L Streets NE: Construction of the dog park and children’s play structure and seating areas is in progress and will be completed by the end of April. (4) NoMa Green: The Parks Foundation has selected a general contractor and continues to work on engineering and permitting. (5) Central Civic Plaza: The public plaza previously envisioned for the 100 block of L Street NE is no longer planned. The Parks Foundation will consider potential land acquisition opportunities to fulfill this need.

2. Legislative matters concerning parks and school fields—On January 10, 2018, the D.C. Council’s Committee on Transportation and the Environment held a public hearing concerning legislation pertaining to community access to school fields and facilities. The record will remain open for comments until January 24. The ANC 6C Parks and Events Committee recommends the following: ANC 6C send a letter to the chair of the committee, Council Member Mary Cheh, in support of (1) creating a community task force as provided for in B22-39; (2) ensuring community access to recreational spaces as provided in B22-613 with caveats including mediation between competing users, publishing an on-line updated schedule of activities, a pre-defined open call for applications for a given period of days or weeks, and restrictions on outdoor activities before and after certain hours, as appropriate. Motion: Mr. Eckenwiler/Mr. Price.

3. The Committee will undertake a one-year pilot project to focus on environmental and sustainability issues. The Committee will establish a mission statement for this project and will develop a list of 8-10 issues to address during the coming year. D.C. agencies such as DPW will be invited to attend Committee meetings. The Sierra Club will attend the Committee’s February meeting.

Grants Committee
No business this month.

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m. Motion: Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Wirt.