ANC 6C Minutes
Wednesday, September 12, 2018, 7 pm
Heritage Foundation
214 Massachusetts Avenue NE

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Quorum
A quorum of 5 out of 5 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: Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.

Approval of the July Minutes and the September 1 Special Meeting Minutes
The July and September 1 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. Price presented the treasurer’s report for July and August, which was approved unanimously. The beginning balance was $44,434.50. Three checks were written for ASL interpretation: check 1364 for $300 to William Lovik, ASL translation; check 1365 for $100 to Kathleen Martain, translation; and check 1366 for $100 to Beth Ann Garcia ASL translation. Two checks were written to reimburse Ms. Wirt: check 1367 for $43.89 for commissioner name cards to fit the new name plate holders, and check 1368 for $178 to rent the ANC 6C postal box for six months. Check 1369 was written for $125 to Brianna Battle for administrative support of the treasurer. There were two interest payment of $0.37 from the Bank of America, respectively at the end of July and the end of August. The ending balance was $43,588.35. Mr. Price also presented a proposed budget for 2019. Motion to approve the July and August treasurer reports passed unanimously: Mr. Price/Ms. Wirt. Motion to approve the 2019 budget unanimously: Mr. Price/Ms. Wirt.

Brief Community Announcements
1. Joe Weedon, a candidate for re-election to the State Board of Education, described his work on D.C. schools, including promoting equity, engaging parents, holding schools accountable, student behavior, and busing students in 2019 to minimize disruption to traffic. His contact information is joe.weedon@dc.gov.
2. Ben Mindes presented a pilot program in D.C. entitled Observe D.C. to monitor elections throughout the voting day on November 6, 2018. It is the first nonpartisan, sample-based election observation effort. He called for volunteers, who would be paid $50. To sign up, fill out the Google Form pinned on the Facebook page at website www.facebook.com/ObserveDC.
3. Other announcements—MPD Sergeant Luke Foskett from the First District provided some statistics for the past 30 days, which were slightly up, largely theft from autos and robberies. A homeless outreach officer has been dispatched to assist with homelessness issues. He brought brochures on robbery prevention and reporting illegal dirt bikes. Lee Davis announced a new ALPCS Arabic language emersion charter school to be located on 8th Street near ANC 6C. It is scheduled to open in fall 2020. He gave a contact telephone number, (202) 674-2889.
4. Commissioner announcements—Mr. Price mentioned his recent experience to highlight D.C. law, which states that drivers are responsible if vehicle software malfunctions. Ms. Healey mentioned the Prevention of Blindness Society of Metropolitan Washington at 233 Massachusetts Avenue NE is hosting a free vision screening event September 16-18. The information is on the ANC 6C website. Ms. Wirt stated she attended a briefing on the ANC Omnibus Act, which requires that ANC include in their bylaws language to address tie votes for officers. The item will be on the October ANC 6C agenda. Ms. Edelman stated that the tent encampments at K, L, and M Streets N.E. have blocked the sidewalks, and the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services continues to address the problem, with cleanups scheduled twice during August. If a tent blocks the sidewalk, it is recommended that a photo be taken and sent to encampment.reports@dc.gov. A shelter is available with day services for the homeless at New York Avenue and 12th Streets N.E. The shelter hotline, available 24/7, is (202) 399-7093.

Consent Calendar
1. 1119 Abbey Place NE—BZA 19840, application for special exceptions from lot occupancy requirements, rear yard requirements, nonconforming structure requirements, and minimum parking requirements to enclose a rear porch and construct a second-story rear addition to an existing dwelling unit in the RF-1 Zone. This application had inconsistencies in the drawing of the rear deck/walkway, and a question arose regarding whether or not the deck/walkway qualifies as a “landing.” The Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee supports the special-exception application if the BZA determines that the rear deck/walkway would not exceed 70 percent. Otherwise the committee opposes the application on the grounds that the application does not satisfy the demanding standards for a variance to occupy in excess of 70 percent. The recommendation to BZA will include designation of Mr. Eckenwiler to represent ANC 6C in all matters pertaining to this application.

2. Proposed letter to Council Chair Mendelson recommending legislation amending the Building Code to require (1) DCRA to print the legal days/hours for construction activity on all construction permits, and (2) all applications for exterior alterations or additions to include photos clearly depicting the affected elevations.

3. Delaware Avenue and M Street NE, NOI # 18-159—This is a notice from DDOT that it intends to prohibit right-turn on red for the northbound approach of Delaware Avenue at M Street N.E. The Transportation and Public Space Committee supports this NOI but notes the commissioners previously voted to stop all right turns from M Street to Delaware. The visibility of motorists trying to make this turn is limited regarding pedestrians and bicyclists traveling on M, and the turn angle is too short to allow a vehicle to turn from M to Delaware. The committee reiterates the need to prevent these right turns and asks DDOT to consider making Delaware a northbound street in the 1100 block where it intersects with M Street NE.

The vote to approve the recommendations of the consent calendar was unanimous. Motion: Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.

Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee
Addis Ethiopian, 707 H Street NE., ABRA-097534, substantial increase in occupancy—This is a report of a previous ANC 6C meeting. A duly noticed special meeting of ANC 6C to address this matter was held on September 1 in the N.E. Library. The commissioners voted unanimously, 5:0:0, at that meeting to protest this application on the basis of (1) the effect of the establishment on the peace, order, and quiet, including noise and litter provisions in the D.C. Code; (2) the effect of the establishment on property values; and (3) the effect of the establishment on residential parking needs and vehicular and pedestrian safety. The vote included designating Mr. Eckenwiler, ANC 6C04 Commissioner, and Mr. O’Neal, citizen chair of the ANC 6C Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee, to represent ANC 6C in all matters pertaining to this application.
Transportation and Public Space Committee
1. 8th Street NE, NOI #18-122, removal of residential parking and installing a 15-minute loading zone, southbound on 8th Street NE—This NOI is the result of a DDOT pedestrian safety study at the intersection of 8th and D Streets where there is low visibility of pedestrians crossing on D Street. (Note: 8th Street is on the boundary between ANC 6A and ANC 6C.) The study found the no parking zones on the corners of the south leg are being used for illegal parking. Local businesses were using this area for parking, so DDOT proposes making this a loading zone so as not to impact pedestrian safety. The Transportation and Public Safety Committee recommends support for the NOI as long as additional RPP spaces are added on the same block to compensate for the amount of space lost. The commissioners voted 4:1:0 to support the committee recommendation. The commissioners also support a traffic light or 4-way stop. Motion: Mr. Price/Ms. Wirt.

2. 508 L Street NE, establishment of a mailbox in public space, Public Space application 314487—The applicant requests installation of a multi-address mailbox to serve 508, 510, and 512 L Street, each of which has an upper and lower unit (total six condominiums), as USPS will deliver to only one door for multiple-unit buildings. The commissioners voted unanimously to support the application. Motion: Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Edelman.

3. 6-14 6th Street NE, Public Space application 313618—Capitol Hill Baptist Church came before ANC 6C in July 2017 for historic review as it proposed to build row houses on its property at 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14 6th Street NE. The current application is for landscaping and resizing a driveway. The driveway was previously not supported by HPO or the Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development Committee. The committee raised concerns about the amount of paving in the public space due to the stairs leading to the garden levels of the houses. The design appeared to be in conflict with public space guidelines that dictate minimal paving in the public parking. The applicant had stated the design follows what was recommended to them. An update showed that the plan is not in sync with HPO, and the applicant will revise plans. Pastor James Dunlap, one of the church pastors, stated he wants a waiver from DDOT. The commissioners voted unanimously to support the closure of both curb cuts, and the effort to get a waiver, in order to minimize paving on the lead walks at the steps. The vote included designation of Mr. Eckenwiler and Ms. Healey to testify at the hearing on this matter scheduled for September 27. Motion: Ms. Healey, Mr. Eckenwiler.

4. D.C. Small Cell Program, wireless telecommunications antennae technology—The telecommunications industry will be deploying infrastructure to bring the 5th Generation (5G) technology to D.C. using wireless telecommunication antennae and equipment (small cell). DDOT released draft guidelines for the program and requested comment. The Transportation and Public Safety committee made the following recommendations: (1) It is important to limit the number of stand-alone poles; (2) antennae on existing or stand-alone poles should not be greater than 31’ combined height or more than 10 percent above existing poles, whichever is less; (3) The number of cells allowed per block is excessive for larger blocks; (4) Stand-alone poles should be prohibited when within a certain distance (greater than 20’ from historic landmarks; and (5) there should be control over the total number of cells (guidelines limit the number per block but there is nothing stopping providers from installing on every block in D.C.). The commissioners voted unanimously to support the committee recommendations, with a friendly amendment that a cell tower should not cause tree trimming damage to the tree canopy (a suggestion was no more than 5 percent of tree trim removal occur). Motion: Mr. Price/Mr. Eckenwiler. Ms. Healey complained of the method of notification to her SMD of a possible small cell installation on the 200 block of East Capitol.
Parks and Events Committee
1. NoMa Parks Foundation update—The M Street underpass has LED lights installed on both sides; the north side sidewalk is closed completely for installation; the south side is open for pedestrian and bicyclist traffic. Amtrak has signed off on the L Street underpass and the Amtrak permit to begin construction is forthcoming. Landscaping and pavement repairs are scheduled for Swampoodle Park.
2. Future environmental issues to address—Trash and recycling matters are scheduled for the October meeting of this committee; solar panels, for the November meeting.
3. Other matters—Mr. McCann mentioned that the ANC 6C July letter regarding the Sustainability 2.0 has not been addressed (funding, change between now and five years from now, insufficient time to review 169 action items). The deadline for comments is September 30.
4. Renaming of this committee—The commissioners voted unanimously to rename this committee Environment, Parks, and Events, due to the efforts of Mr. McCann to enlarge the scope of work. Motion: Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.

Grants Committee
No business this month.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.