The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.

Quorum
A quorum of 6 out of 6 commissioners was present (Mr. Adelstein, Mr. Courtney, Mr. Eckenwiler, Ms. Healey, Mr. Kelty, and Ms. Wirt).

Approval of the Agenda
The agenda was approved without objection. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.

Approval of the September Minutes
The September 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. Kelty presented the treasurer’s report for September. The opening balance was $46,936.49. Deposits include the D.C. government allotment, $3,337.28 and $3.94 interest income for September. The second quarterly D.C. allotment check was received and allotments are now being direct deposited in the new ANC bank account. The closing balance was $50,277.71. The treasurer also presented the 2nd quarterly report, which was approved without objection. **Motion:** Mr. Kelty/Ms. Wirt.

Two checks were written in October for previously approved expenses: Check 1387, $3,000, grant to Ludlow-Taylor, written October 5; and Check 1388, $5.29, reimbursement to Mr. Eckenwiler for postage and water for the Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development (PZE) Committee.

Two new expenses were presented and approved without objection. The first is for ANC 6C website improvement, including archiving, ADA compliance, and security, up to $1,000 (estimate based on $75 per hour for 8-10 hours). **Motion:** Ms. Healey/Mr. Eckenwiler. The second is for $2.50, bottled water for the PZE Committee, reimbursement to the committee chair, Mr. Eckenwiler. **Motion:** Mr. Kelty/Mr. Eckenwiler.

**Brief Community Announcements**
1. D.C. Office of the Inspector General—Ms. Jaime Yarussi described the mission of the OIG, which is to independently audit, inspect, and investigate matters pertaining to D.C. government. She distributed pamphlets with more information and ways to report corruption, mismanagement, waste, fraud, and abuse. The OIG can be contacted by online forms, hotlines, and email.
2. U.S. Census recruiting—Ms. Patricia Nelson announced the U.S. Census is seeking candidates to assist with the 2020 Census in many different jobs, with part-time work beginning in the spring, including evenings and weekends. The pay is $25/hour for “enumerators” who gather information going door-to-door. Census workers must be U.S. citizens. More information is available online at 2020census.gov/jobs. She distributed information sheets.
3. Commissioner announcements—Mr. Eckenwiler announced a meeting at Logan Montessori School to address concerns of the community regarding renovation at the school: Saturday, October 19, 9 am, G Street entrance. The meeting should last about one hour. Ms. Wirt summarized efforts of neighbors in 6C02 to initiate legislation through Council Member Allen’s office addressing “commercial creep” in residential neighborhoods on the Hill and seeking stronger enforcement by the zoning administrator. Ms. Healey announced a meeting October 29, 7-8:30 pm at the NE Library, sponsored by Ms. Healey, Mr. Adelstein, and Mr. Courtney to address the Union Station expansion and Burnham Place projects with Akridge. Mr. Courtney provided an update on the 6th Street conversion project, between K Street and Florida Ave with striping to begin October 21 and continue through early November. He also announced an October 23 “Pumpkin Palooza” festival, 4-7 pm at Pierce and First Streets NE. Mr. Kelty announced a meeting October 15, 6 pm, attended by Council Member Charles Allen and MPD to address drug dealing on H Street NE. The meeting will be at the Big Board, 5th and H Streets NE, second floor. Mr. Adelstein made two brief announcements: He extended an invitation to the Mayor—through the Mayor’s Office representative in the room, Ms. Brittany Pinto—to attend the October 29 Akridge meeting; and he announced the DC Water project would resume at 8th and East Capitol Streets NE, with no southbound traffic on 8th and no street closure on East Capitol. (The site will be fenced and DC Water will not be required to install steel plates during the construction work.)

There were no other community announcements.

Consent Calendar
1. 19 4th Street NE, BZA 19618A—A two-year extension of a special exception is sought by Hillsdale College due to complications and delays in dealings with utilities, especially D.C. Water; and structural issues with the building, discussed with Historic Preservation staff as recently as September 2019. The recommendation is to approve the request for an extension.

2. Zoning regulation amendments, additions to nonconforming structures, ZC 19-14—Proposed text amendments to Subtitles C, D, E, and X of Title 11, DCMR to clarify what relief is required and available for additions to a nonconforming structure. The hearing date is November 7. The recommendation is to approve the amendments in a letter and provide testimony. Mr. Eckenwiler is designated to provide testimony on behalf of ANC 6C.

3. Council hearing October 16 on ANC related legislation—Bill B23-0245: The recommendation is to support this bill that would add Comprehensive Plan amendments to the list of agency actions for which an ANC must receive adequate notice. Bill B23-0308: The recommendation is that, although well-intended, this bill to add a unit to OANC to advise ANCs on zoning matters, assist in negotiations of PUDs (which are rare) would be difficult to staff with competent, qualified staff. More urgently needed is support to ANCs such as free office space and other statutory support including acquisition of audio/video equipment for use at ANC meetings.

4. Citizen M Hotel 1222 First Street NE, application 336636, new construction—This is a proposed 10-story mixed use building with 291 rooms that use European-style, modular units constructed in shipping containers. The recommendation is to support the public space proposal, which includes landscaping, outdoor seating, and a loading dock, with two caveats: At least five u-shaped bicycle racks should be added to accommodate bicyclists at the site. (One bicycle rack is insufficient.) A designated pick-up/drop-off zone should be added measuring at least two parking spaces on the south end of First Street NE, not to block the crosswalk at First and Patterson Street NE.

5. Louisiana Avenue, protected bicycle land between Columbus Circle and Constitution Ave—The recommendation is to request an update from the Architect of the Capitol on the bicycle lane project stalled since 2015 as well as the purpose of the 50 new parking spaces for the Senate and how they will impact the bicycle lane. A letter should be sent to the Mayor, the AOC, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes
Norton, the Senate Sergeant-at-Arms, Council Member Charles Allen, the DDOT director, and the executive director of the Washington Area Bicyclist Association.

The consent calendar was approved unanimously. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.

**Transportation and Public Space Committee**

1. 629-631 Florida Ave NE, application 327395, new construction including stoops and utilities—The applicant did not respond to requests to appear before the committee. A number of problems were noted: (1) The applicant’s traffic control plan does not provide safe accommodations for pedestrians and bicyclists, despite approval from DDOT; (2) Construction work in the past few weeks has included pickup and dump trucks on the sidewalk and bike lane/floating bus stop, which puts pedestrians and bicyclists at risk; (3) The traffic control plan also fraudulently indicates that sidewalks along Florida Ave NE are 12 feet wide; and (4) DDOT did not properly consider this application in lieu of the new improvements along Florida Ave. The commissioners unanimously voted to recommend that this application for public space permits be revoked, and that DDOT staff improve its process of reviewing and approving traffic control plans. **Motion:** Mr. Courtney/Mr. Eckenwiler.

2. Verizon, 120 7th Street NE (non-voting item)—Updates were provided on the requested fences along the property line and tree boxes, 3 feet high and wrought iron, with plans to be submitted to Public Space. Verizon will work with the Historic Preservation Office and DDOT on the design and materials, and hopes to complete this work by the end of the year or early spring.

3. Brewpub, 601 New Jersey Ave NW (non-voting item)—This is a proposal for a sidewalk café, application pending. The café is 3,500 square feet, 156 seats, between the sidewalk and the building along both New Jersey and G Streets NW. The Brewpub representative was sympathetic to the needs of Central Union Mission nearby, where some men struggle with alcohol addiction, and stated he would reach out to the shelter and work with it. The representative also was encouraged to reach out to the ANC 6C Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee. The commissioners appreciate having the opportunity to comment on the proposal before applications are submitted for the sidewalk café.

4. Union Station, west loading dock security and new signage to improve safety (non-voting item)—Amtrak seeks to improve safety along First Street NE by adding two new street signs in both directions on First Street: both before and after the Amtrak loading docks. The signs will light up to warn pedestrians, bicyclists, and vehicles of vehicles exiting from the loading docks. One concern was expressed about safety of bicyclists when trucks back into the docks. Amtrak said it would have someone stationed outside initially to help coordinate traffic. Another concern is to request DDOT to implement measures to prevent vehicles from driving into the bicycle lane, particularly now that trucks must reverse into the loading docks. Other better methods and long-term solutions, such as flex posts and a metal center post, were recommended to flank both ends of the loading dock.

**Planning, Zoning, and Economic Development**

1. Zoning regulation amendments, short-term rentals (STRs), ZC 19-15, petition from the D.C. Council—This is a proposed text amendment to Subtitle B, Sections 100.2 and 200.2 of Title 11, DCMR to authorize STRs in residential zones, hearing October 17. Although the legislation became law in 2019, only the Zoning Commission (ZC) has legal authority to establish use-related restrictions. The commissioners believe STRs have an adverse effect on housing costs, as the opportunity to extract maximum value from a property drives up both sale prices and rental housing costs. The recommendation is for the ZC to adopt more stringent rules, including (1) Limit STRs to the host’s own dwelling unit (not to additional units on the property); (2) Restrict occupancy to the lesser of 6 persons or 2 persons per bedroom; and (3) Restrict owner-absent STRs (“vacation stays”) to 60 days (down from 90 days), with an
option to seek additional time per the Council legislation exceptions. Mr. Kelty is designated to represent ANC 6C at the hearing, with Ms. Healey as a backup. The commissioners voted unanimously to support the recommendation. **Motion:** Mr. Eckenwiler/Ms. Wirt.

2. New building code supplement, 2017, 12-A DCMR—This is a request to send the same letter ANC 6C sent a year ago, updated to reflect any changes since the first letter was sent. The new letter will highlight the need to allow ANCs adequate time to respond and reiterate points made by ANC 6C last year regarding changes in the building code. Because this is a reiteration of past action, no additional vote is needed.

**Environment, Parks, and Events Committee**

1. NoMa Parks Foundation update—Mr. Courtney provided a summary in the absence of committee chair Joe McCann. Mr. Courtney indicated the major change in NoMa parks activity was to look at Swampoodle Park in terms of landscape upkeep.

2. K, L, and M NE underpass encampments—Mr. Courtney stated the D.C. efforts to address these homeless encampments are not working. He has reached out to the Deputy Mayor for HHS, focusing on addressing current shelter conditions, safety, who in the DC Government will take ownership of the problems, and what is the organizing factor with other social service providers involved. He is pushing for a timeline to address the myriad issues. The goal is to bring in more voices to find solutions. Several attendees of today’s meeting told of their experiences and opinions, including observations of drug use by those in the encampments, harassment of passersby, the possibility of an MPD outreach person to work with the homeless, and ways to address sanitation and health issues.

**Alcoholic Beverage Licensing Committee**

No business this month.

**Grants Committee**

No business this month.

With no other business to address, the commissioners voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:20 pm. **Motion:** Ms. Wirt/Mr. Eckenwiler.