



03/14/2023

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Ste. #2032
Washington, DC 20003-2141
6B@anc.dc.gov

Councilmember Charles Allen
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW #406
Washington, DC 20004

Hand Delivered and via Email: Callen@dccouncil.gov

Re: Interim Library Services for Southeast DC

OFFICERS

Chairperson
Edward Ryder

Vice-Chair
Chander Jayaraman

Secretary
David Sobelsohn

Treasurer
Frank Avery

Parliamentarian
Kasie Durkit

At a regularly scheduled and properly noticed meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B (ANC 6B) on March 14, 2023, with a quorum present, the Commission voted unanimously (9 yes/0 no/0 abstentions) to send this letter requesting support for interim services for the Southeast Library.

We write about an urgent matter affecting your constituents.

Here on Capitol Hill, our neighborhood library, the Southeast branch, will close this summer for renovations. Renovations will take at least two years.

The Southeast branch is the closest library for our Ward Six neighborhood. It's almost a mile from the Northeast branch, and even farther for your constituents who live east, south, or west of the current branch. That Northeast branch is too far for your constituents who have limited mobility, especially senior citizens and parents with small children. Because the Northeast branch has no dedicated public parking, it's even a problem for your constituents who have cars.

When the Southwest and West End branches closed, those neighborhoods had interim library facilities, a trailer for Southwest and rooms in the Watergate for the West End. We on the east side of town deserve as much as those who live on the west side.

To secure interim library facilities, on January 10 our Advisory Neighborhood Commission established the Southeast Library Task Force.

By this letter we ask that you meet soon with a delegation from the taskforce. We also ask that you work to secure the resources needed for interim services during library renovation.

The taskforce has identified the following priorities for interim services:

1. A place to borrow and return library books.
2. Staff support.
3. Access to--
 - a. Computers, scanning, printing, and copying.
 - b. Job-readiness support.
4. A place for community events, especially book clubs and craft groups.

COMMISSIONERS

SMD 01 Frank Avery
SMD 02 Jerry Sroufe
SMD 03 David Sobelsohn
SMD 04 Frank D'Andrea
SMD 05 Kasie Durkit
SMD 06 Chander Jayaraman
SMD 07 Vince Mareino
SMD 08 Edward Ryder
SMD 09 Matt LaFortune

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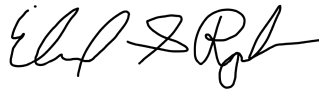
Our taskforce has researched possible locations for interim library services and also possible funding sources aside from the DC Council.

We are willing to work with DCPL to find interim facilities. But DCPL has resisted working with us, and won't assure us it's even interested in securing interim neighborhood facilities for staff, borrowing or returning books, or computer, printer, scanner, and copier access.

Please let us know what you will do to secure interim library services for our Ward Six neighborhood.

For any questions, please contact Commissioner David Sobelsohn, Chair of the 6B Southeast Library Task Force at 6B03@anc.dc.gov

Sincerely,



Edward Ryder
Chair, ANC 6B

Cc via-email:

Southeast Library Task Force Chair: David Sobelsohn