



**APPROVED Minutes of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B**

**June 11, 2024**

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**

**June 11, 2024**

**Held In Person at 507 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE, and Over Zoom**

**Commissioner Edward Stillwell Ryder, Chair**

**Participating: Commissioners D'Andrea, Durkit, Jayaraman, LaFortune, Mareino, Ryder, Sobelsohn, and Sroufe**

**Absent: Commissioner Avery**

**Commissioner Ryder called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.**

1. Meeting Agenda.

At Commissioner Ryder's suggestion, discussion of HPA 24-328, a project at 629 South Carolina Ave., SE--scheduled as part of the Planning and Zoning Committee report--was postponed to the July ANC meeting. At Commissioner Sobelsohn's suggestion, the agenda was modified to make the Planning and Zoning Committee report the first item under Reports of Committees and Task Forces. Commissioner Mareino moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to approve the agenda as modified. The motion passed 8-0.

2. Consent Agenda. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Mareino seconded to approve the consent agenda as proposed. The motion passed 8-0. Items on the Consent Agenda included:

a. Minutes of May 14 meeting as presented. Those minutes are linked to these.

b. Administrative matters.

1) September ANC meeting. To avoid conflicting with the September 10 presidential debate, the full ANC's September meeting was rescheduled from September 10 to September 9.

2) Committee appointment. Commissioner D'Andrea has appointed Michael McMullan as the ANC 6B04 Alternate Resident Member on the ANC 6B Transportation Committee.

c. Committee recommendations.

1) Transportation Committee: the committee recommended that the ANC--

a) Reschedule committee meeting. Reschedule the July 3 committee meeting to Wednesday, June 26.

b) Send letters. Authorize sending ANC 6B letters, to be drafted by Commissioner LaFortune, to the following:

1-- District Department of Transportation (DDOT).

a-- 11<sup>th</sup> St. projects. Share community comments on DDOT's two 11<sup>th</sup> Street projects.

b-- 8<sup>th</sup> St. Bus Priority Project. Urge DDOT to post, on its website, its latest 8<sup>th</sup> St. Bus Priority Project plan; conduct more project outreach to Barracks Row businesses; erect more signs promoting parking in the area under the highway; and provide more research data substantiating the project.

2-- Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA), sharing community comments on WMATA's Better Bus Network, and including urging continuing the 96 bus's current route and increasing frequency of the planned D14 route.

Each of these letters is linked to these minutes.

2) Public Safety Committee. The committee recommended an ANC 6B letter to Lindsay Appiah, DC's Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice, requesting an update on implementing the 2022 Gun Violence Reduction Strategic Plan, and inviting Deputy Mayor Appiah to make a presentation to the committee in 2024. That letter is linked to these minutes.

3. Presentation. Kilil Roussaw, founder and executive director of the KRoussaw Foundation, made a presentation about his foundation. The foundation runs a summer camp and after-school "Flagship Programs," including programs on math and English literacy and one called "Beyond the Arts." The foundation also runs a Career Readiness and Entrepreneurship program. The schools hosting free foundation programs fund them. Other foundation programs require that participants pay a fee.

4. Announcements.

a. Upcoming ANC meetings. Commissioner Ryder announced the following upcoming ANC 6B meetings.

1) June 24 at 6:30 p.m.: Public Safety Committee, at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, and over Zoom.

2) June 25 meetings of the Executive Committee, both over Zoom.

a) Special Call meeting at 6:30 p.m., to address matters postponed from this June 11 meeting

b) Regular June meeting at 7 p.m., to plan July meeting agendas.

3) June 26 at 7 p.m.: Transportation Committee, over Zoom.

4) July 1 at 7 p.m.: Planning and Zoning Committee, over Zoom.

5) July 2 at 7 p.m.: Alcohol and Cannabis Committee, over Zoom.

6) July 8 at 6:30 p.m.: Southeast Library Task Force, at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, and over Zoom.

7) July 9 at 7 p.m.: full ANC 6B, at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, and over Zoom.

b. Anacostia Watershed Society. Commissioner Sobelsohn announced that the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS) will provide ANC 6B with a boat ride on the Anacostia River on Saturday, September 14, starting at 2 p.m.; and that AWS's president and chief executive officer will both pilot the boat and make a presentation at the ANC's September 9 meeting. Anyone interested in joining the ANC on the AWS boat ride should email Commissioner Sobelsohn at [anc6b03@gmail.com](mailto:anc6b03@gmail.com).

c. Reelection plans. Commissioners D'Andrea and Durkit announced their plans not to run for reelection in 2024.

d. MOCRS. Marcus Manning, from the Ward Six Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, announced:

1) Summer activities. The DC website, [summer.dc.gov](http://summer.dc.gov), lists summer 2024 services and activities in DC. They include 100 sites with free meals from June 26 through August 25.

2) Outdoor pools. DC's public outdoor pools will open June 24 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Mondays-Saturdays.

3) Late-night hikes. Late-night hikes sponsored by the Metropolitan Police Department and the Department of Parks and Recreation will start June 24, with a different location each Friday. Details at [latenighthike.spash.com](http://latenighthike.spash.com).

4) Summer jobs. The 2024 summer jobs program will run from June 24 to August 2.

e. Eastern Market anniversary. Commissioner Jayaraman announced that, with multiple public events, Eastern Market will celebrate its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary the weekend of June 21-23.

f. Barracks Row Main Street and July 4<sup>th</sup> events. Commissioner Jayaraman also announced that Barracks Row Main Street (BRMS) will sponsor free jazz performances Fridays this summer on the Eastern Market Metro Plaza; that the community's July 4<sup>th</sup> parade on Barracks Row will go from 10-11 a.m.; and that, shortly after the parade, on D Street, SE, near the Eastern Market Metro Plaza, BRMS will attempt to break the world record for the number of people gathering together clad in different colors meant (from above) to resemble an ice-cream cone.

g. DC Council. Kimberly Kennedy, staff for Ward Six Councilmember Charles Allen, reported that the Council has restored funds for childcare workers, funds cut by the mayor's proposed budget, and that the Council's revised budget will avoid public-school layoffs.

h. Rumsey Aquatic Center Flag. Commissioner Sroufe announced that, thanks to Kimberly Kennedy and Councilmember Allen, the Rumsey Aquatic Center once again has a DC flag.

## 5. Reports of Committees and Task Forces.

### a. Planning and Zoning Committee.

1) Taco Bell, Barracks Row (BZA 21144). Commissioner D’Andrea, committee chair, reported the application of Taco Bell of America/Zusin Development for special exceptions from zoning regulations covering an MU-4/CHC zone. Taco Bell plans to open at 411 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE. To open at that location Taco Bell needs special exceptions because zoning regulations require that any new “fast food” outlet in an MU-4 zone get an exception to open and because, at nearby neighbors’ request, Taco Bell has agreed to install two roof HVAC units, which also will require an exception. The Board of Zoning Adjustment will hear the application on July 3. The Committee forwarded the application to the full ANC but made no recommendation, pending finalization of an agreement between Taco Bell and nearby neighbors. Commissioner Jayaraman moved/Commissioner Durkit seconded to table the matter until a “special call” meeting of the executive committee June 25. The motion passed 8-0.

2) 718 7<sup>th</sup> St., SE (HPA 24-331). Applicant Will Teass, on the owner’s behalf, reported that his plans have satisfied an Historic Preservation “flag test”; that on June 10 he sent notices by Federal Express to owners of the neighboring residences but has not yet received a response; and that he expects rat-abatement treatment to start Friday, June 14, but that finishing the treatment will take weeks. The Historic Preservation Review Board hearing is scheduled for June 27, but may be delayed to July 11. The Committee forwarded the application to the full ANC without recommendation. Committee chair Commissioner D’Andrea moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to table the matter until a “special call” meeting of the executive committee June 25. The motion passed 8-0.

The committee’s written report is linked to these minutes.

b. Alcoholic Beverage & Cannabis Committee: Renewal of a Class A Liquor License for DMV Liquors Wines and Beers, 643 Pennsylvania Ave., SE (ABRA-127963). The current protest deadline is July 8. Committee chair Commissioner Jayaraman is negotiating a settlement agreement. He further reports that the applicant has agreed to a protest-deadline extension and that the committee has recommended the ANC request that extension. Commissioner Jayaraman moved/Commissioner D’Andrea seconded to ask the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration for a protest-deadline extension to July 15. The motion passed 8-0.

The committee’s written report is linked to these minutes.

c. Transportation Committee: Letter Supporting Multimodal Street Design on Major Arterials. Committee chair Commissioner LaFortune reported his committee’s recommendation that the ANC send a letter to DDOT and to Councilmember Allen urging support for multimodal projects, noting the success of the Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, redesign, and reminding DDOT of its obligation, under DC law, to give “great weight” to the views of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions regarding matters within their jurisdiction, with specific reference to redesign of Connecticut Ave., NW. On behalf of ANC

3C, Commissioner Sauleh Siddiqui (ANC 3C05) reported that all four ANCs that include or border Connecticut Avenue, NW, voted 24-2-2 to support a proposed bus and bicycle-lane redesign of Connecticut Avenue, NW. Commissioner LaFortune moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to send the letter recommended by the committee. The motion passed 7-1. Commissioner Jayaraman voted “no.” The letter is linked to these minutes, as is a written Transportation Committee report.

d. Public Safety Committee. A written Public Safety Committee report is linked to these minutes.

e. Southeast Library Task Force. Taskforce chair Commissioner Sobelsohn reported on the sudden extended closure of the Arthur Capper Recreation Center interim library facility, which the DC Public Library calls the “TechExpress.” The HVAC system has failed and is in the process of a lengthy repair. Minutes of the June 3 taskforce meeting are linked to these minutes.

f. Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Task Force. Taskforce chair Commissioner Sroufe reported that Councilmember Allen has secured funds for a “throne” public toilet that DDOT will place on the Eastern Market Metrorail Plaza. Commissioner Sroufe also reported that DC Council Chair Phil Mendelson and Ward One councilmember Brianne Nadeau have introduced bills regarding amplified sound in public places.

g. Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee (EMCAC). ANC delegate Commissioner Sroufe reported that Eastern Market has raised its rates for using the north hall, and added new vendors to the outdoor market.

6. Monthly Financial Reports. A monthly treasurer’s report is linked to these minutes.

7. Personnel. Commissioner Ryder moved/Commissioner Mareino seconded to go into executive session to discuss personnel. The motion passed 8-0. At 9:55 p.m. the ANC went into executive session to discuss personnel. Commissioner Ryder reported that he will shortly send out a Request for Proposals. No motion emerged from the executive session.

8. Adjournment. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner D’Andrea seconded to adjourn. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Sobelsohn  
Secretary, ANC 6B