

APPROVED MINUTES

Approved at ANC 6B meeting November 12, 2024

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B

Regular Monthly Meeting

October 8, 2024

Held in Person at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE and over Zoom

Commissioner Edward Stillwell Ryder, Chair

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

Absent: Commissioner LaFortune

Commissioner Ryder called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

1. Meeting Agenda.

As requested by the following commissioners, and by unanimous consent, the proposed agenda was modified as follows: from Commissioner--

a. D'Andrea: Remove, from Report of the Planning and Zoning Committee, HPA 24-477: 510 8th Street, SE [6B04]

b. Sobelsohn: Changes to Consent Agenda.

1) Generally: Move, to Consent Agenda, all committee and taskforce reports.

2) Specific committee and taskforce matters.

a) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee: Move, to the committee report, all items conditioned on receipt of signed settlement agreements; viz., applications of JJHH Holdings, LLC trading as High Demand (ABCA-128725) and Twenty-Eight USA, LLC t/a Saint Georges (ABRA-129295).

b) Planning and Zoning Committee.

1-- Correct address for BZA 21189, listed as 633 E St., SE Rear, so instead it reads 816 G St., SE.

2-- Move ZC 23-27 to Planning and Zoning Committee report.

c) Transportation Committee: Move, to Consent Agenda, both items under committee report; viz., Request for Pedestrian Safety Improvements at First St and Independence Ave SE, and Letter Regarding Speeding on 600 block of G Street SE.

d) Southeast Library Task Force: Add authorization to the taskforce to finalize and approve, at its October 22, 2024 meeting, a flyer designed to promote use of the Arthur Capper interim Southeast library facility.

Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner D'Andrea seconded to approve the agenda as modified. The motion passed 8-0.

2. Consent Agenda. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner D'Andrea seconded to approve items on the Consent Agenda, as modified. The motion passed 8-0. Items on the Consent Agenda included:

- a. Minutes of September 9 meeting. Those minutes are linked to these.
- b. Committee and taskforce--
 - 1) Reports: linked to these minutes.
 - 2) Recommendations: from the committees on--
 - a) Planning and Zoning: Support Gregorie Holeyman's application for a permit to build a two-story rear addition to an existing, semi-detached, two-story, principal dwelling unit at 816 G St., SE (in Square 926, Lot 802, in the RF-1 zone; BZA 21189).
 - b) Transportation: letters to the DC Department of Transportation asking for--
 - 1-- Pedestrian-safety improvements at First St. and Independence Ave., SE.
 - 2-- Action to curb speeding on the 600 block of G St., SE.

Both letters are linked to these minutes.

3) Authorization: To authorize the Southeast Library Task Force to finalize and approve, at its October 22, 2024 meeting, a flyer designed to promote use of the Arthur Capper interim Southeast library facility.

c. Treasurer's Recommendation: Approval of 2024 Fiscal Year fourth quarter Quarterly Financial Report. The report is linked to these minutes.

3. Announcements: from--

a. Commissioners: Commissioner--

1) Avery announced--

a) The ANC 6B Public Safety Committee vice-chair Jody Kent Lavy has arranged and will moderate a DC community public-safety virtual forum on gun-violence reduction strategies from 6-8 p.m. Thursday, November 14 6-8 p.m. Along with the ANC 6B committee, the Greater Washington Community Foundation, the Network of Victim Recovery of DC, and several other Advisory Neighborhood Commissions will co-sponsor.

b) The DC Public Schools will make a presentation to ANC 6B in November about the Brent Elementary School modernization.

2) Sroufe announced that the DC Department of General Services has hired IStudios as the architects and WKM/Hess as the general contractor to modernize the Rumsey Aquatic Center at 635 North Carolina Ave., SE.

3) Sobelsohn announced that developer Redbrick LMD, the United States Navy, and the DC Office of Planning will present ANC 6B with a tour, starting at 10 a.m. Saturday, October 26, of the Navy Yard East area subject to a land swap involving land currently unzoned as "Federal" (Zoning Commission case 23-27). Commissioner Sobelsohn is taking RSVPs at anc6b03@gmail.com.

4) Durkit announced her plans to resign as 6B05 commissioner effective October 12.

5) Ryder announced upcoming ANC 6B meeting dates and times.

a) Monday, October 21, 6:30 p.m.: Virtual meeting of Public Safety Committee.

b) Tuesday, October 22, 6:30 p.m.: Hybrid meeting of Southeast Library Task Force, in person at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE.

c) Monday, October 28, 7 p.m.: Virtual meeting of Executive Committee.

d) Monday, November 4, 7 p.m.: Virtual meeting of Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee.

e) Wednesday, November 6, 7 p.m.: Virtual meeting of Transportation Committee.

f) Thursday, November 7, 7 p.m.: Virtual meeting of Planning and Zoning Committee.

g) Tuesday, November 12, 7 p.m.: Hybrid meeting of full ANC meeting, in person at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE.

b. Noah Glasgow, the new Ward Six representative of the Mayor's Office of Community Relations, announced--

1) An increase in DC's project 2025 revenue of \$233 million.

2) Council approval of the mayor's changes in the DC Emergency Rental Assistance Program, including eliminating the low-income self-attestation option.

3) A new collective-bargaining agreement with the DC teachers' union.

4) A 25% reduction over the past year in DC's COVID-19 deaths.

5) DC Health Link open enrollment November 11-December 9.

6) Leaf collection October 28-February 8 Mondays-Saturdays by the DC Department of Public Works.

4. Presentations.

a. Christopher Williams, president of the Anacostia Watershed Society (AWS), made a presentation, for the Return, Refund and Recycle Coalition, about the coalition's efforts to get the DC Council to pass a bottle-refund law. The law would incentivize recycling single-use beverage containers. Single-use plastic bottles represent the single most common piece of trash in and on the shores of the Anacostia River. By weight they make up 50-60% of all the trash AWS cleans up from the river. Three-quarters of DC's single-use beverage containers end up incinerated, as litter, or in a landfill. The law would create a system paid by beverage-container producers. It would set up redemption centers and provide retail outlets with reverse vending machines. A similar system, in some states, has increased recycling by 60-75%. Councilmember Brianne Nadeau (Ward One) plans to introduce legislation in 2025. She will seek ANC support. Williams sees the keys to success as (1) making it easy to return containers for a deposit refund, (2) making the deposit at least 10-15 cents per bottle, (3) soliciting community support before the bill's introduction, (4) educating the electorate about the bill, and (5) enlisting beverage company support, or at least reducing their opposition.

That last element he considers achievable because some large companies have made public commitments to use recycled material in their products.

b. Kalvanetta Peete, hearing examiner, made a presentation on behalf of the Office of Campaign Finance (OCF). She distinguished OCF from the Board of Elections (BOE): OCF regulates reporting and disclosure of campaign finances and political-action committees, whereas the Board of Elections administers elections. All successful ANC candidates--even those who raise no campaign funds and spend nothing on their campaigns--must file, with OCF, a summary finance statement within 60 days after BOE certifies that commissioner's election. For positions other than ANC, OCF's newest division, its Public Financing Division, administers the Fair Elections program by providing public funds to qualifying candidates.

5. Committee and Taskforce Reports.

a. Alcoholic Beverage & Cannabis Committee: Commissioner Jayaraman, committee chair, presented the committee's recommendations regarding the applications of--

1) JJHH Holdings, LLC, trading as High Demand, 511 11th St., SE for a New Medical Cannabis Retailer license (ABCA-128725). The ANC had protested this application. Commissioner D'Andrea moved/Commissioner Durkit seconded to drop the ANC protest and support the application, based on a settlement agreement linked to these minutes. The motion passed 7-0. Commissioner Sobelsohn abstained.

2) Twenty-Eight USA, LLC, trading as Saint Georges, 301 7th St., SE, for a new retailer class "B" beer and wine store license (ABCA-129295) and a new retailer Class "C" restaurant license (ABCA-129296).

a) Ongoing ("permanent") licenses: Commissioner Jayaraman moved/Commissioner D'Andrea seconded to defer consideration of the applications for ongoing ("permanent") licenses to the ANC's November 12 meeting. The motion passed 7-0. Commissioner Sobelsohn abstained.

b) Stipulated license. Without objection, the agreement covering stipulated licenses was amended to change a ban on live entertainment for more than five consecutive hours to a ban on more than five hours in any given calendar day. With that modification, Commissioner Jayaraman moved/Commissioner Sroufe seconded to support stipulated licenses for both a new retailer class "B" beer and wine store license (ABCA-129295) and a new retailer Class "C" restaurant license. The motion passed 8-0.

b. Planning and Zoning Committee: Text and Map Amendments to Create Navy Yard East Zone (ZC 23-27). Commissioner D'Andrea, committee chair, presented the committee's recommendation to support zoning-regulation amendments to create a Navy Yard East Zone, to facilitate a land swap between the Navy and DC to help create a mixed-use area on land currently zoned as "Federal"--therefore unzoned and unavailable for improvement--and to provide space for a new Navy museum. Commissioner D'Andrea moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to send a letter of general support for the project to the Zoning Commission. The motion passed 8-0.

c. Public Safety Committee. Commissioner Avery, committee chair, presented the committee's recommendations that--

1) The ANC authorize Commissioner Avery, in collaboration with representatives of Potomac Gardens, to draft a letter to the Deputy Mayor for Public Safety reiterating Potomac Gardens' request for enhanced safety patrols and increased staffing. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner D'Andrea seconded to authorize Commissioner Avery to draft the letter. The motion passed 8-0.

2) The ANC approve a letter to the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia requesting DC citizen representation in development of a data-management platform. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner D'Andrea seconded to approve the letter. The motion passed 8-0. The text of the letter is linked to these minutes.

6. Administrative Matters.

a. Paid ANC staff. Commissioner Ryder reported that, this coming week, the Hill Rag will post a request for proposals on its on-line edition, and that he plans to advertise the position in both Hill is Home and the Capitol Hill Corner.

b. Bylaws amendments. Commissioner Mareino moved/Commissioner Sroufe seconded to amend the ANC 6B bylaws to provide that, at the end of article VII, subsection 3.C., by adding the following sentence: "Notwithstanding any other provision of these bylaws, the Resident Members and Alternate Resident Members who represent ANC 6B05 shall retain their positions on ANC 6B committees and taskforces until the ANC's February 2025 meeting." The motion passed 7-1, with Commissioner Avery voting "no."

c. Standing rules revision. Commissioner Mareino moved/Commissioner Jayaraman seconded to place this matter on the agenda for the ANC's November 12 meeting. The motion passed 8-0.

7. Adjournment. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Ryder seconded to adjourn. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:01 p.m.