

## **Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B**

Regular Monthly Meeting April 8, 2025 Held in Person at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE and over Zoom Commissioner Edward Ryder, Chair

## **APPROVED MINUTES Approved at ANC 6B meeting May 13, 2025**

Participating: Commissioners Gorman, Hughes, Krebs, Mareino, Pastore, Ryder, Sobelsohn, Sroufe, and Wolanin.

Commissioner Ryder called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

- 1. Adoption of Agenda. At the request of Commissioner Sobelsohn, the proposed agenda was amended to:
- a. Add, under ANC 6B Input on Other Items, referral to the ANC 6B Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee and Planning and Zoning Committee of consideration of ways to maintain commercial diversity on Barracks Row, including but not limited to the possibility of calling for a moratorium on new fast-food and cannabis outlets on Barracks Row.
- b. Move, from the Consent Agenda, to Report of the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee, Torai Grill & Sushi, Inc. (ABCA-108986), Chiko Capitol Hill (ABCA-106496), RRG Catering, LLC (ABCA-119954), Elaine's One, LLC (ABCA-098700), and Rose's 1, LLC (ABCA-090884).

Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Hughes seconded to approve the agenda as modified. The motion passed 9-0.

- 2. Consent Agenda. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Krebs seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as modified. The motion passed 9-0. The Consent Agenda included:
- a. Adoption of the proposed March 11 meeting minutes. Those minutes can be found at <a href="https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/03-2025-March2025-ANC-6B-Minutes.pdf">https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/03-2025-March2025-ANC-6B-Minutes.pdf</a>
- b. Written reports and minutes since March 11 of meetings of ANC 6B committees and taskforces and of the Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee (EMCAC). Those reports and minutes can be found at <a href="https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ANC6B-April-2025-Agenda-FINAL.pdf">https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ANC6B-April-2025-Agenda-FINAL.pdf</a>.

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- c. Committee recommendations: from committees on--
  - 1) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis.

- a) Support for alcoholic-beverage license renewal applications of--
  - 1-- BSF Franchise, LLC, trading as Bombay Street Food 2 (ABCA-113664).
  - 2-- Al-Hamd, Inc., trading as Aatish On The Hill (ABCA-025153).
  - 3-- Best Food International, Inc., trading as Young Chow Asian Restaurant (ABCA-088491).
- 4-- Hine Restaurants, LLC, trading as The Duck & The Peach/The Wells/La Collina (ABCA-113525).
  - 5-- Danny Boy, LLC, trading as Little Pearl (ABCA-107792).
  - 6-- Emilie's, LLC, trading as Paraiso (ABCA-111597).
  - 7-- Bullfeather's, LLC (ABCA-085100).
  - 8-- Chontong, LLC, trading as Sanpan Thai Cuisine (ABCA-080550).
  - 9-- Kenneth H Nash Post 8 American Legion (ABCA-000643).
  - 10-- Trattoria Alberto, Inc. (ABCA-008946).
- b) Letter opposing medical-cannabis application of TK 539, LLC, Tobacco King DC, trading as Aloha (ABCA-129362). For the text of that letter, go to <u>HERE</u>.
  - 2) Transportation: letters to the DC Department of Transportation (DDOT).
- a) Supporting Watkins Alley residents request for bollards or other pedestrian-safety measures in Watkins and Jordan Alleys.
  - b) Urging priority to safety measures on the 500-800 blocks of 17th St., SE.

To view these letters, go to <a href="https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ANC6B-April-2025-Agenda-FINAL.pdf">https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ANC6B-April-2025-Agenda-FINAL.pdf</a>.

3) Public Safety: Letter to members of the DC Council and DDOT urging installation in the Eastern Market Special Use Area (EMSUA) of stationary sidewalk bollards by summer 2025, followed by retractable street bollards on 7<sup>th</sup> St., SE, North Carolina Ave., SE, and connecting streets used to access EMSUA, no later than early 2026. The ANC letter will support a similar letter from the Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee (EMCAC), which can be found at <a href="https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ANC6B-April-2025-Agenda-FINAL.pdf">https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ANC6B-April-2025-Agenda-FINAL.pdf</a>.

## 3. Announcements: by--

- a. ANC 6B commissioners: Commissioner--
  - 1) Pastore announced that Mott's Market, 233 12th St., SE-
    - a) Hopes to reopen fulltime in May.
    - b) On Thursdays, already sells food for takeout.
- 2) Hughes announced that activities related to World Pride 2025 will take place in ANC 6B, including-
  - a) Events at the Congressional Cemetery, 1801 E St, SE.
- 1-- Lecture, *The Pink Triangle and the Fight for LGBTQ+ Rights in the U.S.*, Thursday, May 22, 6 p.m.
  - 2-- Pride LGBTQ+ Tours.
    - a-- Wednesday, May 28, 4 p.m.

- b-- Monday, June 2, 4 p.m.
- c-- Saturday, June 7, 11 a.m.
- 3-- Pride Run 5K, Sunday, June 1, 9 a.m.
- 4-- Gays and Graves: A Big Gay Festival, Sunday, June 22, 11 a.m.
- b) Lavender Con, June 14-15 at Little District Books, 737 8th St., SE.
- 3) Ryder announced upcoming meetings of the--
- a) Full ANC, Tuesday, May 13, 7 p.m., in person at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, and livestreamed over Zoom.
  - b) ANC 6B committees and taskforces.
    - 1-- Committees: of the-
      - a-- Executive Committee, Tuesday, April 29, 7 p.m., via Zoom only.
      - b-- Committee on--
        - (1) Public Safety, Monday, April 28, 6:30 p.m., via Zoom only.
- (2) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis, Tuesday, May 6, 7 p.m., in person at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, and livestreamed over Zoom.
  - (3) Transportation, Wednesday, May 7, 7 p.m., via Zoom only.
  - (4) Planning and Zoning, Thursday, May 8, 7 p.m., via Zoom only.
  - 2-- Taskforces on--
- a-- Public Parks and Recreation Spaces, Monday, April 14, 7 p.m. in person only at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE.
- b-- Southeast Library, May 12, 6:30 p.m., in person at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, and livestreamed over Zoom.

For meetings livestreamed over Zoom, anc6b.org will have the links.

- b. Non-ANC 6B commissioners.
- 1) Noah Glasgow, of the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, made the following announcements.
- a) The Ward Six Roll-Off Day, at which residents can dispose of bulk trash and electronic waste, will take place Saturday, April 12, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Northwest Library, 155 L St., NW. For more information go to cleancity.dc.gov. Glasgow did not know if DC planned to recycle the trash brought to the library April 12.
- b) Emancipation Day will be celebrated Sunday, April 13, from 2-9 p.m. at Freedom Plaza. On April 16, 1862, President Abraham Lincoln signed the District of Columbia Compensated Emancipation Act, which ended slavery in DC. The celebration will include a parade, a concert, and fireworks.
- c) The Mayor's Spring Clean-Up will take place Saturday, April 19, starting 10 a.m. at the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> & H Streets, NE.
- d) Budget cuts: Unless the US House of Representatives restores DC's access to DC's own tax dollars by then, on April 10 DC will have to cut up to \$1 billion from its Fiscal Year 2025 budget. Fiscal Year 2025 is more than half over.
- e) Military parade: Regarding President Trump's plans to celebrate his birthday June 14 with a military parade, Glasgow warned that running tanks on DC streets would damage and require at least \$21 million to repair those streets.

- 2) Captain Adam Crist, of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), reported that-
  - a) Overall in our ANC--
    - 1-- Crime is down over 2024, including-
      - a-- 44% reduction in violent crime, and--
      - b-- Reduction in carjackings, but--
- 2-- Burglaries are up (11%) as well as thefts from motor vehicles, especially from delivery drivers who leave their vehicles unattended.
- b) Substation at 5<sup>th</sup> and E Streets, SE: MPD will transfer two sergeants, but plans no other changes.
  - c) Police Service Area 106 will meet virtually at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 23.

Anyone with specific questions, including about crime alerts, should email adam.crist@dc.gov.

## 4. Presentations: by--

- a. DDOT's Paige Leddy and Christian Pineiro about DDOT's Open Streets Capitol Hill, the first Open Streets primarily in Ward Six. From 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, June 28, as part of Open Streets Capitol Hill, DDOT will close, to motor vehicles, North Carolina Ave., SE, from 6th St., SE, to Lincoln Park, and Massachusetts Ave., SE, from Lincoln Park to 17th St., SE. DDOT has posted details and a route map at https://openstreets.dc.gov/pages/spring-2025. Open Streets will highlight restaurants along or near the route and Ward Six businesses that focus on transportation and health. It will include entertainment, fitness classes, bicycle-maintenance stations and bike giveaways, information tents and activities tables. Organizations that email openstreets@dc.gov--including ANC 6B--can have tables information tables along the route.
  - b. Ward Six Councilmember Charles Allen spoke about several issues.
    - 1) DC Budget.
- a) 2025 budget. Halfway through Fiscal Year 2025--after DC had spent half its 2025 budget --Congress froze DC's FY 2025 spending at 2024 levels. This spending consists of money DC raised by taxing its own residents, and has already half spent for the current fiscal year. Until Congress opens the lockbox, the resulting \$1 billion shortfall may cause police-officer and firefighter hiring freezes, public-schoolteacher layoffs, and Metrorail and Metrobus service reductions. DC might even have to reduce the public-school week, postpone school maintenance, and cancel capital projects. Any attempt to avoid cutbacks may cause DC's Chief Financial Officer to stop approving DC's expenditures. The Senate has passed a fix, which the president claims to support. But members of the House of Representatives appear not to appreciate the urgency. Councilmember Allen recommends DC residents work with Free DC <a href="https://freedcproject.org/">https://freedcproject.org/</a> to lobby members of Congress.
- b) 2026 budget. Meanwhile, because of massive federal layoffs, DC's CFO predicts DC's tax revenues will drop by \$1 billion over the next three years. And, because of the uncertainty, Mayor Bowser has delayed submitting her Fiscal Year 2026 budget to the DC Council. Council budget hearings won't take place until May at the earliest.
  - 2) Other Council legislation.
    - a) Already enacted.

- 1-- The STEER Act. The Strengthening Traffic Enforcement, Education, and Responsibility Act, sponsored by Councilmember Allen, took effect in October 2024. Under the STEER Act, the DC Attorney General has already sued out-of-DC traffic scofflaws for ignoring repeated DC traffic citations. Allen called on the ANC to pressure the DC Department of Public Works to look for and tow cars licensed to these scofflaws.
- 2-- The PLAZA Act. The Public Life and Activity Zones Amendment Act of 2023, also sponsored by Councilmember Allen, directs DDOT to designate one corridor, at least ¼ mile long, to be closed to personal vehicle traffic for at least 24 daytime hours per week starting in October 2026, with DDOT to designate two more corridors by 2027. Allen indicated that DDOT is considering designating F St., NW, between 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> St., NW.
  - b) Pending bills introduced by Councilmember Allen.
- 1-- RESALE Amendment Act. Councilmember Allen has introduced the Restricting Egregious Scalping Against Live Entertainment Amendment Act of 2025. The bill would limit the price of a resold ticket to the total price of the initial ticket plus 10%. The bill would also require anyone who annually resells 50 or more tickets to register with DC's Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection.
- 2-- Fair Swipe Act. Banks and credit-card companies charge retailers a fee each time a customer swipes a credit card for a purchase. Councilmember Allen has introduced the Fair Swipe Act, which would prohibit banks and large credit-card companies from including sales tax and tips when collecting swipe fees. Allen estimates that the bill would save restaurants an average of \$7,500-10,000 per year, and claims that one restaurant pays \$75,000 on swipe fees each year just on taxes and tips.
  - 3) Other matters.
- a) 7<sup>th</sup> Street, SE, outside Eastern Market. Councilmember Allen reported that DDOT is studying how to make 7<sup>th</sup> St. outside Eastern Market safer, especially during events like the holiday market.
- b) Open Streets. Councilmember Allen also reported that the police and fire departments vetoed his proposal that DDOT designate Pennsylvania Avenue for the first all-Ward-Six Open Streets. He called for residential outreach for the Open Streets June 28.
- 5. ANC Input on Other Concerns: Commercial Diversity on Barracks Row.

Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Sroufe seconded to instruct the ANC 6B committees on Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis and on Planning and Zoning to propose, by the ANC's July 2025 meeting, measures to preserve commercial diversity on the part of 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE, known as "Barracks Row," including the possibility of a moratorium on licensing new medical-cannabis retailers and "fast food restaurants" as defined in Title 11, Chapter 1 of the DC Code. The motion passed 9-0.

- 6. Committee and Taskforce Reports.
  - a. Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee.
- 1) ANC 6B03 Alcoholic-Beverage License Renewals. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Mareino seconded to register ANC support for the alcoholic-beverage license-renewal

application of Rose's 1, LLC (ABCA-090884), and to take no position on the alcoholic-beverage license-renewal applications of Torai Grill & Sushi, Inc. (ABCA-108986), Chiko Capitol Hill (ABCA-106496), RRG Catering, LLC (ABCA-119954), and Elaine's One, LLC (ABCA-098700). The motion

failed, with Commissioners Wolanin, Sobelsohn, and Mareino voting in favor; Commissioner Pastore abstaining; and the other commissioners opposed. Commissioner Hughes moved/Commissioner Pastore seconded to register ANC support for the alcoholic-beverage license-renewal applications of all five applicants. The motion passed 8-1, with Commissioner Sobelsohn opposed.

- 2) ANC 6B03 Medical-Cannabis License Application. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Mareino seconded to designate Commissioners Sobelsohn and Krebs and ABC Committee chair Ellen Opper-Weiner to represent ANC 6B at the April 14 Roll Call hearing of the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration on the medical-cannabis license application of Tobacco King, trading as Aloha (ABRA-129362). The motion passed 9-0.
  - b. Southeast Library Taskforce.
- 1) Washington Gas. Commissioner Sobelsohn, taskforce chair, moved, and Commissioner Mareino seconded, to pass a resolution regarding relocation of Washington Gas pipes near the library renovation site. The pipes need replacement. But the new library won't use them. Washington Gas initially represented that their location wouldn't interfere with other pipes the new library will need. But that representation was false. Washington Gas now demands that DC pay to relocate the pipes. But the budget was prepared without including a line for this work. DC can't afford to do it without cutting back on renovation plans, and any further delay in pipe relocation will delay the renovation. As presented, the resolution called on Washington Gas itself to pay to relocate and replace its old gas pipes, and urged Mayor Bowser and DC councilmembers to work with the library system (DCPL), our ANC, and Washington Gas to arrange for Washington Gas to fund relocation and replacement of its own pipes, and to begin that relocation work by early May 2025. Commissioner Mareino moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to amend the motion to add the DC Public Service Commission as another agency with which Mayor Bowser and the DC Council should work to secure pipe relocation at no expense to DC or DCPL. The motion to amend passed 9-0. The underlying motion also passed 9-0. The final resolution is posted at https://anc6b.org/wpcontent/uploads/2025/04/ANC-6B-Resolution-to-Washington-Gas.pdf.
- 2) Upcoming budget hearing. Eventually, the DC Council's Committee on Human Services will review the DCPL Fiscal Year 2026 budget. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Wolanin seconded to appoint Commissioner Sobelsohn and any other member he designates from the Southeast Library Taskforce to represent ANC 6B at that hearing. The motion passed 9-0.
- c. Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Taskforce. Commissioner Sroufe, taskforce chair, moved, and Commissioner Mareino seconded, to send a letter to the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of General Services, and Councilmember Allen, requesting a restart for the Rumsey Aquatic Center rebuilding. The motion passed 9-0. The letter is posted <u>HERE</u>.
- d. Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee. Commissioners Sroufe and Pastore reported on work of the Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee (EMCAC). EMCAC is forming committees with EMCAC nonmembers. A form to volunteer for one of these committees

is posted at <a href="https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ANC6B-April-2025-Agenda-FINAL.pdf">https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/ANC6B-April-2025-Agenda-FINAL.pdf</a>. EMCAC also seeks volunteers for Market Days. To volunteer, email Commissioner Pastore at mailto:6b05@anc.dc.gov.

7. Financial Matters. Commissioner Krebs, ANC treasurer, reported that ANC 6B has over \$79,000 in its bank account. Commissioner Hughes moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to establish a

working group to recommend whether ANC 6B should resume awarding community grants, the report to be submitted at the ANC's July meeting. The motion passed 9-0.

- 8. Administrative Matters.
- a. Ward Six ANC event. Commissioner Hughes reported that we have a handful of RSVPs from other Ward Six ANCs for our April 23 get-together.
- b. Working Group on standing rules. At the ANC's March meeting, the ANC established a working group to propose changes in the ANC's standing rules. The original motion included a deadline of May 13. The working-group chair, Commissioner Wolanin, moved, and Commissioner Hughes seconded, to extend the deadline to the ANC's September meeting. The motion passed 8-1, with Commissioner Mareino opposed.
- 9. Adjournment. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Mareino seconded to adjourn. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

