



## MINUTES

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B

Regular Monthly Meeting

October 15, 2029

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

Commissioner Edward Stillwell Ryder, Chair

Approved at ANC 6B meeting November 12, 2025

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

Absent: Commissioner Krebs

Commissioner Ryder called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

### 1. Adoption of Agenda.

At the following commissioners' requests, and without objection, the proposed agenda had the following amendments: at the request of Commissioner--

a. Pastore: The report of the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis (ABC) Committee was amended to include the request of UpNSmoke, 427 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE, to amend its settlement agreement.

b. Sobelsohn.

1) The Consent Agenda was amended to move to--

a) The ABC Committee report, the applications of--

1-- Ginza BBQ Lounge and Karaoke Spot, 526 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE.

2-- Awakening Bar and Grill, 520 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE.

b) The report of the Public Safety Committee to a separate agenda item.

2) The report on the Standing Rules was removed from the agenda.

3) The ABC Committee's recommendation on preserving commercial diversity on Barracks Row--including the possibility of a moratorium on licensing new medical-cannabis retailers and "fast food restaurants"--was added to the agenda.

Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Pastore seconded to approve the agenda as modified. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Pastore seconded to amend the agenda to insert, under "Presentations" and just before "Announcements and Community Speak Out," a presentation by Marcus Hunt, director of the DC National Guard. The motion failed, 5-1, with Commissioners Mareino, Pastore, Ryder, Sroufe, and Wolanin voting "no," and Commissioners Gorman and Hughes abstaining. Commissioner Sobelsohn

moved/Commissioner Ryder seconded to make Director Hunt's presentation the first item under "Announcements and Community Speak Out." The motion passed, 6-1, with Commissioner Pastore voting "no" and Commissioner Mareino abstaining. The motion to approve the agenda, as amended, passed 8-0.

2. Consent Agenda. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Hughes seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as modified. The motion passed 8-0. The Consent Agenda included--

a. Adoption of the September 9 minutes. Those minutes can be found at <http://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/September-2025-ANC6B-Full-Meeting-Minutes.pdf>.

b. Written reports and minutes since September 9 of meetings of ANC 6B committees and taskforces. The report of the Committee on--

1) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis is at [PLEASE INSERT URL WHEN THE REPORT WE APPROVED IN OCTOBER IS POSTED ON THE ANC WEBSITE]

2) Planning and Zoning is at <https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/10-2025-PZ-Report.pdf>.

3) Public Safety is at <https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/10-2025-Public-Safety-Report.pdf>.

4) Transportation is at <https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/10-2025-Transportation-Report.pdf>.

Written reports of ANC 6B taskforces are in the October packet at <http://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/ANC6b-October-Full-Meeting-Packet.pdf>.

c. Committee recommendations: from Committee on--

1) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis: to approve renewal license applications of--

a) Barrel, 613 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, including entertainment & sidewalk-café endorsements (ABRA-072633).

b) The Eastern, 360 7<sup>th</sup> St., SE, with sidewalk-café endorsement (ABRA-112356).

c) Trusty's Bar, 1420 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, with entertainment, sidewalk-café, and summer-garden endorsements (ABRA-071352).

d) Tune Inn Restaurant, 331 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, with sidewalk-café endorsement (ABRA-000559).

e) Omakase at Barracks Row, 522 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE (ABRA-125827).

2) Planning & Zoning: to--

a) Support renovation plans for St. Peter School, 422 3<sup>d</sup> St., SE (BZA 21389).

b) Sign onto a letter proposed by the group YIMBY ("Yes in My Backyard"), linked in <http://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/ANC6b-October-Full-Meeting-Packet.pdf>, and in particular to--

1-- Support a proposed Zoning Commission rulemaking to make it easier to build alley homes (ZC25-06).

2-- Encourage the DC Office of Zoning to loosen parking requirements and height-alignment regulations.

d. Taskforce Appointees: the appointments, as 6B06 Resident Members, by Commissioner Krebs of--

1) Mackenzie Thomas to the Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Taskforce.

2) Eliza Wiant to the Southeast Library Task Force.

### 3. Community and Commission Announcements and Speak Out.

a. Presentation by DC National Guard Director Marcus Hunt. Hunt told the ANC that, when in uniform as Lieutenant Colonel, he reports to DC National Guard General Leland D. Blanchard II, who has over 2,100 National Guard soldiers under his command. However, when speaking to DC Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, Hunt doesn't wear a uniform. Instead, he works for and is paid by DC, and reports to Lindsey Appiah, Deputy Mayor for Public Safety and Justice. In that capacity, he serves as DC's link to the National Guard. His DC email address is [marcus.hunt@dc.gov](mailto:marcus.hunt@dc.gov).

Under the president's August 11 directive, the National Guard has two taskforces: Task Force Safety and Task Force Beautification. Task Force Safety includes Guard from both DC and the States. Hunt characterized the Guard's patrolling of DC's streets and parks as part of Task Force Safety, but insisted the Guard is "not a law-enforcement agency." He directed further questions about Task Force Safety to Master Sergeant Arthur Wright, State Public Affairs Officer for the DC National Guard.

Hunt claimed Task Force Beautification only includes members of the DC National Guard. According to Hunt, all DC National Guard members in uniform wear a "capital patch" to identify them. The DC Guard has offered to join what Hunt called DC "community projects," but insists on a neighborhood invitation. So far this year the Guard has helped with school movie nights; some Advisory Neighborhood Commissions have requested help with community cleanup

Several ANC 6B residents, as well as Ward Two ANC Commissioner Howard Garrett, argued for rejecting the DC National Guard's offer to help with local projects. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved to ask the ANC 6B Public Safety Committee for advice regarding how ANC 6B should respond to the DC National Guard's offer. The motion failed for want of a second. Commissioner Sobelsohn then moved to ask the ANC's Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Taskforce for that advice. That motion, too, failed for want of a second.

#### b. Announcements: by--

##### 1) ANC 6B Commissioners: by Commissioner--

###### a) Ryder: other meetings.

1-- Commissioner Ryder reported on the September 30 Executive Committee meeting. In addition to proposing agendas for the October ANC meetings of the full ANC and its committees and taskforces, on September 30 the Executive Committee--

###### a-- Amended the ANC 6B bylaws: to amend--

(1) Article VII section 2 subsection A: "Committees, Special Committees, and Taskforces--Chairs" to read "The Chair of each committee or taskforce shall be open to any resident of the Commission area and shall be elected by the Commission. The Chair and vice-chair of each committee or taskforce must be a member of the committee or taskforce. If the Chair of a standing committee is a resident member or alternate, the vice-chair must be a Commissioner. Committee and taskforce chairs have power to appoint a committee or taskforce vice-chair at any time. However, if, by the second Commission meeting after the Commission elects a committee or taskforce Chair, the Chair has not appointed a vice-chair, the Commission itself shall have authority to appoint a committee or taskforce vice-chair from among commissioners or from among committee or taskforce Resident Members and Alternate Resident Members."

(2) Article IX section 1. "Standing Rules--Adoption" to read "To implement these bylaws, the Commission may adopt or amend standing rules at any Commission meeting. The agenda for each year's first full Commission meeting shall include the standing rules. If the Commission fails to approve standing rules at that meeting, the standing rules previously in effect will remain in effect until amended by the Commission."

b-- Authorized Commissioner Sobelsohn to submit written testimony, on the ANC's behalf, to an October 1 hearing of the DC Council Committee on Business and Economic Development, to support the passage of B26-58, the Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Amendment Act of 2025.

c-- Approved the ANC 6B Public Safety Committee's recommendations to endorse the position of the Council for Court Excellence opposing two pending bills in Congress, both--

(1) HR 5125, the District of Columbia Judicial Nominations Reform Act, and--

(2) HR 5179, the District of Columbia Attorney General Appointment Reform Act.

d-- Confirmed Commissioner Tyler Wolanin's appointment of Shannon Ryan as 6B01 Resident Member on the ANC 6B Transportation Committee.

2-- Upcoming ANC 6B meetings. Commissioner Ryder announced the following upcoming ANC 6B meetings, including those of the--

a-- Full ANC Wednesday, November 12, 7 p.m., in person at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, and livestreamed, with links at [anc6b.org](http://anc6b.org).

b-- Committees and taskforces.

(1) At 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE.

(a) In person only: Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Taskforce, 7 p.m. Monday, October 20.

(b) In person and livestreamed, with links at [anc6b.org](http://anc6b.org); both at 6:30 p.m. Monday, October 27, of the--

1/ Library Taskforce and the--

2/ Public Safety Committee.

(c) Virtual only, with links at [anc6b.org](http://anc6b.org); all at 7 p.m.

1/ Executive Committee, Tuesday, October 28.

2/ Committees on--

a/ Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis, Tuesday, November 4.

b/ Transportation, Wednesday, November 5.

c/ Planning and Zoning, Thursday, November 6.

b) Gorman: As chair of the Public Safety Committee, Commissioner Gorman that he has appointed Chuck Schmoyer, Resident Member of ANC 6B03, as committee vice-chair.

c) Sobelsohn: Commissioner Sobelsohn reported on--

1-- The September 21 ANC cruise up the Anacostia River from the Anacostia Watershed Society.

2-- His testimony on the ANC's behalf to the DC Council Committee on Business and Economic Development, supporting B26-58, the Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Amendment Act of 2025. Commissioner Sobelsohn's testimony can be found at <http://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/10/ANC6b-October-Full-Meeting-Packet.pdf>.

2) Non-ANC commissioners: other DC government representatives..

a) Noah Glasgow, of the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services, made the following announcements.

1-- Medicaid's new income maximums, \$1,800/month for a one-person household, will lose 25,000 DC residents Medicaid coverage on January 1, 2026. But the Healthy DC Plan

will fill the gap. The Department of Health Care Finance is contacting those scheduled to lose Medicaid coverage and automatically enroll them in Healthy DC.

2-- Federal DC law enforcement. Glasgow denied that any DC employee works with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) but admitted that DC does work with the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He also conceded that Marcus Hunt, DC National Guard director, works for DC. Glasgow promised to get back to the ANC about repercussions for Hunt's having circulated, from his DC email address but without the Deputy Mayor's knowledge, the Guard's offer to aid in DC "beautification."

b) Kimberly Kennedy, of the office of Ward Six Councilmember Charles Allen, made the following announcements.

1-- Shutdown of--

a-- H Street streetcar: the District Department of Transportation has determined that the H Street streetcar will have its last trip on Tuesday, March 31, 2026.

b-- Federal government.

(1) The DC Council has passed an emergency law authorizing the mayor to issue marriage licenses during the federal-government shutdown.

(2) CharlesAllenWard6.com has a list of DC resources available during the shutdown.

2-- STEER Act enforcement: under the Strengthening Traffic Enforcement, Education, and Responsibility Amendment Act of 2024, sponsored by Councilmember Allen, DC Attorney General Brian Schwalb has just recovered \$77,100 from one driver who'd accumulated over 244 infractions.

3-- "Bottle Bill": Councilmember Allen strongly supports Councilmember Brienne Nadeau's Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Amendment Act of 2025, which will soon have a hearing before Allen's Committee on Transportation and the Environment.

4-- DC National Guard: Kennedy will report to the ANC regarding Allen's position on the DC National Guard's offer to aid with DC "beautification."

c) Captain Adam Crist, of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), reported that, in ANC 6B, overall crime has dropped over the past year. Property crime has dropped 34%, only one burglary has been reported, and--in the past 30 days--only three violent crimes have been reported, all 3 leading to arrests. Meanwhile, motor-vehicle thefts have increased 9% over the past year. Crist refused to answer any questions about MPD's collaboration with ICE, claiming that he'd answered those questions at a Public Safety Committee meeting in September. He also professed ignorance about reported gun charges against an MPD police sergeant after the sergeant's stop by federal agents, or about the effect, on MPD, of Congress's impoundment of \$1.1 billion in DC taxpayer dollars.

4. ANC 6B Input on Other Concerns: ANC 6B Opposition to Historic Designation of the Shirley Chisholm Elementary-School Building. The DC Historic Preservation Office (HPO) has impeded full modernization, currently planned for 2026, of the 1949 Shirley Chisholm Elementary School building at 1001 G St., SE. Consequently, all DC Public School (DCPS) design options for that modernization fully preserve the current building. However, as 6B residents Greg Zielinski and Nick Burger (a Chisholm parent) pointed out, in 1949 DCPS ignored pleas by the building's architect not to skimp on construction. The current structure drew criticism for poor construction even in 1949, and it's now environmentally maladaptive. It should be demolished. Commissioner Hughes moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to send a letter, by October 21, to HPO, DCPS, the Historic Preservation Review Board, the Department of General Services, and Councilmember Allen, opposing designation of the

current Chisholm building as historic or as deserving historic preservation. The motion passed 8-0.

5. Reports of ANC 6B Committees and Taskforces.

a. Committees: Committee on--

1) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis.

a) Recommendations regarding--

1-- License--

a-- Renewals: applications of--

(1) Ginza BBQ Lounge and Karaoke Spot, 526 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE, for a license renewal with entertainment and summer-garden endorsements (ABRA-120833).

Commissioner Pastore moved/Commissioner Gorman second to support the application. The motion passed 7-1. Commissioner Sobelsohn abstained.

(2) Omakase at Barracks Row, 522 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE (ABRA-125827). Commissioner Pastore moved/Commissioner Hughes seconded to support the application. The motion passed 8-0.

b-- Initial application of Awakening Bar and Grill, 520 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE (ABRA-133651), for a class C tavern license with sidewalk café, carry-out/delivery, and entertainment endorsement (limited to the inside). A draft settlement agreement has not yet been signed. Commissioner Pastore moved/Commissioner Hughes seconded to support the application, contingent on Awakening's signing of a settlement agreement. The motion passed 7-0. Commissioner Sobelsohn abstained.

2-- Request of UpNSmoke Eastern Market, 427 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE. Commissioner Pastore moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to support UpNSmoke's request to modify its settlement agreement with the ANC to permit UpNSmoke to serve customers until 9 p.m. daily and to stay open until 10 p.m. The motion passed 8-0.

3-- Roundtable on Barracks Row. Commissioner Pastore moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to instruct the committee to organize a roundtable among community members and stakeholders on ways to maintain commercial diversity on Barracks Row, including the possibility of a moratorium on new medical-cannabis retailers and "fast food restaurants." The motion passed 8-0.

b) Updates: Commissioner Pastore, committee vice-chair, reported on--

1-- Expiration of protest deadline: Streets Market, 1442 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, has applied for a class B full-service grocery-store license with a tasting permit (ABRA-132855). The petition deadline has passed without ANC action. Commissioner Hughes reported her having contacted the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration (ABCA) about its notices, to the ANC, of pending medical-cannabis and liquor-license applications.

2-- Pending protests: against applications of--

a-- Ambar, 523 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE, for renewal of its liquor license (ABRA-090240).

Negotiations between Ambar counsel and ANC counsel Kerry Verdi are proceeding on a revised settlement agreement. Meanwhile, the parties have requested a continuance of the protest hearing. The hearing has not yet been rescheduled.

b-- Tobacco King, hoping to do business as Aloha at 539 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE, for a medical-cannabis license, with a delivery endorsement (ABRA-129362). Attorney Kerry Verdi represents the ANC in this matter. A roll-call hearing is scheduled for November 3, and a protest hearing for December 10. ABCA has closed another Tobacco King outlet, at 1718 14<sup>th</sup> St., NW, for violation of DC's cannabis and controlled-substances laws.

3-- Enforcing ANC settlement agreements. Commissioner Pastore reported that the committee, at its next meeting, will discuss ways to routinize ANC monitoring and enforcement of settlement agreements.

2) Public Safety. The proposed written report of the Public Safety Committee indicates that, on the DC National Guard, "The committee decided not to make a formal recommendation." Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Mareino seconded to correct that to read "The committee made no formal recommendation on the National Guard." The motion passed 8-0. Commissioner moved/Commissioner Mareino seconded to approve the committee report as amended. The motion passed 8-0.

b. Taskforces: Taskforce on--

1) The Southeast Library: Commissioner Sobelsohn reported that--

a) Reopening delayed. Washington Gas's refusal to move its pipes out of the way until the DC Public Library (DCPL) paid \$500,000 to remove and renovate those pipes--pipes the new Southeast library won't even use--library reopening has been delayed until July 1, 2026.

b) The taskforce will meet October 27 to hear an update from DCPL's Jaspreet Pahwa and Terri Bosnick of general contractor Whiting-Turner.

2) Public Parks and Recreation Spaces. Commissioner Sroufe moved/Commissioner Mareino seconded to send the DC Department of Parks and Recreation a letter requesting an update on plans to renovate the Rumsey Aquatic Center, 635 North Carolina Ave., SE. The motion passed 8-0.

6. Financial Reports.

a. 2026 budget: Commissioner Ryder moved/Commissioner Hughes seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 budget. The ANC's projected DC allotment is \$24,221, the same as 2025. The budget includes \$15,000 for purchase of services and \$5,000 for grants. The motion passed 8-0. The approved budget can be found [PLEASE INSERT URL WHEN THERE IS ONE].

b. Quarterly reports. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Wolanin seconded to approve the ANC 6B quarterly reports for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> quarters of Fiscal Year 2025, on condition those reports get posted on the ANC 6B website. The motion passed 8-0.

7. Adjournment. Commissioner Ryder moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to adjourn. The motion passed 8-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Sobelsohn  
ANC 6B Secretary