

ANC 6B Southeast Library Taskforce

June 15, 2026

Minutes

Attending

ANC 6B commissioner: David Sobelsohn, taskforce chair

ANC 6B staff: Jamie Quinn

Taskforce members: Claire August, Ana Unruh Cohen, Jayme Johnson, Brian Ready

Public participants: John Schwab, Michele Bogdanovich, Michael Barton

DCPL Reps: Jaspreet Pahwa, Samantha Dure

Whiting-Turner rep: Terri Bosnick

Press: Larry Janezich (Capitol Hill Corner)

1. Appointment of Secretary for Meeting: Taskforce chair Sobelsohn appointed resident member Ana Unruh Cohen to take minutes for this meeting.

2. Approval of--

a. June 15, 2026 Agenda: Brian Ready moved/Ana Unruh Cohen seconded to approve the agenda as proposed. The motion passed unanimously.

b. April 27, 2026 Minutes: Ana Unruh Cohen moved/Claire August seconded to approve the minutes, as proposed, of the April 27 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Renovation Update.

a. Jaspreet Pahwa reviewed the June 11, 2026 Construction update (available at

<https://www.dclibrary.org/news/southeast-library-modernization-project>), including--

1) Discussion of the various meeting and study rooms throughout the library and their capabilities.

2) The fences around the building will remain up until the library reopens for the public.

3) Announcement in mid-July of the official reopening date in September.

b. Questions and further discussion by the participants --

1) Opening event: Typically, there has been an opening event for renovated libraries. More information will be available mid-July. Noted the need to be cognizant of Jewish holidays in mid-September. The possibility of a pre-opening tour for the Task Force was raised but no plan was confirmed.

2) Parking and other transportation issues: Parking restrictions will lift and return to normal once the library is open and the fences are down. The final inspection with DDOT will happen soon. Terri Bosnick will point out the issue with the tree blocking the stop sign at the corner of 7th and South Carolina.

3) Public safety: The issue of loitering at the library was raised. DCPL staff encouraged the Task Force to discuss with the DC Library Director of Public Safety and the Director of Customer Experience and Task Force Member Johnson raised involving Charles Allen as well.

4) Ongoing maintenance and upkeep of the library: DCPL is responsible for maintaining everything in the library system. The Council approves annually Operating Impact Capital for DCPL to meet their maintenance needs. The new landscaping around the library has a two-year

"warranty." Concerns about keeping the triangle of grass on the South Carolina sidewalk healthy were raised.

4. Arthur Capper Interim Library.

a. Commissioner Sobelsohn visited the interim library earlier in the day and spoke with DCPL staffer, who is also the manager of the Northeast branch. Northeast Library staff also cover the interim library so they might be able to continue to staff it if they aren't going to the Southeast branch. The staff at Arthur Capper confirmed they would be open for another 3 weeks.

b. August reported she had a reply from Council staff to her questions about Arthur Capper. Council staff confirmed they won't keep Arthur Capper open after the Southeast Library reopens but it was unclear what would happen in the upcoming transition period. August will reply to Council staff to clarify.

c. Task Force Members agreed to seek another meeting with Charles Allen about keeping Arthur Capper open during the transition period. There was a suggestion about developing a Task Force statement on the usefulness of Arthur Capper in case there is an opportunity to support it in the future.

5. Next Meeting. August moved/Johnson seconded to hold the next taskforce meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, July 27. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Adjournment. Ready moved/August seconded to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.