

Minutes of ANC Regular Meeting
for
March 12, 2019

Commissioners Present: Kasie Clark (vice chair); Chander Jayaraman (chair); Corey Holman (treasurer); Steve Holtzman; Denise Krepp, Kirsten Oldenburg, Brian Ready (parliamentarian); Jennifer Samolyk; Jerry Sroufe (secretary), and Kelly Waud.

1. Introductions and Overview

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Jayaraman at 7:02 p.m. Jayaraman provided an overview of the proceedings and Commissioners were introduced.

2. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was modified to provide for inclusion of a resolution to be offered by Commissioner Krepp for consideration immediately following “administrative matters.” Motion to adopt the modified agenda was provided by Commissioner Oldenburg, second by Commissioner Ready was approved 9- -0.

3. Consent Agenda

The motion to approve the consent agenda was approved 9-0 (Sroufe/Ready). The following items were included in the consent agenda motion:

- a. Approval of February Minutes
- b. Recommendations of the Planning and Zoning Committee with regard to:
 - i. HPA 19-137: 124 11th St SE, concept/rear and rooftop additions; Owner: Paul and Rosie Nathanson, 202-962-7055, paul.nathanson@davispolk.com; Applicant: Eric Goetz, 202-427-6471, eric@bluestardesignbuild.com; Hearing Date: 03/28/2019 [6B05]
 - ii. BZA #19976 -124 11th Street SE: Special Exception from the lot occupancy requirements, to construct a one story rear addition and a two story accessory building to an existing attached principal dwelling unit; Owners: Paul and Rosie Nathanson; Applicant: Eric Goetz, 202-427-6471, eric@bluestardesignbuild.com; Hearing Date: 04/10/2019 [6B05]
 - iii. BZA #19948 – 1639 Potomac Ave SE: special exceptions to construct a two-story rear addition to an existing, attached principal dwelling unit; Owner: James Trainum; Applicant: Kim Jones, 202-543-2433, kljones@starpower.net; Hearing Date: 03/27/2019 [6B09]
 - iv. HPA 19-189: 522 6th St SE: concept/two-story rear addition; Applicant: Jennifer Fowler, 202-546-0896, jennifer@fowler-architects.com; Hearing Date: 03/28/2019 [6B03]

- v. BZA #19957 – 1225-1227 Pennsylvania Ave SE; special exception to construct a second-story addition on an existing one-story commercial use building; Owner: George and Lisa Simpson; Applicant: Leila M. J. Batties, iPublic Space Permit application #10712564; 360 7th Street SE; The Eastern Wine Bar; New Sidewalk Cafe Un-Enclosed; Applicant: Mike Schuster, mschus11@gmail.com [6B02]
- c. Recommendations of the Transportation Committee:
 - i. Letter to Councilmember Allen with comments on the Transportation Benefits Equity Act of 2019.
 - ii. Letter to the DDOT Public Space Committee with Comments on the Second Draft of the Small Cell Guidelines.

4. Community Speak-out and Announcements

- a. Brittny Pinto, Ward 6 MOCRS introduced Ms. Tyler Williams, her replacement. Brittny will continue to work in the Mayor’s Office but now will work across all wards.
- b. Trudy Lawson, Mayor’s Office of the Clean City, called attention to DC plans for neighborhood clean-up. Programs depicted included “adopt a block”, and a new RFP for commercial entities interested in collaborative clean-up programs. Commissioner Jayaraman discussed the “mimosa-clean-up programs ongoing in Hill East; Commissioner Ready called attention to an upcoming clean-up project on Barracks Row.
- c. Jamal (?) provided an update on the 11th street bridge project. Planning of design is progressing and the park is expected to open in 2023. The elevated park will bring DC residents on both sides of the river together in an art and play space. The 4th annual Riverfest is planned for April 18 – the official end of the Cherry Blossom Festival. The event will begin at 1:00 PM at the intersection of Anacostia Drive SE & Good Hope Drive SE and will include biking and canoeing.
- d. Chander Jarayaman, chair of the ABC Committee, noted that all restaurants serving alcohol would be reviewed in the spring; taverns will be reviewed in the fall.
- e. Commissioner Krepp noted that the Hill East Task Force had renewed its letter calling for stronger parking enforcement. The task force has also been engaged in seeking information about the use of body camera by police and getting clarity about policies for releasing the video information to the public. She reported on the letter to Mayor Bowser protesting the amount of out-of-area attendance at DC public schools.

5. Presentation: Shakespeare Library Expansion.

Four representatives of the Shakespeare Library presented slides and led discussion about aspects of the planned expansion: Melody Fetska, senior advisor; Peggy O’Brien, Director of

Education; Emily Eye, Historic Preservation Specialist; and, Steven Kiern, project architect. The expansion is the result of planning begun five years ago designed to position the library for the next 20 years. Among the chief concerns addressed in the project are handicapped accessibility, openness to the public, and security of the collections. The plan calls for removal of the steel ramp now providing wheelchair access with a lower entry, and also for opening the gardens to the public by removing the present fences. Commissioners raised questions about the loss of parking and bicycle lanes during construction, and also the fate of the Shakespeare 2020 performances during construction. Ten parking spaces will be lost on East Capitol Street and the theatrical programs will have to find different venues during the construction year(s). A motion to recommend approval of the public space permit made by Commissioner Samolyk, seconded by Commissioner Sroufe, passed 10-0.

6. Planning and Zoning Proposal Review

a. A proposed building design concept for 620 C Street, SE was presented by architect and owner Scott Peterson in advance of a scheduled hearing before HPRB. The design called for modification of the front façade, addition of a second story at the rear of the building, and addition of new third story over the entire building. 620 is contributing structure within the historic neighborhood. Neighbors attending the ANC meeting were opposed to the design: specifically its height and mass, and the fact that it would be visible from the street. Neighbors also took exception to the introduction of a mansard roof on their block of traditional row houses. Ultimately, the ANC approved a motion with a 6-4 vote that: recommended approval of the proposed modifications in the front facade, took no position regarding a second story addition, and opposed the addition of a third floor.

b. A motion to approve a Public Space request for 209 East Capitol was approved with a 9-0-1 vote (Samolyk/Sroufe). At issue was a cut in a retaining wall at the sidewalk in order to provide an accessible entrance for the elderly owner and his friends. The ANC motion referenced the unique configuration and physical limitations of the sight and the undo hardship that would be required in order to meet existing guidelines. No testimony was offered in opposition to proposing the exception.

7. Commission Reports.

a. Commissioner Holtzman, chair of the Livable Community Task Force, reported on the initial community meeting sponsored by the LCTF. About 70 persons attended a meeting to add their perspective to planning for the portion of the Metro Plaza Park currently designated as Parcel#1. While many individual concerns were recorded, there was strong support for emphasizing two issues as planning for the park proceeds: security and maintenance. Twenty-five persons signed up to continue advocacy on these and other issues related to the proposed

park. It was announced that there would be a follow-on meeting on Parcel#4 on March 20 and that there would be a meeting of the Eastern Market Metro Park Advisory Team on April 3.

b. Commissioner Ready, chair of the Barracks Row Working Group, announced that it would sponsor its first meeting among stake holders on Barracks Row on March 19.

c. The ANC dispensed with reading of two reports provided in the background materials: financial report (Commissioner Holman), and EMCAC (Commissioner Sroufe)

8. Letters and Resolutions on Behalf of the Commission

a. Commissioner Jayaraman moved to prepare a letter to be provided to the Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee (EMCAC) explaining the responsibility of the ANC6B for policies pertaining to the use of streets in the vicinity of the Eastern Market, independent of special statuses related to the market. At issue was the recent failure of an RFP process to secure a manager for the weekend activities of 300 block of 7th Street SE and the decision to rely on DGS for this service. The motion to send the letter, once circulated and approved by Commissioners, was approved 8-2.

b. Commissioner Krepp introduced a resolution addressing serious charges of ethical discrepancies reported in the mainstream media. The resolution -- Supporting Reprimand and Calling for Removal of Committee Status, and Investigation and Possible Sanction of Councilmember Jack Evans – received a second from Commissioner Casey, and was adopted 8-2. The resolution calls on the DC Council to study a number of legislative initiatives to enhance ethical provisions, and designates Commissioner Krepp to represent the ANC on matters regarding the resolution.

9. Adjournment.

Commissioner Oldenberg moved adjournment at 10:00 PM. The next scheduled meeting of the full ANC is April 9.