

ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 6B

Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Virtual Meeting via WebEX

1. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Holman convened the virtual meeting at 7:05 with a welcome to Commissioners and guests. He called for introductions of the nine Commissioners in attendance by Single Member District: Jennifer Samolyk (01); Jerry Sroufe, Secretary, (02); Brian Ready (03); Kirsten Oldenburg (04); Steve Holtzman (05); Corey Holman, Chair, (06); Edward Ryder, Treasurer (07); Peter Wright, Parliamentarian (08); and Alison Horn, Vice Chair (09).

2. Approval of the Meeting Agenda

Following modifications, the meeting agenda was approved unanimously (Oldenburg/Ready). The modifications consisted of moving several ABRA items from the Consent Calendar to the ABC Committee for further discussion: 120833 Ginza BBQ Lounge; 100249 Bullfrog Bagels; 111597 Emilies (now Paraiso); and Harvest Tide.

3. Approval of the Consent Agenda

The Minutes of the May ANC6B Commission Meeting were approved unanimously (Holtzman/Sroufe) along with many items forwarded by the three standing committees. *The approved items are itemized at the end of these minutes. Items with a strike through were removed from the Consent Agenda and discussed as Standing Committee topics.*

4. Presentation

The Executive Director of the DC Public Charter School Board who had been scheduled as a presenter was unable to attend this meeting.

5. Community and Commission Speak Out

Commissioner Ready announced the current program of activities at the Eastern Market Metro Plaza that are intended to run throughout the summer on Fridays: chess at 1:00 pm; musical entertainment beginning at 5:00. On Saturday's games and fitness programs are provided beginning at 1:00. Additional information about exercise programs and children's story time is located on the Barracks Row Main Street website.

Commissioner Ryder called attention to a forthcoming theme block party in Potomac Gardens.

Naomi Mitchell, long-time head of constituent services in the office of CM Charles Allen (and of his predecessor, CM Tommy Wells) attended the meeting to announce her retirement. She introduced her successor, Kimberly Kennedy, who has also been working in constituent services for the Councilman and who is well known by 6B Commissioners. Several Commissioners chorused their appreciation for Naomi's work over the years and expressed their best wishes in her retirement.

Naomi also provided some announcements for CM Allen's office including: (1) Job Fair Days at the Arena Stage; (2) Something in the Water music and outdoor entertainment from Friday to Sunday (6/17-6/19) near the waterfront.

Commissioner Jayaraman presented a concern about arbitrary DCRA approvals for construction, especially in alleys. He questioned the use of third-party inspectors who appeared to have made decisions without regard to established requirements. Chair Holman shared the concern and has reached out to DCRA for information about how decisions were being made independent of ANC advice regarding construction in alley lots without addresses. The ANC is waiting for a response to the concerns already raised with DCRA.

6. Alcohol Beverage Control Committee Report and Actions

A. Paradiso, a restaurant and bar, is seeking renewal of its CR license. Commissioner Oldenburg reported that residents in the mixed-use building have complained about noise from inside the restaurant as well as from the sidewalk café area. The Commission received comments from residents living above the restaurant and from the management during its meeting. Tahmina Chaffer, the owner, proffered the idea that inside noise experienced by residents might be addressed through the expertise of a sound technician who will be examining the site soon. Commissioner Oldenburg said that the garden café, a major source of the outside noise, was added following the approval of the Settlement Agreement, and noted that Settlement Agreements were subject to modification.

ANC voted to accept the recommendation of the ABC Committee to protest the license renewal, on the basis of peace, order, and quiet, and the loss of property values of the residents (7-1-1). During this period the ANC6B is committed to working with the restaurant and residents to resolve issues and to develop a modified SA, and to consider the application again at the July 12 meeting.

B. Moved to support renewal of the license application for Balkan/Ambar (ABRA 090240) following extensive discussion of Commissioner and resident concerns regarding trash storage and equipment storage. (Ready/Horn, unanimous.)

C. The ANC voted unanimously to support renewal of Café 8's liquor license and to support the public space application for the expanded sidewalk café, pending receipt of a signed revised Settlement Agreement (Oldenburg/Wright, 9-0-0). However, concern was expressed about the absence of acknowledgement and accommodation to date of a bus stop in the vicinity of the proposed sidewalk café. The motion included the plan to call the bus stop issues to the attention of ABRA.

It was understood that as the restaurant expands into adjacent space the SA will have to be revisited.

D. The renewal of the application of Harvest Tide was approved unanimously (Sroufe/Ready) following expressions of concern about the recent appearance of trash cans in the rear of the property. The Settlement Agreement calls for an interior trash room. Commissioner Sroufe was tasked with presenting the ANC's concern to the restaurant management.

E. Unanimously approved renewal of Class C license for Bull Frog bagels (Sroufe/Horn).

F. Pending a signed Settlement Agreement, the ANC6B unanimously approved the application for the Ginza Restaurant for a karaoke restaurant (Ready/Samolyk) Unanimous(Ready/Samolyk). The lengthy discussion introduced assurances about sound conditioning on the interior of the building. (ABRA 120833).

7. Planning and Zoning Committee. Report and Actions

Chair Holman dispensed with the reading of the report. Two BZA items were approved on the Consent Agenda.

8. Transportation Committee Report and Actions

Commissioner Oldenburg dispensed with reading the report. A letter drafted by Commissioner Ryder on improvements in the Southeast Boulevard design to attend more fully to the needs of pedestrians was passed on the consent agenda. The letter was subsequently modified to include concerns and recommendations specific to the connection of 11th street/I 695.

9. Task Force, Working Groups, and Representation Committee Reports and Actions

There were no new actions to report from the Task Forces (Hill East, Livable Community); working groups (Capitol Hill Business Interest Working Group); or the Eastern Market Community Advisory Commission.

10. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ryder reported that all outstanding ANC invoices have now been processed. ANC6B has a balance of approximately \$32 K.

11. Administrative Matters

Commissioner Holman requested assistance in identifying new chairs for the committee and task force currently under the leadership of Commissioner Ready. Ready is resigning as ANC Commissioner to take on new responsibility as Executive Director of Eastern Market Main Street.

12. ANC Input on Other Concerns

Commissioner Ryder introduced a letter designed to garner increased support for violence interrupters and similar programs to address the special needs of the Potomac Gardens and Hopkins Communities. The letter calls attention to the great need for these programs, especially in the summer months, and requests that they remain a priority for the DC government agencies and policy makers. A motion to send the letter received unanimous support from the Commissioners (Ryder/Horn). The letter will be sent to the Mayor, the Director of Gun Violence Prevention, and the Director of the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement.

Commissioners were reminded that there would be no meetings in August and that those planning to run for another term would be able to get necessary petitions and materials in mid-July.

13. Adjournment

Commissioner Oldenburg adjourned the meeting, with unanimous consent, at 10:45. The regularly scheduled meeting of ANC6B will be on Tuesday, July 12.

List of Standing Committee Items Approved on the Consent Agenda

(Strike-thru items eliminated)

Alcoholic Beverage Control Committee

- ~~i. ABRA-120833: Ginza BBQ Lounge, LLC, t/a Ginza BBQ Lounge and Karaoke Spot, 526 8th Street SE; Request for NEW Retailer's Class C Tavern; Applicant: Risaa Hirao, (202)921-7900, rhirao@pascalweiss.com; Petition Deadline: 06/20/22 [6B04] – Support~~
- ii. ABRA-119693: ZOCA Capitol Hill DC, LLC, t/a ZOCA & Crush by ZOCA, 319 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Class CR Renewal; Applicant: tba; Petition Deadline: 06/20/22 [6B01] – Support
- iii. ABRA-120239: ANB 327 LLC, t/a Newland, 327 7th Street SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Protest: 06/20/22 [6B02] – Support
- ~~iv. ABRA-118108: Harvest Tide Capitol Hill DC, LLC, t/a Harvest Tide Steak House; Class CR Renewal; Petition Deadline: 06/20/22 [6B02] – Support~~
- v. ABRA-118360: La Casina 1978, LLC, t/a La Casina DC, 327 7th Street SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Deadline: 06/27/22 [6B02] – Support
- vi. ABRA-106496: Chiko Capitol Hill, LLC, t/a Chiko, 423 8th Street SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Deadline: 06/20/22 [6B03] – Support
- vii. ABRA-100267: Las Placitas Inc., t/a Las Placitas, 1100 8th Street SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Deadline: 06/20/22 [6B04] – Support
- viii. ABRA-060779: Eurochef, LLC, t/a Belga Cafe, 514 8th Street SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Deadline: 07/11/22 [6B04] – Support
- ix. ABRA-001792: Trustees of Amherst College, t/a Folger Shakespeare Library, 201 East Capitol ST SE; Class C-Multipurpose Renewal; Petition Deadline: 07/11/22 [6B01] – Support
- x. ABRA-104232: Joselito, LLC, t/a Joselito – Casa de Comidas, 660 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Deadline: 06/27/22 [6B02] – Support
- ~~xi. ABRA-100249: Colorado & Cohen LLC, t/a Bullfrog Bagels, Pesce, 317 7th Street SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Deadline: 06/27/22 [6B02] – Support~~
- xii. ABRA-113050: Eat BRGZ 1, LLC, t/a Eat BRGZ, 250 7th Street SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Deadline: 06/27/22 [6B02] – Support
- xiii. ABRA-113525: Hine Restaurants LLC, t/a The Duck and The Peach/The Wells/La Collina, 300 7th Street SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Deadline: 07/05/22 [6B02] – Support
- xiv. ABRA-060383: Harlou Inc., t/a Tunnicliffs Tavern, 222 7th Street SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Deadline: 07/11/22 [6B02] – Support
- xv. ABRA-121407: MAD Boys, LLC, t/a Fight Club Restaurant, 633 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Request for Stipulated and New License; Applicant: proprietor@beuchertssaloon.com; Petition Deadline: 07/18/22 [6B02] – Support
- ~~xvi. ABRA-111597: Emilie's LLC, t/a Paraiso, 1101 Pennsylvania Avenue SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Deadline: 07/11/22 [6B04] – Protest Renewal of License~~
- xvii. ABRA-117582: Mendelsohn 301, LLC, t/a Santa Rose Taqueria, 301 Pennsylvania Ave SE; Class CR Renewal; Petition Date: 06/20/22 [6B01] – Protest of License Renewal

Planning and Zoning Committee

- xviii. BZA 20738: 1609 G Street SE; Special Exception to construct a third story and three-story rear addition, with cellar, to an existing, attached, two-story with cellar, principal dwelling unit in the RF-1 zone (Square 1092, Lot 18); Owner(s) Trin Mitra & Paromita Shah; Applicant: Jennifer Fowler, jennifer@fowler-architects.com; Hearing Date: 06/22/22 [6B09]
Plans: https://app.dcoz.dc.gov/CaseReport/CaseReportPage.aspx?case_id=20738

- xix. BZA 20748: 274 Kentucky Avenue SE; Variance to construct a second story rear addition, to an existing, attached, three-story principal dwelling unit in the RF-1 zone (Square 1039, Lot 81); Owner(s): Steven Chuslo, slchuslo@gmail.com; Applicant: Paula C. Morris, [morriscarc@aol.com](mailto:morrisarc@aol.com); Hearing Date: 07/06/22 [6Bo8]
Plans:
https://app.dcoz.dc.gov/CaseReport/CaseReportPage.aspx?case_id=20748

C.Transportation Committee

1. Letter to DDOT in support of 17th St/19th St project