



## **ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 6B**

### **MINUTES of the ANC6B Monthly Meeting October 13th, 2020, 7:00 p.m.**

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Chairman Ready announced the presence of a quorum and convened the virtual meeting at 7:05. Commissioners were introduced in Single Member District order: Jennifer Samolyk (01); Jerry Sroufe (02, secretary); Brian Ready (03, chair); Kirsten Oldenburg (04); Steve Holtzman (05); Corey Holman 06, treasurer); Kelly Waud (07, parliamentarian); Chander Jayaraman (08, vice-chair); and Denise Krepp, 10). SMD 6b09 is currently vacant.

Twenty residents, guests, and invited presenters were online with the Commissioners and participated in the discussions.

#### **2. Approval of Meeting Agenda**

The agenda was approved as amended (Holtzman/Waud; unanimous). There was one addition to the agenda: discussion and possible action related to a letter intended for District political leadership questioning the wisdom of providing extended hours for alcohol sales during the Inauguration Period. This addition was added to the ABC Committee report.

#### **3. Approval of Consent Agenda**

Two modifications were made to the consent agenda: (1) The application for zoning relief at 400 Seward Square was removed from the consent agenda and placed under P&Z report as new item #3. (2) Consideration of a letter prepared by the TC to be sent to DDOT seeking a status report about traffic safety assessments previously requested had been unintentionally omitted from the consent agenda. The motion to approve the consent agenda was passed (Holman/Oldenberg, unanimous). The consent agenda included approval of minutes of the September ANC meeting.

(Consent Calendar items from the Planning and Zoning Committee and the Transportation Committee are noted at the end of the minutes.)

#### **4. Presentations and Community and Commissioner Speak-Out**

Chairman Ready noted that the requested time for a presentation originally sought by PEPCO had been deferred to the November ANC meeting at the request of the agency.

The programs at Phelps Agriculture, Construction and Engineering High School were described by Ola Teyibo. Commissioners asked questions about the number of students, the curriculum, and college placement opportunities.

Tyler Williams, Ward 6 MOCRS, urged Commissioners to encourage residents to complete the online census. Williams described the extended public emergency grants for small businesses (i.e., under 50 employees; \$3 million; 10K each). Williams called attention to new leaf collection procedures: 20 bags will be distributed to each household to be used for leaf collection between November 9 and January 4. Persons with limited mobility can check the website for help, as with snow removal. Commissioners asked about city clean-up under the 6<sup>th</sup> street bridge and in Seward Square.

In response to commissioner questions, Williams indicated that she was working to find permanent housing for Mr. David who has lived on a bench in Seward Square for several years. She indicated also that a clean-up of the area under the 6<sup>th</sup> Street bridge was scheduled for the coming Tuesday.

Commissioner Krepp reported that she had received a positive response indicating that Congressman Eleanor Holmes Norton would seek further information and oversight regarding storage of munitions at the DC Armory at the time of the Black Lives Matter protests.

Commissioner Waud, who is not running for re-election, called attention to the several write-in candidates running in her SMD. Synopsis of the candidates appears in The Hill is Home.

## **5. ABC Committee Report and Actions**

Intended to be a routine request, Handle 19 sought to defer its hearing before ABRA by one month to provide additional time to work with the community to build understanding and support for its alcohol application at a proposed sports betting establishment. However, this controversial program provoked considerable discussion among residents and Commissioners. Ultimately, a motion to defer the hearing until November 12 was passed (Sroufe/Jayaraman, unanimous). The new deadline for the ANC and/or residents to protest is November 12.

Commissioner Sroufe introduced a draft letter questioning the wisdom of providing extended days and hours of alcohol sales during the Inauguration period because of concerns for welfare of residents in the face of anticipated protests and continued coronavirus issues and restrictions. Following discussion, the committee motion was passed (Sroufe/Holtzman, 6-2 with one abstention.)

The committee dispensed with reading of the ABC report prepared by Commissioner Ready that was included in the agenda materials.

## **6. Planning and Zoning Committee Report and Actions**

Joel Kely (Century Associates) and Erica Dukes (DMPED) presented modified plans for development of the Eastern Branch Boys and Girls Club facility. The P and Z Committee had presented the concept proposal to the ANC without recommendation. During the discussion it was made clear that the new proposal would be 100 percent affordable housing, would require

some additional construction to accommodate the newly modified plan, and would require a 99-year ground lease.

Some neighbors preferred a mix of market rate and affordable housing, others questioned the viability of proposed parking. Most controversial however, was the perceived propensity of DMPED to delay action and then spring its plan on the community. Strong statements about the need for DMPED to “get its act together” were offered by several Commissioners. Despite the ANC’s dissatisfaction with the poor communication about this and other DMPED projects, positive aspects of the proposal in hand were identified. Most important of the positive attributes in the view of the ANC is the opportunity to adapt a currently vacant building for use as affordable housing. Ultimately a modified motion was presented by Commissioner Holman that would: (1) support the plan but, (2) in order to engage the community more fully, request that a vote not be taken by DMPED until November 17 or December 1 or later. The motion passed (Holman/Waud, 8-0-1).

Additional units are proposed to be conducted within the apartment building at 400 Seward Square. The P and Z Committee had recommended support for the proposal and requested that it be on the Consent Calendar. However, the applicants sought a waiver of the time required for formal notification of the tenants because DGS had neglected to send out notices. Commissioner Sroufe sought to delay the vote until the November meeting in order to assure that the tenants had an opportunity to express any concerns they might have about the loss of current basement storage. It was learned that the record would be open until the day of the hearing for comments from the tenants, who have now been notified by DGS. The committee recommendation to support the application was re-introduced and passed 8-1-0.

Commissioner Holman reminded all that the next meeting of the P and Z Committee would be held on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, as Tuesday was Election Day. The committee dispensed with reading of the report that was provided in the agenda materials.

## **7. Transportation Committee Report and Actions**

Will Handsfield, DDOT, reviewed plans proposed for installation of bike lanes on Kentucky Avenue. He noted that, if approved by the ANC, work might begin in mid-November. Concern was expressed by several Commissioners about the intersection at 13<sup>th</sup>, Independence, and Kentucky. The committee recommendation to approve the plan passed (7-0 with two abstentions).

The committee recommended support for DDOT proposed rulemaking regarding revisions to annual visitor parking permits and temporary parking pass programs. By mutual agreement, Commissioners and Handsfield deferred a much-needed conversation about exchanging so-called temporary calming devices to permanent structures.

Commissioner Oldenburg sought direction in pursuing the lack of DDOT response to repeated requests for status updates about the several TSAs submitted by the ANC. Chair Ready volunteered to try to intervene and will report back to the ANC.

The committee dispensed with reading of the report that was provided in the agenda materials.

## **8. Hill East Task Force Report and Actions**

Commissioner Krepp provided an oral report of Hill East concerns. She called attention to the need for a community meeting on Parcel 13 as DMPED community outreach was lacking. Tyler Williams offered to help set of the meeting; ANC Chair Brian Ready offered to assist as well.

## **9. Livable Community Task Force**

Commissioner Holtzman provided an oral report highlighting progress being made on the Eastern Market Metro Plaza Park; he observed that the playground is open again following installation of shade structures.

## **10. Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee (EMCAC)**

Commissioner Sroufe called attention to a summary of the strategic plan for regeneration of the market that had just be released. Commissioner Jayaraman called attention to the infrequent specific mention of the ANC in the plan, especially notable in that other organizations were specifically mentioned. Commissioner Holtzman observed that the ANC role in the Market area was much more comprehensive -- and it responsibilities broader -- than was recognized in the report.

## **11. Barracks Row Main Street**

Chairman Ready called attention to a forthcoming meeting of the Task Force (October 20 at 6:30).

## **12. Financial Report**

Commissioner Holman presented the quarterly ANC financial report, noting that the allotment had been received following the end of the quarter and was therefore not shown in the financial report or the quarterly report. The current ANC balance is \$16K. A motion to accept the quarterly report was passed (Holman/Ready, unanimous).

One aspect of the financial report was a reminder about the reports required of the Accelerator Grant Program recipients. Commissioner Sroufe noted that it indeed was time to secure reports from those recipients not yet having submitted them. Chairman Ready said he would send the necessary letters.

## **13. ANC Input on Other Concerns**

Commissioner Sroufe lead a discussion based on questions raised about his proposal to establish an ANC6B program to acknowledge Outstanding Public Service by District employees. Among the items agreed on as the program moves forward were the following: award not available to elected or politically appointed employees, to be administered by the ANC Executive Board, no monetary awards would be provided. Commissioner Sroufe was tasked to secure an opinion from Gottlieb Simon about the legality of an ANC meeting in executive session in order to discuss potential awardees. A motion to establish the program under the direction of the Executive Board passed (Sroufe/Holtzman, 7-0-1 with only 8 members present at this point.)

## **14. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:00; the next meeting of the ANC6B will be on November 10.

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### **Planning and Zoning Committee Items Approved**

1. Recommend support for BZA case #20300: 1309 Potomac Avenue SE; Special Exception to construct a two-story accessory garage structure in the rear yard of an existing attached principal dwelling unit (Square 1046, Lot 854)
2. Recommend support to submit comments on ANC 6B map amendment of Boathouse Row – Invited representatives: Geoff Rankin, Congressional Aviation. Jay Melder, Office of City Administrator. Steve Ricks, Historic Anacostia Boathouse Association. Jennifer Steingasser, Office of Planning.
3. Recommend support for ANC6B Comments on B23-0736, the Comprehensive Plan Amendment Act of 2020

### **Transportation Committee Items Approved**

Three transportation items were included in the Consent Agenda:

1. Recommend support for DDOT plans to install advisory bike lanes on Kentucky Avenue SE between East Capitol and 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Barney Circle, SE.
2. Requested a Traffic Safety Assessment regarding installation of two speed bumps on the 1300 block of D street, SE; one speed bump on the 1400 block of D Street, SE, a raised crosswalk at 14<sup>th</sup> and C, SE; and an evaluation of converting the 400 block of 14<sup>th</sup> Street to one-way southbound.
3. Recommended that a resolution requesting the DC Council expeditiously pass legislation separating Residential Permit Parking zones from Ward boundaries, before the Decennial Restriction occurs, by requiring DDOT to set RPP zones using criteria unrelated to Ward Boundaries, just as currently is done with MPD Districts and Police Service Areas.