



Minutes of Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner 6B

February 15, 2023

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B

Special Call Meeting

Held Over WebEx February 15, 2023

Commissioner Edward Stillwell Ryder, Chair

Chair Edward Stillwell Ryder called the meeting to order at 6:49 p.m.

Participating: Commissioners Avery, D'Andrea, Durkit, Jayaraman, LaFortune, Mareino, Ryder, Sobelsohn, and Sroufe

1. Agenda.

By unanimous consent, the agenda was amended to discuss creating a Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Task Force as item #2, before announcing appointees to committees and taskforces; and to add, as #4, electing chairs to committees and taskforces. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Avery seconded to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed 9-0.

2. Creation of Task Force on Public Parks and Recreation Spaces.

Commissioner Avery moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to create a Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Task Force. The motion passed 9-0.

3. Committee and Taskforce Members.

Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Avery seconded to approve all proposed committee and taskforce members and alternates, with the motion to take effect only if, at its regular February meeting, the ANC passes proposed ANC 6B bylaws amendments to authorize the appointment of alternates. The motion passed 9-0. A list

of the names of appointed 2023 committee and taskforce members and alternates is attached to these minutes.

4. Committee and Taskforce Chairs.

Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Avery seconded to approve all proposed committee and taskforce chairs. The motion passed 9-0. The attached list of the names of appointed 2023 committee and taskforce members identifies the names of each committee and taskforce chair.

5. Adjournment.

Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner D'Andrea seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B

Regular Monthly Meeting

Held Over WebEx February 15, 2023

Commissioner Edward Stillwell Ryder, Chair

Chair Edward Stillwell Ryder called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Participating: Commissioners Avery, D'Andrea, Durkit, Jayaraman, LaFortune, Mareino, Ryder, Sobelsohn, and Sroufe

1. Moment of Silence.

Commissioner Ryder moved to suspend the rules for a moment of silence in memory of Robert Cunningham, a Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority employee. On February 1, in ANC 6B's Potomac Avenue Metrorail station, Cunningham gave his life to protect others from a gunman. The motion passed without objection, followed by a moment of silence.

2. Agenda.

Without objection, the agenda was amended to add a resolution to honor Robert Cunningham's heroic sacrifice; to correct the name of the ANC 6B "Alcohol Beverage Control Committee"; to clarify that the Southeast Library Task Force is a taskforce, not a "special committee"; to add a discussion of the structure of the new Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Task Force; and to add the United States Postal Service as a vendor the ANC may pay by debit card. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Avery seconded to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed 9-0.

3. Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Sroufe seconded to approve all items on the Consent Agenda. The motion passed 9-0.

Action items on the Consent Agenda included approval of:

- a. The January ANC 6B minutes.
- b. Committee recommendations: from the--
 - 1) Planning and Zoning Committee.
 - a) Letter to the DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency approving road closings for the 2023 Capitol Hill Classic, to be held May 21, 2023. A map of the streets to be closed is attached to these minutes.
 - b) Support for Charles Warren's application to make vertical and rear additions to a one-story non-contributing commercial building, the proposed building to be four stories, at 732 7th St., SE (HPA #23-175).
 - 2) Transportation Committee. Two letters, both attached to these minutes, addressed to the DC Departments of--
 - a) Transportation, regarding ANC 6B03 Traffic Safety Investigation priorities.

b) Public Works, expressing thanks for removal of the battery-dead Virginia Avenue bus.

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4. MPD Presentation.

Captain Kevin Harding, of the Metropolitan Police Department's First District, reported that, in the past year, First District crime overall is down 3%, with a 24% drop in violent crime, but that property crime has increased because of a surge in car thefts. He explained how 911 dispatchers determine to which law-enforcement agency to refer a service call, and provided details on the February 1 Potomac Avenue Metrorail shooting. He further reported that, despite MPD staffing lower than any year since 1999, MPD has increased patrols around the Potomac Avenue Metrorail station, specifically between 13th and 15th Streets & C Street and Pennsylvania Ave., SE, and that First District police now check every Metrorail station hourly. Regarding planned changes to the 5th Street MPD substation, he reported that the MPD First District commander had never proposed to close the substation, has reconsidered other planned changes, and will, for the time being, make no changes. Finally, he agreed to consult with the community regarding any substantial future changes to the substation--including working out a schedule, with the ANC 6B Public Safety Committee, for regular presentations to that committee.

Lieutenant Joy Lee reported on the Violence Interrupters and the Safe Passage programs. Both programs focus on protecting public-school students. Lieutenant Lee recommended that, to add Capitol Hill to the list of DC's "Safe Passage" priority areas, ANC 6B contact Hillary Desir, Special Projects Manager at the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education.

5. Announcements.

Commissioner Sobelsohn announced that the Navy Place renaming ceremony will take place at 4 p.m. Saturday, April 29. Commissioners D'Andrea and Jayaraman called for volunteers to serve as a Resident Member, for Commissioner D'Andrea on the Alcohol Beverage Control Committee, for Commissioner Jayaraman on the Task Force on Public Parks and Recreation Spaces. Shanelle Price-Wheeler announced that anyone interested in attending an 11th Street Bridge Park Equitable Development Open House, 5-7 p.m. February 21, at 1801 Mississippi Ave., SE, should register at bridgepark.org/register.

6. Committee and Taskforce Reports.

a. Alcohol Beverage Control Committee. On behalf of this committee, which he chairs, Commissioner Jayaraman chaired this portion of the meeting.

1) Committee report. Without objection, Commissioner Jayaraman dispensed with reading the committee report, which is attached to these minutes.

2) Entertainment endorsements.

a) Hill East Burger, 1432 Pennsylvania Ave., SE.

Commissioner Jayaraman reported that Hill East Burger (run by Hamburger Train, LLC) has applied for an entertainment endorsement (ABRA-122788), so it can provide live music. The current deadline for ANC input is March 13. To allow additional time to gather community input, the committee has voted, and the applicant, in writing, has agreed, jointly to request a four-day extension, with the ANC to consider the application at the ANC's March 14 meeting and then to submit

its recommendation by March 17. On behalf of the committee, Commissioner Jayaraman moved to send a joint letter requesting that four-day extension. The motion passed 9-0.

b) Harvest Tide Steak House, 212 7th St., SE.

At the ANC's January 10 meeting, the ANC voted to support the application of Harvest Tide Capitol Hill DC LLC, d/b/a Harvest Tide Steak House, for an entertainment endorsement (ABRA-118108), conditioned on the ANC's receipt of a signed amendment to the existing settlement agreement, between the applicant and the ANC, requiring that the entertainment remain unamplified and indoors, and end by 10 p.m. Sunday-Thursday and 11 p.m. Friday and Saturday. After the ANC received that signed amendment, the ANC submitted a letter supporting the application, along with the amendment. The support letter caused the dismissal (order 23-067) of a group protest by five Harvest Tide neighbors.

1-- Motion to reconsider.

Commissioner Jayaraman reported that, by a 7-0 vote, with three abstentions, the ABC Committee has recommended reconsideration of the motion by which the ANC agreed to send that support letter. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Mareino seconded to accept the ABC Committee's recommendation, to reconsider the motion by which the ANC agreed to support the entertainment endorsement, and to withdraw that support. The motion failed by a vote of four in favor (Commissioners D'Andrea, Durkit, Mareino, and Sobelsohn), and four against (Commissioners Avery, LaFortune, Ryder, and Sroufe), with Commissioner Jayaraman abstaining.

2-- Letter to ABC Board/ABRA.

Commissioner Jayaraman moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to send the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board and the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration a letter, already drafted, arguing that (a) residents living near Harvest Tide have legitimate substantive concerns about Harvest Tide's entertainment endorsement and current operations; (b) the ABC Board should recognize those neighbors who live just across a narrow alley from Harvest Tide as "abutting property owners"; and therefore (c) the ABC Board should reconsider its order 23-067 dismissing the neighbors' group protest against the entertainment endorsement, reinstate that protest, and hear the neighbors' arguments. The motion passed 9-0. A copy of that letter is attached to these minutes.

3-- Notice to cure.

ANC 6B's 2021 settlement agreement with Harvest Tide includes a process to correct violations of that agreement. Following that process, Commissioner Mareino moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to send Harvest Tide a "Notice to Cure," noting credible allegations, based on neighbor testimony, of violation of that agreement regarding exterior trash storage and parking in the alley behind Harvest Tide; giving Harvest Tide 30 days to cure the violations; and warning Harvest Tide that failure to do so may lead the ANC to protest Harvest Tide's continued use of an ABC license; and to send a copy of that notice to the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration. The motion passed 9-0. The Chair assigned Commissioner Mareino to draft the notice.

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3) Committee schedule. Commissioner Jayaraman announced his intention to propose rescheduling committee meeting dates, to provide more time between ABC committee meetings and meetings of the full ANC.

b. Planning and Zoning Committee. On behalf of this committee, which he chairs, Commissioner D'Andrea chaired this portion of the meeting.

1) Committee report. Without objection, Commissioner D'Andrea dispensed with reading the committee report, which is attached to these minutes.

2) Specific requests for support.

a) Will Teass seeks support for his application to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a Special Exception, all for property at 4-5 Library Court, SE (BZA 20834): to combine one tax lot and two record lots; to convert two tax lots to record lots; and to combine one of the converted tax lots with an existing record lot in the RF-3 zone. Commissioner D'Andrea reported the committee's recommendation that the ANC defer consideration of this application to the ANC's April 11 meeting, and that the applicant agrees with that postponement. Without objection, the matter was postponed to April 11.

b) Bojan Peovski seeks support for the Historic Preservation Review Board's Concept Review for 647 G St., SE (HPA 23-096), approving a three-story rear addition to the building, plus revisions to the windows and the basement entrance. Commissioner D'Andrea reported the committee's 10-1 vote to recommend the ANC endorse this application, and moved that the ANC accept the committee's recommendation. The motion passed 7-2, with Commissioners Jayaraman and Sobelsohn opposed.

c. Transportation Committee. Commissioner LaFortune reported on behalf of this committee, which he chairs. The committee will send letters to the DC Departments of Transportation and Public Works (see the Consent Agenda for details). The committee plans a special meeting on Electric Vehicles for early March, and to hold its regular March meeting March 8.

d. Special Committee on Public Safety. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Jayaraman seconded to approve the following for the Special Committee on Public Safety: "Each Commissioner may appoint one resident member and one alternate to the Public Safety Committee. That resident member and alternate must continuously reside in the same SMD as the appointing commissioner. The Public Safety Committee, by majority vote, and in consultation with the Executive Committee, shall set its own meeting schedule." The motion passed 9-0.

e. Southeast Library Task Force. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Avery seconded to approve the following for the Southeast Library Task Force: "Each Commissioner may appoint one resident member and one alternate to the Southeast Library Task Force. That resident member and alternate must continuously reside in ANC 6B. The Southeast Library Task Force, by majority vote, and in consultation with the Executive Committee, shall set its own meeting schedule." The motion passed 9-0.

f. Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Task Force. Commissioner Sroufe agreed, by the ANC's March meeting, to develop a proposed structure of the new taskforce.

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g. Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee. Commissioner Sroufe reported having sent a status report to the ANC and that EMCAC has a committee reviewing the strategic plan. Commissioner Ryder moved/Commissioner Mareino seconded to elect Commissioner Sroufe as the ANC 6B delegate to EMCAC. The motion passed 9-0.

7. Financial Matters. Commissioner Avery, ANC 6B treasurer, chaired this portion of the meeting.

a. Financial report. Commissioner Avery delivered a financial report.

1) Income. On January 15, the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions approved our Fiscal Year 2023 First Quarter Quarterly Financial Report. Pursuant to that approval, on January 27, 2023, ANC 6B received a deposit, from the city, of \$13,500.

2) Expenditures.

a) Fiscal Year 2023 Security Fund. On February 9, the DC Auditor confirmed receipt of ANC 6B's 2023 contribution to the ANC Security Fund; the DC government has deposited that contribution; but the ANC has not yet received the countersigned documents from the DC Auditor.

b) Tax-Exempt Certificate. ANC 6B expects to receive a tax-exempt certificate, exempting ANC 6B from sales taxes on all ANC purchases, including business cards, as soon as the ANC receives those countersigned documents regarding the Security Fund.

c) Monthly Financial Report. A copy of the February financial report is attached to these minutes. ANC 6B's bank account has a balance of \$56,378. One check was lost. At the ANC's request in 2022, the bank cancelled that check, triggering a cancelled-check fee of \$30. At Commissioner Sobelsohn's suggestion, Commissioner Avery will request the bank to waive the fee.

d) Expenditures Authorized at January 2023 Meeting.

1-- Office-building keyfobs. Currently, when there is no security guard at the front desk, only two ANC 6B commissioners have access to 700 Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, building, site of the ANC office. At the January meeting, ANC 6B agreed to pay for seven additional keyfobs, so every ANC 6B commissioner will have equal access to the office. But the 700 Pennsylvania Avenue management has resisted issuing any more keyfobs to ANC 6B. If management does issue additional keyfobs, it will charge the ANC \$25 each.

2-- Office printer. 700 Pennsylvania Avenue has repaired three of its four printers. Commissioner Avery recommends that, instead of purchasing an ANC 6B printer, the ANC enter a contract enabling the ANC to use a printer at the FedEx Office, 715 D St., SE, open Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-8 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday from 12 noon-6 p.m.

3-- Switching from WebEx to Zoom. Once ANC 6B has approved Zoom as an authorized vendor for the ANC 6B debit card, ANC can switch from WebEx to Zoom.

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4-- ANC 6B telephone. Once ANC 6B has a Zoom account, that account will provide ANC 6B with a telephone number.

5-- Redesigning the ANC 6B website. The Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions has three funds that can provide financial support for enhancing constituent access to ANC meetings and records: a "Technical Assistance Fund," an "Expert Assistance Fund," and a "Language Access Reimbursement Program." ANC 6B can secure up to \$3,000 from the OANC for improving the ANC 6B website. Commissioner Avery proposed three alternative approaches: (a) getting a professional short-term "clean up" of the website, for a few hundred dollars, (b) doing a major renovation, but using the existing platform, for a few thousand dollars, or (c) doing a complete website rebuild, a major capital project. Commissioner Avery added that the ANC has sufficient funds for a major capital project, but that a short-term "clean up" would, for the time being, improve constituent access to ANC 6B information. Without objection, the issue was tabled until the ANC's March meeting.

b. Expenditures for ANC approval.

1) Fiscal Year 23 Budget Amendment #1. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Durkit seconded to amend the ANC 6B budget to increase multiple line items. The motion passed 9-0. The amended budget is attached to these minutes.

2) Vendor Debit-Card Authorizations. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner D'Andrea seconded to approve paying, by ANC 6B debit card, the following vendors: Zoom, to host virtual meetings and provide telephone service; FedEx Office, for on-demand printing; the United States Postal Service, for postage and shipping; and Canvas, for ANC 6B business cards and specialized low-cost printing. The motion passed 9-0.

3) Fagon Guide. At a prior meeting, ANC 6B approved sending a check to the Capital Community News to ensure ANC 6B's inclusion in the 2022 *Fagon Community Guide to Capitol Hill*. But the check never arrived. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Ryder seconded to reissue the check. The motion passed 9-0.

8. ANC 6B Administrative Matters

a. Resolution to Honor Robert Cunningham. On February 1, in ANC 6B's Potomac Avenue Metrorail station, WMATA employee Cunningham gave his life to protect others from a gunman. Commissioner LaFortune moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to adopt a resolution honoring the sacrifice and memory of Robert Cunningham. The motion passed 9-0. A copy of the resolution is attached to these minutes.

b. Bylaw amendments. Commissioner Jayaraman moved/Commissioner Durkit seconded to make certain amendments to article VII of the ANC 6B bylaws. The motion passed 9-0. The amendments to article VII are attached to these minutes.

c. January 2024 ANC 6B Meeting dates. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner D'Andrea seconded to schedule the following meetings. The motion passed 9-0.

1) Committee meetings.

a) Planning & Zoning: January 2, 2024.

b) Transportation: January 3, 2024.

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c) Alcohol Beverage Control: January 4, 2024.

c) Executive: January 30, 2024.

2) Full commission: January 9, 2024.

9. Adjournment. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Avery seconded to adjourn. The motion passed 9-0. The meeting adjourned at 11:32 p.m.