



Report of the ANC6B Public Safety Committee Meeting

June 24, 2024, 6:30 – 8:00p.m.

Commissioners Present: Frank Avery, Committee Vice Chair (6B01), David Sobelsohn (6B03); Gerald Sroufe (6B02)

Resident Members Present: Lisa Matsumoto, Chair; Ann Keep; Michelle Strizever, Eric Miller, Frank Boudra, Chuck Schmoyer, John Schwab, Jody Kent Lavy, Cinnamon Butler

I. Agenda Item #1; Introductions

Introductions of Commissioners and resident members.

II. Agenda Item #2; Informational Presentation: Guest speaker Benny Del Castillo from the Network for Victim Recovery of DC (NVRDC) regarding victim rights and services.

Ms. Del Castillo gave an informative presentation about services provided by NVRDC for victims and survivors. NVRDC provides free, holistic, and trauma-informed advocacy, legal and therapeutic services to survivors of any type of crime in D.C., including, but not limited to, sexual assault, violence, gun violence, carjackings etc. The organization provides advocacy, sexual assault & rape crisis response, legal services, therapeutic services, and outreach education. She also discussed the concept of survivor-defined justice, and that a survivor should be able to choose what justice looks like for them, and emphasized that there is no wrong or right way to react to or cope with a crime.

Ms. Del Castillo was asked about their restorative justice initiative. She indicated this is a fairly new initiative that they are still working to develop. There are challenges and acknowledged that the goals of a prosecutor and a survivor are different. The program seeks to hold people accountable as well as repair. She discussed healing circles which allows for a conversation with the person who committed the crime. It is a new technique. The technique requires that there is some buy-in, but ultimately survivors should be able to choose what justice looks like for them. Many groups are now advocating for restorative justice.

There were several questions from the committee and community members about services and funding, which is substantially by grant. The organization may be able to assist any victim or survivor of crime that occurred in D.C. or if the victim/survivor lives, works or attends school within the District. Anyone can contact NVRDC at www.nvrdc.org or by calling (202) 742-1727.

III. Action: Final Proposed Letter to the USAO Regarding Data Transparency

Background: At the May 20th meeting of the committee, RM Chuck Schmoyer (6B03) presented a draft letter to the USAO for feedback and endorsement by the Committee. The letter built upon discussion from the April Public Safety Committee Meeting with US Attorney Matthew Graves. RM Schmoyer and Vice Chair Frank Avery worked together to update the draft.

The committee discussed final edits to the letter for the ANC to adopt at its July 9th full commission meeting. The letter follows up from the ANC 6B Public Safety Committee meeting in April where committee members met with the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, Matthew Graves. The draft letter was distributed prior to the meeting to allow committee members to review it and discuss any questions, concerns, or make suggestions for revision to the letter.

The Committee discussed the letter and several members provided comments and suggested revisions. After the discussion, the Committee voted by unanimous consent, conducted as follows, to send the letter to the July 9 ANC 6B Consent Agenda with a set of five revisions discussed during the meeting:

- 24 minutes of open discussion on the item itself (content of the letter)
- A motion with a second with open discussion on the motion prior to calling for a vote.
- Unanimous consent vote was called with explicit request for anyone in opposition to speak and request a voice vote, if needed.
- The motion was made by RM Schmoyer/seconded by Chair Matsumoto.
- Based on the trend of the conversation, a unanimous consent vote was called with explicit opportunity for someone to object. There were no objections. Another opportunity was called for any last-minute abstentions or concerns about the process. There were no further objections or abstentions.
- The item passes unanimously to be placed on the July 9 consent agenda

IV. Community Partner Request for Support Announcements: Open forum for any community partner organizations in attendance to request support from the community. There were no announcements.

V. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM. The next meeting is July 22, 2024.