

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Minutes
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
Special meeting: January 4, 2024**

Present: Commissioners Amber Gove, Keya Chatterjee, Dave Wethington, Robb Dooling, Steve Moilanen, Roberta Shapiro, and Mike Velasquez were present.

The meeting convened virtually via Zoom at 8:00 pm.

Commissioner Amber Gove called the meeting to order and noted the presence of a quorum. The agenda for the January 2024 special meeting was accepted by unanimous consent.

Alcoholic Beverage Licensing (ABL)

- The Committee recommended and Commissioner Shapiro seconded the motion that ANC 6A protest the application of Upspoke III LLC at 712 15th Street NE (ABCA-126868) for a Medical Cannabis Retailer License unless a settlement agreement is reached prior to the protest deadline, and that the Chair of the ABL Committee and Committee Member Blumenthal and Commissioner Dooling and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the ANC represent the ANC in this matter.

Mr. Zack Learman, representing UpnSmoke, is working with the applicant to make sure they are meeting all requirements and complying with all rules and regulations, such as restricting access to the cannabis and cash onsite. The establishment has existed and been a good neighbor in the community for over two years. There are several safety and security features at the establishment including cameras and a security guard checking IDs and medical marijuana qualifications upon entry. Mr. Learman will share a copy of the application with the Commission. The motion passed 6-1; Commissioner Velasquez opposed.

- The Committee recommended and Commissioner Dooling seconded the motion that ANC 6A protest the application of Za Partners LLC t/a Granny Za's at 1383-1385 H Street NE (ABCA-126762) for a Medical Cannabis Retailer License unless a settlement agreement is reached prior to the protest deadline, and that the Chair of the ABL Committee and Committee Member Blumenthal and Commissioner Dooling and the Chair and Vice-Chair of the ANC represent the ANC in this matter.

Ms. Meredith Kinner, representing Granny Za's, will be sending the full security plan and application to Commissioner Dooling. Granny Za's had been operating under a basic business license on H Street NW, but that building is being sold and they are moving to H Street NE. The owner is an entrepreneur and was raised in Potomac, MD and currently lives outside of Las Vegas; he is a part-owner of another cannabis establishment in New York. There may be delivery or educational tasting endorsements, but there is no plan for a summer garden. The cannabis being sold will be vacuum sealed and no consumption is allowed on the grounds or outside of the establishment. Ms. Kinner will research whether these establishments can cross-promote with local restaurants to bolster other H Street businesses and knows that parking will be a forthcoming issue. The protest deadline is January 8, 2024. The motion passed 7-0.

- The Committee recommended and Commissioner Dooling seconded the motion that ANC 6A draft a new standard settlement agreement(s) for alcohol license holders and medical cannabis license holders located within the ANC, and that the ANC seek the assistance of the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners in drafting the new settlement agreement(s). The motion passed 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 pm.