



**Minutes of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B**

**July 11, 2023**

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B

Regular Monthly Meeting

Held Over Zoom July 11, 2023

Commissioner Edward Stillwell Ryder, Chair

Commissioner Chander Jayaraman, Vice-Chair and Acting Chair

Participating: Commissioners D'Andrea, Jayaraman, LaFortune, Mareino, Sobelsohn, and Sroufe.

Absent: Commissioners Avery and Ryder.

In the absence of Commissioner Ryder, Commissioner Jayaraman called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

1. Meeting Agenda.

At Commissioner D'Andrea's request, discussion of the Hill Center's gathering terrace was moved from the Consent Agenda to the second item on the regular agenda under the report of the Planning and Zoning Committee. Commissioner D'Andrea also reported ANC 6B treasurer Commissioner Avery's request that, because of a delay by the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions, the agenda not include the Fiscal Year 2023 3d quarter financial report. Because of Commissioner Avery's absence, the agenda does not include discussion of a Treasurer's Report. A written July Treasurer's Report can be found at <http://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/2023-July-Treasurers-Report.pdf>. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner D'Andrea seconded to approve the agenda as modified. The motion passed 7-0.

2. Consent Agenda.

Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner LaFortune seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as modified. The motion passed 7-0. Items on the Consent Agenda included approval of--

a. Minutes of previous meetings, of--

1) The June ANC 6B meeting, as presented.

2) An amendment to the already-approved minutes of the May ANC 6B meeting, by adding, as item c. under the Consent Agenda, approval, by a 9-0 vote, of the minutes of the April 11 ANC 6B meeting.

b. A bylaws amendment, to rename the Alcohol Beverage Control Committee as instead the “Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee.”

c. Committee recommendations: from the--

1) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee: recommendations that ANC 6B endorse applications of--

a) EPH 3, trading as Extreme Pizza, 520 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE, for an entertainment endorsement to its Retailer’s Class “C” Tavern License (ABCA-121794). A settlement agreement with Extreme Pizza, including Extreme Pizza’s agent’s signature, is linked to these minutes.

b) Wendim Veni, Inc., trading as TBD, 725 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE, for a new Retailer’s Class “A” Liquor Store License (ABCA-125007). A settlement agreement with TBD, including TBD’s agent’s signature, is linked to these minutes.

c) E&C Inc., trading as Los Caballeros Restaurant, 308 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, for a Retailer’s Class “C” Restaurant License (ABCA-125021). A settlement agreement with Los Caballeros, including Los Caballeros’s agent’s signature, is linked to these minutes.

d) The Italian Job, doing business as Pacci’s Trattoria, 106 13<sup>th</sup> St., SE, for a new unenclosed sidewalk-café public-space permit (#11009510), limited to the hours specified in Pacci’s January 2023 settlement agreement. That settlement agreement with Pacci’s Trattoria is linked to these minutes.

2) Transportation Committee: recommendations that ANC 6B support--

a) Testimony before the DC Council on pending electric-vehicle legislation. The text of that testimony is linked to these minutes.

b) A resolution urging the erection of a raised crosswalk at the intersection of 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Massachusetts Ave., SE. That resolution is linked to these minutes.

3) Planning and Zoning Committee: recommendations that ANC 6B --

a) Send a letter to the Department of Buildings’ Acting Director urging review of the DOB process for evaluating vacant buildings, and requesting help regarding classification of a vacant property at 519 6<sup>th</sup> St., SE. That letter is linked to these minutes.

b) Support Ziad Demian’s applications, before the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPA 23-435) and the Board of Zoning Adjustment, for approval of a three-story rear addition and a new accessory dwelling-unit addition to a two-story principal dwelling row-house at 504 4<sup>th</sup> St., SE, in the RF-3 zone (square 822, lot 814).

3. Presentation by Sukrit Mishra of Solar United Neighbors Co-Op. Solar United Neighbors helps DC residents switch to solar energy. Accessing solar energy requires solar panels to capture sunlight for conversion to electricity. Once installed, the panels can collect excess energy in sunny times. That excess energy returns to the electricity grid, then provides credits for use in times of diminished solar energy. Homeowners’ associations can’t forbid installation, and even in historic districts the panels need only not be visible from the street. Costs have dropped sharply, homeowners can get tax credits, and the panels require minimal maintenance. Through August 2023, Solar United will accept applicants for its “Solar Switch” program. Go to [solarswitch.com/capitalarea](https://solarswitch.com/capitalarea) or email [DCteam@solarunitedneighbors.org](mailto:DCteam@solarunitedneighbors.org). Alternatively, under the DC Department of Energy and the Environment’s “Solar for All” program, DOEE will install panels for free for qualified applicants.

#### 4. Announcements.

a. Kimberly Kennedy, of the office of Ward Six Councilmember Charles Allen, announced that--

1) Councilmember Allen's "Ward Six Week" will take place from July 18-23. However, for events with limited tickets, RSVPs closed July 10.

2) To reduce dangerous driving in DC, Councilmember Allen has introduced the Strengthening Traffic Enforcement, Education, and Responsibility Amendment Act of 2023.

b. Jake Stolzenberg, from the Mayor's Office of Community Relations for Ward Six, announced that--

1) The DC Youth Meals program, throughout the summer, will offer DC youth free meals at over 100 sites, all without an application or identification card. For more information residents should call (866) 348-6479 or go to <https://osse.dc.gov/dcyouthmeals>.

2) DC's minimum wage increased to \$17, with \$8 the new minimum for tipped workers, on July 1.

3) The DC Council passed an emergency criminal-code reform bill, <https://lims.dccouncil.gov/Legislation/PR25-0341>, on July 11. Emergency legislation expires after 90 days.

#### 5. Committee and Taskforce Reports.

a. Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee.

1) I Egg You. Two of the committee's Resident Members, Katherine Szafran (ANC 6B03) and Ellen Opper-Weiner (ANC 6B05), and ANC 6B03 residents Ritu Upadhyay and Linda Young expressed concerns about the application for a Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant License by I Egg You, at 517 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE (ABCA-124054). The applicants also own Chiko, a restaurant at 423 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE. Most of the residents live on 7<sup>th</sup> St., SE, across an alley from 8<sup>th</sup> St., SE. They object to the applicants' plan to store trash bins in the alley. Alley trash storage breeds rats and--when trash or delivery trucks use the alley --combine to block residents from leaving or returning to parking they can only access via the alley. Other 8<sup>th</sup> St. liquor licensees have agreed to store their trash indoors. Residents also expressed concern that the applicants' plan to vent cooking fumes towards the alley will seep cooking odors into their 7<sup>th</sup> Street homes and make their backyards practically unusable. Finally, the residents reported that the applicants' attorney has refused to meet with them.

Commissioner Jayaraman, ABC Committee chair, reported that the committee has sent applicants a draft settlement agreement, similar to settlement agreements the ANC has already negotiated with other 8<sup>th</sup> Street restaurants. He further reported that the ANC has filed a protest; that the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Administration (ABCA) has scheduled a July 12 ABCA mediation; and that, despite the committee's invitation, the applicants and their attorney have refused to attend this July 11 ANC meeting.

2) Committee report. The July Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee report is linked to these minutes.

b. Planning and Zoning Committee.

1) 116 15<sup>th</sup> St., SE. This application, before the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPA 23-439), involves the proposed addition of a third floor with a bedroom and bathroom and enclosure of a second-floor rooftop deck to extend an existing bedroom. Commissioner D'Andrea, chair of the Planning and Zoning Committee, reported that the applicant plans to withdraw the application from the HPRB calendar for this month and may drop the case altogether.

2) Hill Center. The Hill Center, 921 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, has applied for approval of a proposal to add a gathering terrace for public use. The Commission on Fine Arts is currently reviewing the application. The Planning and Zoning Committee recommended support. Commissioner D'Andrea moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to send a "No Adverse Effect" letter, in support of the project, to Hill Center board member Amanda Edwards, with a copy to Hill Center executive director Diana Ingraham. The motion passed 7-0.

3) Committee report. The July Planning and Zoning Committee report is linked to these minutes.

c. Transportation Committee.

1) 8<sup>th</sup> St. bus initiative. Commissioner Jayaraman reported that the manager of a Barracks Row restaurant is concerned about removal of 8<sup>th</sup> Street parking to accommodate the proposed 8<sup>th</sup> Street bus initiative and that a restaurant representative will attend an upcoming meeting of the Transportation Committee.

2) Committee report. The July Transportation Committee report is linked to these minutes.

d. Southeast Library Task Force.

1) Library Board of Trustees meeting. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Sroufe seconded to designate Commissioner Sobelsohn and other members of the Southeast Library Task Force to represent the ANC at the July 26 meeting of the library board of trustees to speak about the importance of interim Southeast library services during the years the library will be closed for renovations. The motion passed 7-0.

2) Taskforce meetings. Commissioner Sobelsohn, taskforce chair, reported that the taskforce met June 18 and July 9 and plans to meet, at the library, at 3 p.m. Sunday, July 30. The minutes of the June 18 meeting are linked to these minutes.

e. Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Task Force.

1) Critical report by George Washington University. Commissioner Sroufe, taskforce chair, reported on a George Washington University report criticizing the relationship between the National Park Service and the parks of Washington, DC. He expects the taskforce to consider the report at its July 18 meeting, 7 p.m. at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE.

## 2) Supporting letters and resolutions.

a) Commissioner Sroufe reported that the July 18 taskforce agenda will also include consideration of support of efforts to create a Virginia Avenue connector and provide pickle ball.

b) Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Sroufe seconded to support the Serve Your City/Ward 6 Mutual Aid's 4th annual WeKeepUsSafe Back to School Bash & Youth Festival from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on the Eastern Market Metro Plaza Saturday, August 26, 2023, on condition that the Bash organizers keep sound at 65 decibels or lower. The motion passed 7-0. This event will provide light music, student and teacher performances, and free school supplies, including comprehensive backpacks containing digital devices. It will target students in Wards 5-8 but is open to all public school students in all of the city's wards.

f. Public Safety Committee. Committee Chair Lisa Matsumoto reported that DC Councilmember Brooke Pinto, who chairs the Council's Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, has promised to attend the ANC committee's next meeting, tentatively scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Monday, August 28. A Public Safety Committee report is linked to these minutes.

g. Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee. A report from the Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee is linked to these minutes.

6. Administrative Matter. Commissioner Sroufe moved to appoint Marian Connolly as the Resident Member for ANC 6B02 on the Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Task Force. The motion passed without objection.

7. Input on Other Concerns. Commissioner Sroufe reported on a special meeting he chaired on the use of ANC 6B residences for business purposes.

8. Adjournment. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved to adjourn. The motion passed without objection. The meeting adjourned at 9:27.