



APPROVED Minutes of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B

March 12, 2024

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B

Regular Monthly Meeting

March 12, 2024

Held In Person at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, and Over Zoom

Commissioner Edward Stillwell Ryder, Chair

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

Commissioner Ryder called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

1. Meeting Agenda. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner LaFortune seconded to approve the agenda as presented. At the request of Commissioner LaFortune, the agenda was amended to include, as part of the Transportation Committee report, discussion of the February 15 11th Street Corridor walk with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT). As amended, the motion passed 9-0.

2. Consent Agenda. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Sroufe seconded to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion passed 8-0. Commissioner Sobelsohn abstained. Items on the Consent Agenda included:

- a. Minutes of the February 13 Meeting as presented.
- b. Appointments to Task Forces by Commissioner Avery (6B01): to the task forces on--
 - 1) The Southeast Library: Claire August, as Resident Member.
 - 2) Public Parks and Recreation Spaces: Steven Thomas, as Alternate Resident Member.
- c. Amendments to the Bylaws. The bylaw amendments' text is linked to these minutes. The amendments concern:
 - 1) Election of committee and taskforce chairs and vice-chairs, and provision for chair and vice-chair vacancies (revision to bylaws Article VII.2. B).
 - 2) Authorization of vendors the ANC can pay by debit card, including a schedule for that approval and provision for amending the list during the year (new bylaw Article VIII.1.C.).
- d. Committee Recommendations: from the--
 - 1) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee: To withdraw the ANC protest of, and--based on a negotiated settlement agreement--support the medical-cannabis retailer license application of No Kids Allowed, 637B Pennsylvania Ave., SE (ABCA-126724). The settlement-agreement's text is linked to these minutes.

2) Transportation Committee.

a) Resolutions supporting--

1-- DC streetcar extension to the Benning Road Metrorail station. The resolution's text is linked to these minutes.

2-- Dedicated Funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. The resolution's text is linked to these minutes.

b) Letters to the District Department of Transportation regarding--

1-- 2024 second quarter Traffic Safety Input priority locations in ANC 6B. The letter's text is linked to these minutes.

2-- No-Parking Sign on Ives Place, SE. The letter's text is linked to these minutes.

3) Planning and Zoning Committee: To support, before the Historic Preservation Review Board, Jonathan Schmidt's application for a permit to convert, to a principle dwelling unit, an existing, semi-detached commercial building at the rear of 633 E St., SE, in the RF-1 zone, and to build a second-story addition to the building (HPA 24-161).

3. Announcements: from the--

a. National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Catherine Lott announced a three-mile fundraising walk 10 a.m. Sunday, April 28, starting at National Park. The walk would require no street closings and not enter ANC 6B.

b. Office of Ward Six Councilmember Charles Allen, Kimberly Kennedy announced--

1) Passage of the SecureDC crime bill March 5.

2) Hearings on--

a) Councilmember Allen's cannabis-law "I-71 shop" enforcement bill.

b) The Historic Preservation Office.

3) The start of DDOT's e-bike rebate program.

4) A Ward Six cleanup on Saturday, April 6, from 10 a.m.-12 noon, including several areas in ANC 6B.

c. Mayor's Office of Community Relations (MOCR), Jake Stolzenberg announced--

1) March Madness in the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, March 13, starting 10 a.m.

2) The Passage of the SecureDC crime bill March 5.

3) A walk he led March 4 in ANC 6B08 near Potomac Gardens.

d. ANC chair, Commissioner Ryder announced upcoming ANC meetings.

1) Southeast Library Task Force March 21.

2) Public Safety Committee March 25.

3) Executive Committee March 26.

4) Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Task Force April 1.

5) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee April 2.

6) Transportation Committee April 3.

7) Planning and Zoning Committee April 4.

8) Full Commission April 8.

4. Committee Reports.

a. Alcoholic Beverage & Cannabis Committee.

1) Pending medical-cannabis retailer applications of--

- a) BBCF LLC trading as DC Dash, 727 8th St., SE (ABCA-126750) and--
- b) UpNSmoke II, LLC, 427 8th St., SE (ABCA-126850).

Commissioner Jayaraman moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to authorize Commissioners Jayaraman and Sobelsohn to continue negotiating with applicants on settlement agreements, and to postpone resolution of the ANC's position on these two applications until the Executive Committee's March 26 meeting. The motion passed 9-0.

2) Written committee report: the March report of the Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis Committee is linked to these minutes.

b. Transportation Committee.

1) Committee chair Commissioner LaFortune reported on a February 15 11th St. walk with DDOT director Sharon Kershbaum, Ward Six Councilmember Allen, Ward Six MOCR Stolzenberg, and several ANC 6B commissioners. During the walk DDOT promised to address safety problems at the intersections of 11th and D Streets and 11th and G Streets, SE.

2) Written committee report: the March report of the Transportation Committee is linked to these minutes.

c. Planning and Zoning Committee.

1) Fees for Violation of Historic-District Regulations. Committee chair Commissioner D'Andrea reported on a DC Council proposal to authorize the Department of Buildings to impose fees for violation of historic-district regulations. Commissioner Sroufe moved/Commissioner Sobelsohn seconded to authorize Commissioner Sroufe to testify at a Council hearing on the pending legislation. The motion passed 8-1 with Commissioner D'Andrea opposed. A letter reflecting the testimony is linked to these minutes.

2) Committee reports.

a) Oral report. Committee chair D'Andrea reported on the committee's ongoing--

1-- Consideration of Jonathan Schmidt's application, before the Zoning Commission, for a permit to convert, to a principle dwelling unit, an existing, semi-detached commercial building at the rear of 633 E St., SE, in the RF-1 zone, and to build a second-story addition to the building (BZA 21098). Earlier in the meeting, as part of its Consent Agenda, the ANC voted to support Schmidt's application for this project before the Historic Preservation Review Board.

2-- Negotiations with Clear Plains, LLC regarding its petition to close an alley in ANC 6B02, Square 762, across 2^d Street, SE, from the Library of Congress's Madison Building.

b) Written report: the March report of the Planning and Zoning Committee is linked to these minutes.

d. Southeast Library Task Force.

1) Oral report: Taskforce chair Commissioner Sobelsohn reported that the taskforce met February 19 and toured the library construction site March 6, and that DDOT has committed to address the issues raised in a letter the ANC authorized at its February meeting, including painting a new crosswalk on D St., SE, and creating a protected pedestrian pathway on South Carolina Ave., SE.

2) Written report: the March report of the Southeast Library Task Force, and minutes from the taskforce's February 19 meeting, are linked to these minutes.

e. Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Task Force. Taskforce chair Commissioner Sroufe reported on the taskforce's meeting March 4, including plans for a scenic route between Garfield Park and Virginia Ave., SE. Commissioner Mareino reported that, in December 2023, volunteers cleaned up the triangle park at the intersection of 14th St., D St., and Kentucky Ave., SE, but that no agency took responsibility for the park's upkeep so it soon became filled with yard waste. Then, shortly after DC Congressman Eleanor Holmes Norton reminded the DC Department of Park and Recreation that, under the National Capital Plan Act of 1952, DPR had jurisdiction over the park, the yard waste disappeared.

f. Public Safety Committee. On the committee's behalf, its vice chair, Commissioner Avery, reported a hearing on March 18 on the Home Purchase Assistance for 911/311 Call-Takers and Dispatchers Amendment Act of 2023 (Bill B25-0536). The bill would expand, to 911 and 311 call-takers and dispatchers, current DC employee assistance for buying a home in DC. Commissioner Avery moved/Commissioner Mareino seconded to endorse the legislation and to authorize Commissioner Avery to testify in its favor. A copy of that testimony is linked to these minutes. The motion passed 8-0. Commissioner Sroufe abstained. The committee's written report is linked to these minutes.

g. Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee. ANC's EMCAC representative, Commissioner Sroufe, reported on the EMCAC meeting February 28. EMCAC is organizing a communications committee.

5. Financial Report. The March financial report is linked to these minutes.

6. Adjournment. Commissioner Ryder moved to adjourn. Without objection, the meeting adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Commissioner David Sobelsohn
Secretary, ANC 6B