

ANC6D Monthly Business Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2023
Virtual Meeting held on Zoom

The Commission convened at 7:00 p.m. The following Commissioners were in attendance: Fredrica Kramer, Bob Link, Ronald Collins, Andrea Pawley, Ashton Rohmer, Bruce Levine, Gail Fast, and Rhonda Hamilton.

Approval of the Agenda

On motion of Commissioner Collins, the agenda was approved 8-0 after amendment to reflect shift of “License Renewals” to the Consent Agenda.

Introduction of Commissioners

Announcement of Next Administrative and Business meetings: 12/4 and 12/11, respectively, both at 7 pm via Zoom

Review and Approval of October 2023 Minutes

On motion of Commissioner Levine, the minutes were approved 8-0.

Community Announcements

Commissioner Fast announced that the Safeway Feast of Sharing would occur from 9:30 am -1 pm at the Convention Center on 11/22/23. She also announced that there would be a free CDEC 8-week financial empowerment program for DC residents over the age of 18, with the first cohort to start on 11/30/23.

Commissioner Fast also reported that she is staying informed about the Attorney General’s lawsuit against certain DC landlords for their pricing practices and that she will communicate what she learns to the SW Community. She also announced that the ANC 6D website is being revamped so that it will be more useful to the community.

Commissioner Pawley made several announcements:

Southwest Town Center Park – DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the DC Department of General Services (DGS) have just announced that the community meeting to discuss the future design of the SW Town Center Parks along 4th and I Street SW will be held Thursday November 30, 2023 from 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm in person at the Southwest Library. Splash page at <https://swtowncenter.splashthat.com/>

Community Walk – Thank you to the residents who came out for the 6D04 Community Walk with MPD on November 8th, and thank you to MPD for co-hosting all these walk throughout 6D. It was a great opportunity for residents to share their concerns and get feedback from MPD.

The Westerly is opening on November 15 – That’s the building just north of CVS on 4th Street. The sidewalk is expected to open on November 14. In the spring of 2024, the Good & Company restaurant is expected to open. In the the summer of 2024, a veterinary clinic is expected to open. And in September 2024, Appletree Charter School will begin its first school year. The ANC may hear from Appletree Charter School about that next month.

Safeway survey – Thank you to the 115 people who responded with their thoughts about service levels and service quality at Safeway on 4th Street. The Google Form will close to responses on Friday this week so if you haven’t commented and would like to, please do. The link will be in the chat at <https://forms.gle/gr9jJdsjQX69myGP9>, and you can still email Commissioner Pawley At 6d04@anc.dc.gov and Commissioner Hamilton 6d08@anc.dc.gov. Next month, Commissioner Hamilton and I will be providing an update on next steps.

Commissioner Link announced that the District Holiday Boat Parade would be held on 12/2/23 from 6-9 pm on the Southwest Waterfront. He also reported that a community walk with MPD would be held for his single-member district on 11/27/23 at 6 pm, starting at The Wharf by Phillippe Chow restaurant.

Commissioner Levine announced that there would be a community walk with MPD in his single member district on December 5, with details to follow. He also provided a report on the efforts by him and Commissioners Pawley and Hamilton to improve the situation outside the Safeway store on 4th Street, indicating that he hoped to be able to specify steps taken by the time of the December ANC meeting.

Commissioner Kramer reported on the 1319 South Capitol project and the fact that the developer has agreed to provide substantial bronze plaques that will tell the story of the historic homes on the property and the preservation efforts of SWNA and the ANC.

Community Concerns

Jeanne Mattison from Councilmember Allen's office reported that Pamela Smith has been confirmed as new Chief of Police, and that the Council had also confirmed several new leaders of DC agencies, including, DYRS and Dept. of Buildings. She indicated that Councilmember Allen has led efforts to lower fines and speed enforcement in the Clean Lanes program. Mattison invited people to nominate individuals for Brickies awards, to be given out on 12/6 at the Atlas Theater. She reported on Allen's office hours that were held on October 24 at Christine Spencer's food distribution site, and indicated that there would be office hours on 11/17 from 4:30-6 pm at 919 5th Street NW.

Willem Dicke, on behalf of Amidon-Bowen, spoke about the concern regarding swing space during upcoming renovation of the school. He asked for support from the ANC for a plan for modular units to be placed on DPR space behind Amidon. He specifically asked that the ANC follow up to make sure that DCPS undertakes a feasibility study of this plan. Commissioner Fast expressed the concern of the ANC over the situation and indicated that the Commission would follow up regarding the feasibility plan, but also reported that the ANC is looking for other alternative swing spaces in SW.

Public Safety Report from MPD

Captain Harding reported on PSA 103. He indicated that stemming from armed robbery at The Wharf and meetings with management and businesses, MPD has taken additional measures to ensure public safety at that site. He reported on a serious stabbing at 905 6th Street that resulted in an arrest. The last 30-60 days have seen a decrease in violent and property crimes with overall crime down in the PSA 27%. The only uptick has been in thefts. He asked community members to be on the lookout for a white pickup truck that has been spotted in the neighborhood and may be involved in thefts from cars. He finally indicated the

police would be fully deployed the next day because of activities at the National Mall.

Lt. Danho reported on PSA 105. Significant crime dropped in the last 30-60 days, although there were two sex abuse cases. Violent crime was down 20% but motor vehicle thefts are up. He indicated that MPD elsewhere in the District used an airtag to locate a stolen vehicle recently—airtag distribution is only in the pilot stage and may expand to other PSAs. Danho indicated community members should call MPD if they see obscured tags on vehicles, and noted that Ubers and Lyfts are having onboard cameras being made available to them.

PRESENTATIONS

DC Sentencing Commission

Brittany Bunch and Keelin Herbst of the Commission reported. They explained the role of their office, which is to oversee the implementation of the DC Voluntary Sentencing Guidelines, which are only applicable to adult felony offenses. They gave an overview of 2022 felony sentencing trends in the District—74% of 2022 sentences involved violent crimes and weapons. They hold meetings every 3rd Tuesday of each month.

DC Water Lead Free Pipe Project

Sean Moore, Communication Manager for the Project, presented on the plan to eliminate all DC lead service lines. He asked people to report issues with such lines to lead@dcwater.com. On 11/29, there will be a webinar on how to use the Project's dashboard. He announced that certain residents of SW are going to be receiving a letter with an offer to replace the service lines on four blocks within ANC 6D. Commissioner Kramer encouraged Moore to work with Commissioner Hamilton, whose SMD encompasses the four blocks.

DDOT SE/SW Freeway Project

Karen Armendariz, Jeffrey Hollands, and Abdullahi Mohamed presented on this project. DDOT is rehabilitating the bridges on the highway from 2nd St. SW to 2nd Street SE, which encompasses 3 bridges and 12 ramp bridges. The project has

moved past 65% of the design stage, and they are now developing a transportation management plan to deal with needed modifications to support construction. They will be keeping the ANC advised as the project moves forward.

Consent Agenda

The Commission voted 7-0, per the motion of Commissioner Collins, to approve the renewals of ABC licenses for Cambria Hotel, Friendly Food Market, Hilton Washington, Officina, Simply Smiles, Suns Gallery, and Holiday Inn.

Development, Planning and Transportation

Commissioner Kramer reported that the DC Preservation League's proposal re designation of Lansburgh Park was not voted on by the DC Historic Preservation Review Board, which instead invited a further proposal by the DC Preservation League.

Commissioner Kramer moved to send a letter to the Acting DDOT Director from the ANC, raising issues that we had originally presented to previous-Director Lott, inviting her to provide more and better responses and actions in response. The motion was approved, 6-0-2 (Fast and Rohmer abstaining).

Commissioner Kramer also moved to send a letter to Councilmember Allen and members of the Transportation and Environment Committee of the Council regarding the need for an improved TOPP planning process for 2024. The motion was approved 7-0-1 (Rohmer abstaining).

On motion by Commissioner Hamilton, the Commission voted 8-0 to appoint Kirk Sanders as Chair of the Special Transportation Committee.

ABC Report

Commissioner Link reported that the ABC Committee was in active discussion with Phillippe Chow and Lucky Buns regarding their respective situations and that the Committee would be meeting on Thursday.

Commissioner Pawley reported on her efforts regarding the renewal of Safeway's license. Upon her motion, by 8-0 vote, the commission voted to move to protest the ABCA license #ABRA-097697 renewal for Safeway (application name NAI SATURN EASTERN LLC) at 1100 4th Street SW absent a mutually executed Community Agreement on the grounds of peace, order and quiet. She indicated that a protest letter would need to be submitted by December 4, and that the hearing would be on December 26.

Chair's Report

Commissioner Kramer indicated that she was pleased about how the timing of the agenda of the October Business meeting worked out and her intent to continue with the same approach. She also stated that she would be sending instructions for compiling the Annual Report.

Treasurer's Report

Commissioner Collins reported on his recent meeting with Commissioner Kramer and the OANC.

On motion of Commissioner Collins, the Commission voted 7-0-1 (Fast abstaining) to approve the FY23 Q3 QFR Report for ANC 6D.

On motion of Commissioner Collins, the Commission voted 7-0-1 (Fast abstaining) to approve the FY23 Q4 QFR Report for ANC 6D.

On motion of Commissioner Collins, the Commission voted 7-0-1 (Fast abstaining) to approve the FY 2024 Budget for ANC 6D.

The Commission adjourned at approximately 9:33 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Bruce Levine.

