

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC) 6A
Minutes
Zoom Meeting
July 10, 2025**

Present: Commissioners Dave Wethington, Jeff Giertz, Stephen Kolb, Paul Spires, Amber Gove, Roberta Shapiro and Mike Velasquez were present

The meeting convened virtually via Zoom at 7:00 pm.

Commissioner Dave Wethington called the meeting to order and noted the presence of a quorum. Commissioner Wethington moved and Commissioner Amber Gove seconded the motion to amend the agenda to move an item on the consent agenda regarding Tiffany's Bar and Bistro to the ABC committee report and to move an item on the consent agenda regarding a letter of support for a DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities grant to COC committee report. The motion passed 7-0. The minutes for the ANC June 2025 meeting were accepted subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary. The agenda for the July 2025 meeting as amended was accepted by unanimous consent.

The community received meeting notice via listservs, the Hill Rag, ANC website, X, and Facebook.

Community Presentation

School Within School @ Goding Leaks in the Basement Project - Andrew Walker, DCPS

Mr. Andrew Walker from DCPS shared information on a project to waterproof the foundation wall on the south side of SWS Goding due to persistent and historical water intrusion. The goal is to start in early August and end before November; the playground will not be usable during the project but almost everything will be returned as-is. Neighbors will experience noise and construction traffic as well as limited sidewalk access and no parking Mondays through Saturdays on the north side of F Street NE.

Consent Agenda:

The following items were adopted by unanimous consent:

Alcohol Beverage and Cannabis (ABC)

- ANC6A send a letter supporting the renewal of a Class C multipurpose license with Cover Charge, Dancing, Entertainment, and Summer Garden endorsements at Gallery O on H at 1354 H Street NE (ABRA-094849) and that the ANC update the settlement agreement.
- ANC6A send a letter supporting the renewal of a Class C restaurant license Entertainment and Sidewalk Café endorsements at Fresca Taqueria 701 H Street NE (ABRA-132365)
- ANC6A protest the application for a retail Class B Beer and Wine at B & B Convenience and More at 1447 Maryland Avenue NE (ABRA-132583) unless a

settlement agreement is reached and that the ANC6A Chair and Vice-Chair and the ABC Chair represent the ANC in this matter.

- ANC6A send a letter to ABRA requesting clarification that the proposed location for Proper Exotic at 313 8th Street NE is not in violation of the proximate requirements of the specific nearby establishments that cater to children/minors.

Transportation and Public Space (TPS)

- ANC6A send a letter to DDOT requesting speed bumps in the Atlas Court alley between 11th and 12th Streets NE.

Officer Reports:

1. The July 2025 Treasurer's report submitted by Commissioner Roberta Shapiro reviewed the expenditures accrued in June: \$846.19 for webmaster services, \$275 for notetaking, and \$102.06 for a banner used for the first time at the Open Streets event. The opening uncommitted funds available on June 1 were \$30,144.96. After accounts payable, the closing available checking balance is \$28,921.71. The savings account has a balance of \$100.05. The quarterly allotment of \$4,625.95 was received without any requests for additional documentation. The Treasurer's report was approved by unanimous consent.

Standing Committee Reports:

Community Outreach (COC)

1. The May committee report has not been submitted.
2. The June 2025 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary.
3. Commissioner Wethington moved and Commissioner Paul Spires seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter of support to the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities for a public arts initiative along H Street NE within the boundaries of ANC6A.

The grant would come from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities to support H Street Main Street; the organization uplifts communities through art. Specifically, the grant would go towards replacing 140 aging metal banners, wrapping 18 traffic and streetcar boxes, replacing unfinished murals and adding new ones, and adding creative, vibrant, and improved crosswalks. The community would benefit from beautified shared spaces and minimized tagging. ANC 6C voted to support this on July 9th. The application is due on July 20th though an exact dollar amount for the grant is still unknown. Commissioner Gove added a friendly amendment that the ANC's support would be conditional on H Street Main Street's engagement of ANC6A community members throughout the inception and planning process. The motion passed 5-2 with Commissioners Shapiro and Mike Velasquez opposed.

4. Next meeting: 7:00 pm, June 28, 2025 (4th Monday)

Alcohol Beverage and Cannabis (ABC)

1. The May committee report has not been submitted.
2. The June committee report has not been submitted.
3. Commissioner Velasquez recommended and Commissioner Shapiro seconded the motion that ANC6A protest of the application for a medical cannabis license at Proper Exotic at 313 8th Street NE (ABRA-128697)

The owner of Proper Exotic spoke, noting that he is opening a medical cannabis dispensary and is open to hearing concerns. The dispensary will be exclusively for those with medical needs and the entire process is going through ABCA. The application was reinstated due to an ABCA administrative error. Per regulations, no medical cannabis can be seen through windows, there will be no consumption of medical cannabis on or outside the premises, and the products will be in a vault overnight. Neighbors noted that the space is inappropriate as it is a residential area and directly across from a daycare and several establishments patronized by children. Though there will be signage to prevent smoking within a certain distance of the establishment, many neighbors are concerned the establishment's existence will attract loitering, increased traffic, and put young children at risk. Several neighbors, including Commissioner Velasquez, noted that they are not opposed to medical cannabis, simply to the location. There are also parking concerns as the establishment has a delivery endorsement. The motion passed 7-0.

4. Commissioner Shapiro recommended and Commissioner Velasquez seconded the motion that ANC6A protest the renewal of an alcoholic beverage license with summer garden endorsement at Tiffany's Bar and Bistro at 709 H Street NE (ABRA-129463) unless a settlement agreement is reached and that the ANC6A Chair and Vice-Chair and Commissioner Shapiro represent the ANC in this matter.

Commissioner Shapiro noted that the ANC received an announcement of renewal based on the license of the previous occupant of this space, which was Po Boy Jim's. So, this is potentially not a valid protest period. If the establishment is in the renewal process, ANC6A will protest unless a settlement agreement is reached; if there is already a valid license, ANC6A will work with the establishment in good faith to reach a settlement agreement. The motion passed 7-0.

5. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, July 22, 2025 (4th Tuesday)

Transportation and Public Space (TPS)

1. The June 2025 committee report was accepted by unanimous consent subject to any minor or technical corrections approved by the Secretary.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, July 21, 2025 (3rd Monday)

Economic Development and Zoning (EDZ)

1. No report. EDZ did not meet in June 2025.
2. Next meeting - 7:00 pm, July 16, 2025 (3rd Wednesday)

New Business:

- The Commission moved that ANC6A send a letter to the DC Council regarding its concerns about Mayor Bowser's FY26 Budget.

The letter protests the fact that this is a budget balanced on the backs of the poor and vulnerable and speaks to a broad definition of public safety and funding for environmental concerns. The motion passed 6-0-1 with Commissioner Spires abstaining.

- Commissioner Gove moved and Commissioner Spires seconded the motion that ANC6A sent a letter to DDOT in support of the Notice of Intent (NOI# 25-168-CPD) to add a protected bike lane and other safety measures to 14th Street NE between Maryland Avenue and G Street NE.

DDOT presented this plan to connect bike lanes from Florida Avenue to Capitol Hill, and the plan now is to extend protections through G Street. The motion passed 7-0.

- Commissioner Wethington moved and Commissioner seconded the motion that ANC6A send a letter noting that the committee is taking no action regarding a special exception for a two-story plus basement rear addition to an existing single-family dwelling at 424 7th Street NE (BZA21323) (The property lies within ANC 6C).

ANC 6C and the restoration society have approved; the plan is to remove the current two-story addition which is a sleeping porch. It is within lot occupancy and the only requested special exemption is from the rear yard requirement. The motion passed 7-0.

Single Member District reports

Commissioner Velasquez (6A01) thanked his constituents for their persistence in submitting sidewalk repair 311 requests - several sidewalks have been or will be repaired.

Commissioner Shapiro (6A03) is disappointed that the new playground at Sherwood is full of holes and the wall of the dumpster has caved into the playground; the Commissioner is attempting to work with Councilmember Allen and DGS for permanent fixes. There was a shooting a year ago on 10th and F Streets right next to SWS and the suspect was recently tried; the judge ruled for no jail time.

Commissioner Gove (6A04) praised Commissioners Kolb, Shapiro, and Velasquez for being at the Open Streets event and interacting with neighbors. The National Parks Service provided temporary additional trash receptacles for the 4th of July celebrations. The army band performed tonight and the Lincoln Park grass is now open and there will be a celebration in honor of Dr. Mary McCleod Bethune's birthday Saturday. NPS is recruiting for their Bark Rangers program.

Commissioner Jeff Giertz (6A06) provided an update on efforts related to the 700 block of 15th Street and surrounding areas, noting that there have been some follow up steps since last month's public safety walk in the area: MPD implemented a temporary drug-free zone on the block and increased patrols and DPW conducted street cleaning and rodent abatement on the block. Efforts must continue for lasting change.

Commissioner Stephen Kolb (6A07) is grateful to Commissioner Velasquez for representing the Proper Exotic issue, which has been the main concern among neighbors in his SMD.

Community Comment

Ms. Jen DeMayo from Councilmember Allen's office noted that the Council will be holding a first vote on the budget on July 14th with the second and final vote on July 28th. The Committee on Transportation and Environment that Councilmember Allen chairs finished their work on the agencies under its oversight in June and most of those changes are going to be included in the final budget. Those changes include: a new tool from the STEER Act law that funds a dangerous driving points system; a rejection to the mayor's proposal to delay or repeal two laws dealing with emissions and pollution; funding of Councilmember Allen's law requiring DDOT to identify 3 streets to become pedestrian plazas for up to 24 hours each week; fully funding DC's commitment to WMATA including all of the 24/7 bus lines added two years ago. There are also two days of scheduled hearings on the Commanders deal, starting July 29 at 10AM; residents can sign up here: <https://lims.dccouncil.gov/Hearings/hearings/927> Ward 6 week is coming July 27 - August 2 and includes trivia night, exploring a local record store, a cake swap, a Nationals game, and much more.

Ward 6 MOCR Noah Glasgow confirmed the budget hearing on July 14th and highlighted capital investments in Mayor Bowser's budget pertinent to 6A: \$19M for renovation of Rumsey Aquatic Center, \$4M for Sherwood, \$36.6M for JO Wilson, \$10M for Shirley Chisolm, and \$8M for Amidon Bowen though modernization has been pushed to FY30. Mr. Glasgow is addressing the issues in the 700th block of 15th Street and placarded camera rebate program information in the area and is working to develop a comprehensive safety plan for students in the area.

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 PM.

These minutes were prepared by Anna Tsaur and were approved unanimously by ANC6A at its meeting on September 11, 2025, at which a quorum was present.


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Jeff Giertz, ANC6A Secretary

Sep 12, 2025