



**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8A**  
**Anacostia, Fairlawn, Hillside, Sheridan**

**Monthly General Body Meeting**

**Tuesday, June 10, 2025 | 7:00 pm**

**Public Meeting Minutes – Detailed Summary**

**Virtual Meeting (access found at website [oanc.dc.gov](https://oanc.dc.gov))**

**Agenda**

- Welcome, Roll Call, and Agenda
- Community Announcements and Commissioner Updates
- MPD Community Open Discussion
- Presentations:
  - Go-Go Museum: Juneteenth Jubilee & ABCA License Support
  - Anchor Destination at Poplar Point: Therma
  - State Board of Education Ombudsman Presentation
  - Mayoral Announcements & FY26 Budget Overview
- MOCRS and Council Updates
  - Mayoral Announcements & FY26 Budget Overview
- Action Items
- Commission Votes

**Opening**

- Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:06 PM
- Roll Call Commissioners Present: Donahue (8A01), Forman (8A02), Davis (8A03), Moore (8A04), White (8A05), McKinney (8A06), Raymond (8A07)
- Approval of Agenda: Unanimous
- Quorum Established: Yes
- Motions/Votes: Approval of February & March 2025 minutes – Passed Unanimously

**Commission Announcements and Community Discussion**

- Join the Ward 8 Faith Leaders Juneteenth Breakfast
- 8A03 is working to clean up Minnesota Ave corridor and working with small businesses, MPD, and others
- Morris Road residents advocated for DPW / DDOT to improve the alley infrastructure, and MOCRS replied that it is a private alley and the process would need to include the owners to turn over the property. There may be some funding in the budget for improvements.
- WMATA bus routes are changing starting this summer
- 8A02 is continuing to work on improving park infrastructure along Minnesota Ave
- 8A07 working on park clean-ups and starting communication with W8 Woods to support. Meeting with the new ownership of Marbury Plaza and DOB (MP name rechanged to Langston Views). Expressed frustration with DOB communication.
- 8A01 announcement: construction and planned reconstruction along 19<sup>th</sup> Street and zoning for a new building coming to the community

- Working with Boone to help improve safe passage to schools

## **MPD Update**

- 7D and 6D provided crime stats updates. Stats can be found here: <https://crimecards.dc.gov/>
- Presenters: Captain Pulliam (Sector 1), Captain Carlene Model ("Thrive" Captain)
  - Violent incidents increased due to citywide events; specific hotspots include 16th & W, Galen Terrace, Wade Road, 14th & Marion Barry Ave.
  - MPD Strategy: Targeted deployment, footbeats, multi-agency coordination, nuisance property enforcement with OAG.
  - Community Engagement: Walks and increased camera surveillance; next walk June 12 at 16th & W.
  - Commissioner Concerns: Lack of incident notifications; request restoration of ANC briefings and communication protocol.

## **Presenters:**

### **Go-Go Museum: Juneteenth Jubilee & ABCA License Support | Ron Motem**

- Presented the Anacostia Renaissance Juneteenth Jubilee, which included arts and cultural activation across Anacostia, a Freedom Walk across the 11<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge, and reenactment and performances by young people.
- Requested \$1,500 grant for Juneteenth event—Approved Unanimously
- Provided an updated Liquor License Request for the Café; need temporary license for 45 days while awaiting full approval—Approved Unanimously

### **Anchor Destination at Poplar Point: Therme | Presenters: John Altshuler (CEO, Therma), Wanda Lockridge (Local Liaison)**

- Project Overview: Wellness-focused complex including spa, family waterpark, restaurants.
- Community Concerns Raised: Affordability, RFP selection process transparency (receiving confusing information in terms of whether Therme is awarded or there is an opportunity for another use), community inclusion, and whether this is the right investment for the community
  - Many concerns raised in regards to a NY Times article questioning the financial viability of Therme
  - Questions raised around the environmental impact of this development
- No Action Requested Yet: Presentation only. Commitment to return for future engagement.

### **State Board of Education Ombudsman | Presenter: Jennifer Sousa Dodds**

## Who We Are



### OM•BUDS•MAN

The Office of the Ombudsman, is a legislatively separate and **independent office under the State Board of Education** that offers **confidential and impartial conflict resolution services** for families enrolled in District of Columbia public schools.

### WHAT WE DO

The Office serves as a resource for **families and schools who need assistance resolving school-based concerns**. The Office ensures **equitable access to instruction** by providing **policy recommendations** to enhance educational outcomes based on observed trends in our casework.

## Our Work



### Casework

In over 10 years, we've served over 6,000 families as a bridge for communication between schools and families, addressing education-related concerns and complaints, and evaluating them thoroughly to improve outcomes.



### Policy Recommendations

Develop and propose policy recommendations aimed at addressing root causes and promoting equitable, effective solutions for families and schools.



### Outreach and Training

By engaging the community through events and SpEd Hub trainings for parents and caregivers, we increase awareness of our services and foster meaningful relationships with families and educational stakeholders.



### Mediations

We conduct mediations with individual schools at their request and collaborate with the Office of the Attorney General to identify barriers to school attendance and connect families with resources that enhance student engagement.

## Services We **CAN** Provide

**Provide information** on local and federal education policies and rules

**Support families** in navigating the education process

**Offer strategies** for resolving educational issues

**Help families develop solutions** to address their concerns

**Promote positive collaboration** between families and school staff

**Report patterns of concerns to SBOE leadership** to address systemic issues

**Serve as a resource for education-related information** and referrals to programs and services

**Provide strategies to help schools develop internal conflict resolution plans** and implement restorative justice practices

## Services We **CANNOT** Provide

**Advocate for any individual or cause**

**Breach confidentiality** by revealing the identity of a constituent

**Conduct formal or in-depth investigations**

**Make management decisions** for the DC government or DC schools

**Create, change, or set aside established policies**

**Testify or participate in grievances** or other formal processes

**Offer any kind of legal advice**

**Determine guilt, innocence, or right and wrong**

**Show favoritism by promoting** a school, community partner, or organization over another



### Heads up!



Our primary goal is for parents, guardians, caregivers, and others who engage with our office to feel empowered and better informed after working with us.

While a **desired resolution may not always be achieved** for all parties involved, we strive to provide clarity and support by:

- Helping families **understand the policies and rights** available to them and their students.
- **Equipping them with the tools to make the best-informed decisions** for their child.

Empowerment and knowledge are at the heart of what we do!

## DC Special Education Hub Services



### Virtual and In-Person Trainings

The Family Empowerment Series offers free in-person or virtual trainings tailored to PTOs, parent groups, and community organizations, addressing top special education questions for all knowledge levels.



### 1:1 Support and Communication

Families can connect with us via hotline, email, contact form, or at community-based trainings, with services available in any language, including ASL, through our translation support.



### Online and Hard Copy Resources

We offer comprehensive, accessible resources to support families in their special education journeys, including materials in 11 languages, a literature request form, and a dynamic six-part video series covering top special education questions and topics.



## Receive SpEd Hub Resources



### Literature Request Form

Our literature, available in multiple languages, helps families and community members understand Special Education resources, programming, and law.



### Training Calendar

Stay updated with our calendar of events and trainings, which will keep you informed about the various training sessions and support services we offer!



### Video Series

This six-part dynamic video series clarifies special education in DC public schools and create an accessible bridge for caregivers, families, and educators.



### SpEd Hub Website

Our website, available in six different languages, offers a range of resources, including information on advocacy, transitions, legal services, and more.



## STAY CONNECTED WITH US!

**Still have questions? We have answers!**  
Don't hesitate to reach out—we are here to support you! Please use our information to stay in touch with us.



### Kimberly R. Humphrey, Esq.

kimberly.humphrey@dc.gov  
(202) 257-3380



### Jenifer Souza-Dodds

jenifer.souza-dodds@dc.gov  
(202) 741-0886



(202) 741-0886



ombudsman@dc.gov



educationombudsman.dc.gov

## Mayor's Office Update | Presenter: Wendy Glenn

- Presented an overview of the Mayor's FY26 budget, highlighting Ward 8 investments:
  - Housing: \$120M for redevelopment
  - Schools: Modernization across several schools
  - Recreation: \$36M for facilities and libraries
  - Transportation: \$199M citywide, \$21M Ward 8
  - Public Safety: \$45M for 7D HQ renovation
- Final Budget Vote: July 15, 2025
- Residents encouraged to submit testimony by June 17

## Commission Votes

- Comr Moore moved a motion to approve the February and March 2025 agenda meeting minutes, seconded by Comr. Davis. Vote passed unanimously.
- Comr. McKinney moved a motion to support the Go Go Museum's 45-day temporary ABCA liquor license for the 45-day period, seconded by Comr. Davis. Motion passed unanimously.
- Comr. McKinney moved a motion to support the \$ 1,500 grant application for the Juneteenth Jubilee contingent upon OANC approval, seconded by Comr. Donohue. Motion passed unanimously.


## Action Items

- MPD/ANC Communications: Reinstate rapid response protocols
- Juneteenth Grant: Finalize documentation with OANC
- Therme Project: Request clear engagement commitments
- Alley Maintenance: Further research "paper" alleys with DPW/DDOT
- Newsletter: Subscribe to ANC 8A's newsletter!

**Adjournment:** Cmr. White moved to close, and motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM. The Next regular ANC8A meeting is scheduled for July 1, 2025

Approved on: JULY 1, 2025

Attested by:

  
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