

MINUTES

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6B
Regular Monthly Meeting
September 8, 2026
Held in Person at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE and over Zoom
Commissioner Sam Pastore, Chair**

Approved at ANC 6B meeting October 13, 2026

Participating: Commissioners Gorman, Hughes, Krebs, Pastore, Sobelsohn, Sroufe, and Wolanin.

Absent: Commissioner Mareino.

Vacant: ANC 6B08.

Commissioner Pastore called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

1. Adoption of Agenda. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Hughes seconded to adopt the agenda as proposed. At the motion of the following commissioners, and without objection, the agenda was amended as followed: Commissioner--

a. Hughes moved to place, on the Consent Agenda, support for the Folger Library's application to add a summer-garden endorsement to its existing alcohol license (ABRA-001792).

b. Wolanin moved to eliminate, from the Transportation Committee report, discussions of--

1) The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and of--

2) DC regulation of personal-delivery devices.

c. Sobelsohn: to place on the agenda, after "Announcements," a presentation about Initiative 86, which would ban restaurant sales of foie gras.

The motion passed 6-0. Commissioner Sroufe did not vote.

2. Consent Agenda. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Wolanin seconded to adopt the Consent Agenda as modified. The motion passed 6-0. Commissioner Sroufe did not vote. The Consent Agenda included the following:

a. July 14 minutes: Adoption of the July 14, 2026 minutes as proposed. Those minutes can be found at <https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/ANC6B-6-2026-Full-Meeting-Minutes.pdf>.

b. Acknowledgement of receipt of written reports or minutes from the following committees: of the Committee on--

1) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis. The committee's September 5 report can be found at <https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/ANC6B-09-2026-ABC-Committee-Report.pdf>.

2) Transportation. The committee's September 2 report can be found at <https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/ANC6B-09-2026-Transportation-Committee-Report.pdf>.

3) Planning and Zoning. The committee's September 3 minutes can be found at <https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/ANC6B-09-2026-PZ-Committee-Report.pdf>.

4) Public Safety. The committee's July 27 report can be found at <https://anc6b.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/08-2026-ANC6B-Public-Safety-Meeting-Report.pdf>.

c. Recommendations of the following committees: of the Committee on--

1) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis: that the ANC support--

a) Alcohol-license renewal applications for the following retailers.

1-- DCanter, 545 8th St., SE (ABRA-090639).

2-- Yes! Organic Market, 410 8th St., SE (ABRA-089539).

3-- Trader Joe's East, 750 Pennsylvania Ave., SE (ABRA-100872).

4-- Capitol Supreme Market, 501 4th St., SE (ABRA-111567).

b) The application of the Folger Shakespeare Library, 201 E. Capitol St., SE, for a substantial change in its current alcoholic-beverage license to add a summer-garden endorsement (ABRA-001792).

2) Transportation: that the ANC urge the DC Department of Transportation to study and implement traffic-safety measures on the 700 block of 13th St., SE.

3) Planning and Zoning: that the ANC support an application, by the owners of 400 Seward Sq., SE for a variance for internal construction in this multi-unit apartment building (BZA #21491), with any support letter to explicitly note that the ANC takes no position on the pending tenant application to purchase the property under the Tenant Opportunity to Purchase Act (DC Code §§ 42-3404.02 through 42-3404.34).

3. Announcements: by--

a. ANC 6B commissioners: by Commissioner--

1) Pastore.

a) Art All Night: On Friday, September 11, from 5-10 p.m., Eastern Market Main Street and Barracks Row Main Street will host Art All Night in ANC 6B.

b) Executive Committee report: On Tuesday, August 25, the Executive Committee voted to support a stipulated license for the Folger Library's application to add a summer-garden endorsement to its existing alcohol license (ABRA-001792).

c) Upcoming meetings: of--

1-- ANC 6B committees and task forces.

a-- Hybrid meetings: These meetings will take place in person, and over Zoom, at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, of the--

(1) Committee on Public Safety, 6:30 p.m. Monday, September 28.

(2) Southeast Library Taskforce, 6:30 p.m. Monday, September 28.

b-- Virtual meetings: The following ANC 6B committees will hold meetings exclusively over Zoom.

(1) Executive Committee, 7 p.m. Tuesday, September 29.

(2) Committees on--

(a) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis, 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 6.

(b) Transportation, 7 p.m. Wednesday, October 7.

(c) Planning and Zoning, 7 p.m. Thursday, October 8.

c-- Exclusively in-person meeting: of the Public Parks and Recreation Spaces Taskforce, at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, Monday, October 5, at 7 p.m.

2-- Full-ANC 6B regular monthly meeting, in person at 700 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 13 and livestreamed over Zoom.

All links to livestreamed ANC meetings will be posted at anc6b.org.

3-- Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee, in person in North Hall's Eastern Market, 225 7th St., SE, 7 p.m. Wednesday, September 30, and also livestreamed.

2) Wolanin: This year's Duddington Day Block Party will take place Saturday, September 19, from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.

3) Sobelsohn: The newly renovated Southeast Library, 403 7th St., SE, will reopen Thursday, September 10, with a ribbon-cutting event at 11 a.m., followed by a public community celebration later that day from 5-7 p.m.

4) Hughes: The DC Council has passed Councilmember Allen's Regulation of Event Secondary Access, Licensing, and Enforcement Act, which places strict consumer protections and a 10% cap on ticket-resale markups for live events in Washington, DC. Unless Mayor Bowser vetoes the bill, or Congress blocks it, the law will take effect on January 1, 2027.

b. Other DC government representatives.

1) Kimberly Kennedy, of the office of Ward Six Councilmember Charles Allen, announced that, regarding--

a) The recent storm. To report a fallen tree on public property, call 311, report "down tree" or request "tree inspection," then send the 311 request number to kkennedy@dccouncil.gov. Property owners have responsibility for fallen trees on their own property. Trees fallen in an alley are the responsibility of the owner of the property closest to the tree.

b) The Southeast Library renovation. It cost DC \$33 million and took 2½ years.

2) Captain Adam Crist of the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), made announcements.

a) Crime in ANC 6B: in the past 12 months--

1-- Violent crime has dropped 50% to among the lowest level of any ANC in DC.

2-- Carjacking has dropped 62%, with an overall 51% drop in thefts of motor vehicles.

b) IOEAA: He doesn't know if MDP had input into the proposed Illegal Occupancy Enforcement Amendment Act of 2026 (Bill 26-0757), which would authorize MPD to remove tenants who overstay short-term rentals.

c) Traffic cameras: Through the company Leonardo ELSAG, MPD has operated automatic license-plate recognition (ALPR) cameras for over 10 years. More recently MPD has used ALPR cameras from Flock. Using these companies' cameras, MPD can quickly check if a car or plate is listed as stolen. But before stopping a car, a police officer is supposed to confirm with the National Crime Information Center.

d) Cannabis licensees: He sees no ongoing issues regarding legal cannabis dispensaries in ANC 6B.

c. Resident Allison McGill announced that Ward 7 Health Day will take place Saturday, October 17, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on the Eastern Market Metrorail Plaza. The event will include free immunizations and health screenings.

4. Presentations.

a. Initiative 86.

November's general-election ballot will include Initiative 86, the "Prohibiting Force-Feeding of Birds Act." I-86 would ban the sale of foie gras produced by force-feeding ducks and geese. The Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington and local chefs, notably ANC 6B's Butterworth's owner Bart Hutchins, argue that I-86 would hurt local business, restrict diner choice, and punish farmers who adhere to high standards. I-86 organizer Slobodan Milić spoke in favor of the initiative. Milić characterized force-feeding of ducks and geese as "animal torture" that causes disease and bruises, all to produce a delicacy few diners can afford. Only 24 DC restaurants consistently serve foie gras. Spain produces foie gras without force-feeding. Only two American farms still use force-feeding to produce foie gras. More than 25 countries and several American cities already prohibit sale of foie gras produced this way. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Wolanin seconded to approve a resolution in support of I-86. The resolution reads [if someone resumes posting our resolutions on the ANC 6B website, we can instead have this read "For the text of the resolution, go to (& insert the URL for the resolution)]:

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT INITIATIVE 86
Prohibiting Sale of Products Derived from Force-Feeding Animals

WHEREAS, foie gras is a luxury food, produced by force-feeding ducks and geese through a tube to grow their livers up to ten times their original size, causing broken beaks, throat injuries, and organ failure, and

WHEREAS, the American Veterinary Medical Association has identified serious concerns with foie-gras production, and

WHEREAS, DC produces no foie gras, and less than 2% of DC restaurants sell foie gras, and

WHEREAS, California, Pittsburgh, and 27 countries, including the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, India, Norway, Poland, Turkey, and Israel, ban the sale of foie gras made from force-feeding, and

WHEREAS, 87% of Americans support a ban on selling force-fed foie gras, and

WHEREAS, Initiative 86, the Prohibiting Force-Feeding of Birds Act of 2026, would ban the sale of products derived from force-fed birds, including foie gras, effective July 1, 2027, and

WHEREAS, Initiative 86 will be on the general-election ballot this November,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 6B--

1. Supports Initiative 86, the Prohibiting Force-Feeding of Birds Act of 2026;
2. Encourages ANC 6B residents to vote for Initiative 86; and--
3. Urges the DC Council and Mayor to support policies that end the sale of products derived from force-feeding.

The motion passed 6-0. Commissioner Sroufe did not vote.

b. DC Water Emergency Lead-Pipe Replacement.

DC Water's Sean Moore made a presentation about his company's emergency water-main replacement of lead pipes around Mott's Market, 233 12th St., SE. DC Water has discovered a leak in the water main that services homes on Gessford Court, SE. DC Water will plug the leak, replace the water-main line, and replace all lead service lines with copper lines. On August 31, DC Water started work on the lines connecting to Gessford Court. It expects to finish that work in October. Then DC Water will replace the lines in the alley next to Mott's Market. That work will take two months. DC Water expects the work will require "short" water outages, "mostly" lasting "a few hours." DC Water's Moore promised Friday notice to affected residents of water shutoffs expected in the following week.

In what Moore called "active work areas," DC will ban parking. DC will also close the 12th St. side of the alley next to Mott's Market, but only during construction hours, enabling access after construction hours.

After pipe replacement, affected homeowners should flush their interior pipes. Moore promised that DC Water will provide affected homeowners with 6 months of filters. DC Water will replace lead home-service lines for free for those homeowners who provide permission. According to Moore, DC Water has replaced 33% of DC's lead service lines, and has targeted 2037 for completion.

For further information, homeowners should email Vaishnavi.Vodela@dcwater.com, lead@dcwater.com, or call 202-787-4044. DC Water also has a construction dashboard.

5. Committee and Taskforce Reports: from--

a. Committees on--

1) Alcoholic Beverage and Cannabis: Application of BluntSluts Cannabis Parlour for a new medical cannabis retail license (ABRA-128891). BluntSluts Cannabis Parlour, 1221 Pennsylvania Ave., SE, has applied for a medical-cannabis license to include endorsements for delivery, educational tasting, and safe-use treatment. BluntSluts proposes a femme-positive women-focused facility. It already has one in Adams-Morgan. The committee recommended support, conditioned on the execution of a signed settlement, a draft of which the applicant and the committee have already agreed to in substance. Commissioner Hughes moved/- Commissioner Gorman seconded to support the application, contingent on Commissioner Hughes and the applicant's finalizing a settlement agreement that will only have what Commissioner Hughes called "minor changes" from the settlement mostly already agreed to. The motion passed 6-0. Commissioner Sobelsohn abstained.

2) Transportation: Commissioner Wolanin, committee chair, reported on the committee's September 2 DC Department of Transportation presentation on robot delivery devices.

3) Planning and Zoning: Valerie Tyler, of 319 Kentucky Ave., SE, complained about the height of a neighbor's "privacy fence." Commissioner Pastore recommended she bring her complaint to the October 8 meeting of the Planning and Zoning Committee.

4) Public Safety Committee: Commissioner Gorman, committee chair, reported plans to invite a representative of the Capitol Hill Business Improvement District's "Clean Team" to report, to the committee, regarding safety issues members of the Clean Team have observed.

b. Taskforces on--

1) Southeast Library: Commissioner Sobelsohn, taskforce chair, reported that the next taskforce meeting, September 28, will include an evaluation of the taskforce's work, an assessment of the library since its reopening September 10, and discussion of the taskforce's future.

2) Public Parks and Recreation Spaces: Commissioner Wolanin reported that the National Park Service now plans to reopen Folger Park by October 31.

c. Eastern Market Community Advisory Committee: Commissioner Pastore reported that EMCAC has established a construction committee to deal with renovation of the Rumsey Aquatic Center, 635 North Carolina Ave., SE, scheduled to close October 1.

6. Financial Report. Commissioner Krebs, ANC treasurer, reported that the ANC spent no money since its July meeting, and promised to determine why the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions has not sent ANC 6B any quarterly stipends this year. She calculates that the OANC owes ANC 6B \$18,000. Commissioner Hughes moved/Commissioner Pastore seconded to allocate up to \$3,000 to purchase new electronic equipment, at least a computer, for the ANC 6B staffperson. The motion passed 7-0.

7. Adjournment. Commissioner Sobelsohn moved/Commissioner Pastore seconded to adjourn. The motion passed 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ David Sobelsohn
ANC 6B Secretary