

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E  
Virtual Public Meeting  
Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E convened via Zoom Video Conference and/or Telephone on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Michael Eichler, ANC 6E01  
Alex Lopez, ANC 6E02  
Frank S. Wiggins, ANC 6E03  
Rachelle Nigro, ANC 6E04  
Patrick Parlej, ANC 6E05  
Denise Blackson, ANC 6E06

Absent:

Kevin M. Rogers, ANC 6E07

**I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Commissioner Rachelle Nigro with a quorum present.

**II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Alex Marriott, former ANC 6E05 Commissioner, was invited to preside over the Election of Officers. The following are the results:

Position	Nominee(s)	Vote via Show of Hands	
		Yes	No
Chair	Rachelle Nigro	6	0
Vice Chair	Michael Eichler	6	0
Secretary	Alex Lopez	6	0
Treasurer	Frank Wiggins	6	0

The newly elected Officers assumed office immediately upon completion of the Election of Officers.

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded to approve the Agenda as presented. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

**IV. PSA REPORTS – 1D, 3D INSERT NEW**

**3D (PSA 308):** Lieutenant Michael Dae reported on crime for the past 30 days. There was an increase in robberies – an arrest was made on 12/28/20; there were six (6) car thefts – MPD reached out to Uber and Door Dash to instruct their drivers not to leave their vehicles running when making deliveries. He provided an update on the 11/19/20 shooting at 437 New York Avenue, NW and stated there was no specific target for the shooting. On 11/14/20, there was a shooting with one victim; on 11/20/20 there was an attempted robbery. Lt. Dae’s contact info: [m.dae@dc.gov](mailto:m.dae@dc.gov); phone: 202-702-9741.

**1D (PSA 103):** Lieutenant Dae reported on behalf of Captain Jonathan Dorough who was unable to be present. He stated there was no change in crime over the past 30 days. There was one ADW at 53 L Street, NW on 12/16/20 where one person was shot at; there was another ADW at 99 H Street, NW on 12/9/20.

A question-and-answer period followed. Chair Nigro asked about shots fired on New Year’s Day. Commissioner Eichler asked what MPD is doing to reduce auto thefts, for example, is it ticketing vehicles or giving warnings? Commissioner Eichler also stated he has been in communication with 3D’s Cdr. Stuart Emerman about what protocols MPD is following in regard to non-emergency police vehicles blocking bike lanes. Commissioner Wiggins asked about what MPD is doing about package thefts.

**V. REPORTS FROM COUNCILMEMBER ALLEN’S OFFICE AND MAYOR’S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND SERVICES (MOCRS)**

Naomi Mitchell of Councilmember Charles Allen’s office congratulated the new and returning commissioners. The new commissioners and councilmembers were sworn in on Sunday, January 3, 2021. Two women were elected as councilmembers and this is the first year where there is a majority of female councilmembers. Councilmember Charles Allen was asked to continue as Chair of the Public Safety Committee and to head up a new committee on the COVID-19 pandemic recovery. He will be visiting ANCs in February and March. The Mayor and City Council have requested that DC residents avoid areas where protests will be taking place.

Talib Shakir, new Ward 6 Liaison for the Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), provided the following target dates for COVID-19 vaccinations: Week of January 11, 2021: DC residents 65 years of age or older; Week of January 25, 2021: Specific categories of essential workers, including public safety workers, grocery store workers, workers in Pre-K-12 educational settings and childcare settings; Week of February 1: DC residents with chronic medical conditions and other essential workers.

A question and answer period followed. Commissioner Lopez asked what the timeline is for vaccine distribution to the homeless, incarcerated individuals in DC jails and juveniles in detention facilities (Phase 1B). He was informed that DHS protocols will be maintained.

**VI. DISCUSSION ABOUT DC PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITIES MASTER PLAN; RENOVATION OF SHAW LIBRARY AND POTENTIAL CLOSURE OF NW ONE LIBRARY [6E01 AND 6E07]**

Richard Reyes-Gavilan, Executive Director, DC Public Library, provided a PowerPoint presentation about the DC Public Library Facilities Master Plan 2021-2030, the first of its kind.

He stated the 10-year plan will: **(1)** Protect the investment made in DCPL's new buildings; **(2)** Adapt library interior spaces for the evolving needs of changing communities; and **(3)** grow the library system equitably and smartly. He noted, however, that the plan is not fixed and not inflexible, not funded, and will not move forward without broad support from community members and elected officials. Future neighborhood and site-level studies as well as community engagement will be required to determine project feasibility and identify specific sites as needed. He also stated it is not a financial plan nor a commitment by the Library or District to any specific project or other recommendation.

The Shaw Library is eligible for a systems renewal project in 4-6 years and a functional refresh in 1-3 years. The Northwest One Library is managed by the Department of General Services (DGS), not DCPL. There is a lack of meeting, study, and collaboration space, lack of program room, lack of separate spaces for adults, teens, and children and insufficient restrooms.

The presentation featured the current distribution of libraries highlighting proximity, small libraries and service gaps. It was noted that service gaps do not necessarily suggest a new library building is needed.

A comment period followed. Commissioner Eichler stated the library distribution map does not show population density around the green circles. Commissioner Blackson stated the Northwest One Library is used regularly on a daily basis by neighborhood residents and should not be shut down. Commissioner Lopez stated that while the Northwest One area is depleted of residents, the population estimates need to be revisited because of future planned development in that area. Commissioner Lopez questioned why, among the four small neighborhood libraries, only the Northwest One library was recommended for closure. Commissioner Lopez continued stating that the proposed closure of Northwest One does not address existing operational deficiencies at the library and would create a new service gap in a neighborhood that has been chronically underserved by DCPL. Commissioner Lopez observed that the Northwest One Library was a key piece of the Northwest One Redevelopment Plan and that the library is supported in both the current and the proposed revisions to the Comprehensive Plan.

**VII. METROPOLITAN WELLNESS CENTER (KINFOLK MEDICAL CANNABIS DISPENSARY): REQUEST FOR SUPPORT TO RELOCATE OPERATIONS FROM 409 8<sup>TH</sup> STREET, SE TO 433 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NW [6E05]**

Corey Barnette stated they have been in operation since the beginning of 2013 and have been operating in 850 square feet of attic space at 409 8<sup>th</sup> Street, SE. There have been no crime incidents involving the center itself. When asked, the center has cooperated with MPD by allowing access to its exterior cameras for investigations of crimes not related to the center. The center has a lot of disabled patients. It needs more than 850 square feet to operate. They had been looking for a building with separate entrances and approximately 2,500 – 4,000 square feet of space as well as street level access. They

found a building with the required space at 433 Massachusetts Avenue, NW and the plan is to move their operations there in February 2021. Commissioner Parlej stated he supports their request – they have cameras outside and they close at 8:00 p.m.

Alex Padro stated ANC 6E’s ABC Licensing Committee met, received answers to its questions, and voted to support their transfer application.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Parlej moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded that ANC 6E **support** the request of Metropolitan Wellness Center (Kinfolk Medical Cannabis Dispensary) to relocate its operations from 409 8<sup>th</sup> Street, SE to 433 Massachusetts Avenue, NW and that said support be communicated in writing to ABRA. The Motion **passed** 5 yeas (Commissioners Eichler, Lopez, Nigro, Parlej, Blackson) – 0 nays – 1 abstention (Commissioner Wiggins).

**VIII. 1400 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET, NW, GIANT OF MARYLAND LLC (STORE #2376): REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OF RENEWAL OF CLASS B/RETAIL-GROCERY AND A TASTING ENDORSEMENT [6E01]**

Representatives Present: Steve O’Brien; Timothy Baker

At its December 1, 2020 Public Meeting, ANC 6E protested the licensee’s request based on the fact that there was no representative present and then Commissioner Padro’s inability to get proper contact information from ABRA for the licensee. Alex Padro stated he will be sending a letter to ABRA requesting that ABRA reinstitute its process of providing ANCs with proper contact information for licensees. Steve O’Brien stated there has been only one issue with a sale to a minor over two years ago. He has not heard anything about complaints. ANC 6E’s ABC Licensing Committee met and voted to withdraw its protest of the licensee’s renewal request.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Eichler moved and Commissioner Blackson seconded that ANC 6E **withdraw** its protest for license renewal of 1400 7<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Giant of Maryland LLC (Store #2376) and **support** their renewal request for a Class B/Retail-Grocery and a Tasting Endorsement license, said support to be communicated in writing to ABRA. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

**IX. CAPITAL BIKESHARE FOR ALL – PRICING**

Lester Wallace reported that Capital Bikeshare has expanded its financial assistance programs. Their main source has been the Community Partners Program which was only specific to DC and Alexandria. Capital Bikeshare for All has expanded and is now available to residents ages 18 and older who qualify for a state or federal assistance program who live in DC, Arlington, VA, Alexandria, VA, Prince George’s County, MD, Fairfax County VA, City of Falls Church, VA, and Montgomery County, MD. The annual membership fee is \$5.00 with unlimited rides and the first 60 minutes of each trip included.

A question and answer period followed.

**X. DDOT INFORMATION ABOUT NEAR NORTHWEST III SAFETY AND MOBILITY STUDY COMMUNITY MEETING**

Andrew DeFrank, DDOT Community Engagement Specialist, shared information that DDOT will kick-off the Near Northwest III Safety and Mobility Study with its first public meeting to be held on February 16, 2021. The Study seeks a proactive approach to address multimodal improvements at a local level. The study will focus on short-term recommendations for neighborhood roads that are easily implementable to improve safety and access for all people. The February public meeting DDOT will introduce the project, share data collected from existing resources, and provide opportunities for participants to share ideas.

Chair Nigro stated the public meeting should be heavily advertised. Commissioner Lopez stated the TAC is thinking about tactical interventions within the study area. The next TAC meeting is Tuesday, January 26, 2021.

## **XI. ANC 6E TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Commissioner Parlej introduced Commissioner Lopez to speak on the following:

- **Update: Conversion of 4-1/2 Street, NW to One-Way Southbound between I Street and K Street, NW [6E05]**

On June 4, 2019, ANC 6E wrote to DDOT with the request to convert the 900 block of 4-1/2 Street NW between K Street NW and I Street NW from a Two-Way to a One-Way Southbound Street.

On December 28, 2020, the Mount Vernon Triangle Community Improvement District wrote to the TAC with a Statement of Need to Convert 4-1/2 Street NW to One Way Operations.

At its 12/29/20 meeting, the TAC voted to recommend that ANC 6E restate its support for the One-Way Conversion of 4-1/2 Street, NW to One Way Southbound between I and K Street, NW and communicate that to DDOT. The letter will mirror the June 4, 2019 letter sent to DDOT but without the verbiage regarding vertical speed controls and signage.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Parlej moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded that ANC 6E restate its support to Convert the 900 Block of 4-1/2 Street NW between K Street, NW and I Street NW from a Two-Way to a One-way Southbound Street and that this be communicated in writing to DDOT. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

- **Request for Funding of North Capitol Street Concept Study in FY22 District Budget [6E06, 6E07]**

Commissioner Lopez stated North Capitol Street is dangerous to road users and does not serve residents or businesses. The TAC is working with transportation advocates and ANCs to try and get DDOT to take action on studies that have already been funded. He requested ANC 6E to sign on to a letter to the Mayor, Council, and the Directors of DDOT and OP to request funding in the FY22 District Budget for a concept study to re-imagine North Capitol Street and to provide a safe way for

residents to get to and from their homes and to create an accessible, appealing commercial corridor to attract visitors to the existing and coming small businesses.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded that ANC 6E sign on to the letter requesting funding in the FY22 Budget for a concept study to re-imagine the North Capitol Street corridor. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

## **XII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2020 MEETING**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Blackson seconded to approve the Minutes of the **December 1, 2020** ANC 6E Public Meeting with any edits to be submitted to the Recording Secretary. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

## **XIII. APPROVAL OF MONTHLY MEETING DATES**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Wiggins seconded to approve the following ANC 6E 2021 Public Meeting schedule:

Tuesday, January 5, 2021  
Tuesday, February 2, 2021  
Tuesday, March 2, 2021  
Tuesday, April 6, 2021  
Tuesday, May 4, 2021  
Tuesday, June 1, 2021  
Tuesday, July 6, 2021  
NO MEETING IN AUGUST  
Tuesday, September 7, 2021  
Tuesday, October 5, 2021  
Tuesday, November 2, 2021  
Tuesday, December 7, 2021  
Tuesday, January 4, 2022

The Motion passed unanimously.

ANC 6E Public Meetings will continue to be held virtually until further notice.

## **XIV. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Wiggins stated the balance in the checking account as of December 30, 2020 was \$50,708.47.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Eichler seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

- o **ANC Security Fund Participation**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded to approve ANC 6E participation in the ANC Security Fund at a cost of \$25.00. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

#### **XV. APPROVAL OF EXPENSES**

- A. **MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Blackson seconded to approve the invoice submitted by 80Port, LLC in the amount of \$175.00 for the ANC 6E website. The Motion **passed** unanimously.
- B. **MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Blackson seconded to approve for payment the Zoom Invoice in the amount of \$68.89 submitted by Commissioner Nigro for videoconference services. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

#### **XVI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Commissioner Nigro stated a Neighborhood Watch for 6E04 is being started in partnership with MPD and more information will follow.
- B. A Community Meeting will be held on January 19, 2021 to discuss the plans for the proposed redevelopment of the park at New Jersey and O Street, NW.
- C. The Commission is seeking nominations for residents to chair the TAC, ABC Licensing Committee, and Zoning Committee. Residents are also encouraged to join these committees as members.
- D. Theresa DuBois, Acting Director of Community Engagement for Events DC, offered her congratulations to the new and returning commissioners. Events DC's FY 21 grant program has launched with a deadline of March 1, 2021. The grant program provides financial support to qualifying non-profit organizations dedicated to supporting children through sports, performing arts or cultural arts in DC. From January 12-16, 2021, virtual information sessions will be held weekly at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. where the application process and required documentation will be discussed.
- E. Commissioner Nigro thanked Marcus Whitaker and Ed Andersen for serving as co-hosts of the Zoom Videoconference for tonight's ANC 6E Public Meeting.

#### **XVII. NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2021**

#### **XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Wiggins seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The Motion **passed** unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Jehle  
Recording Secretary  
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