

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E
Virtual Public Meeting
Tuesday, February 2, 2021**

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E convened via Zoom Video Conference and/or Telephone on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Michael Eichler, ANC 6E01
Alex Lopez, ANC 6E02
Frank S. Wiggins, ANC 6E03
Rachelle Nigro (Chair), ANC 6E04
Patrick Parlej, ANC 6E05
Denise Blackson, ANC 6E06
Kevin M. Rogers, ANC 6E07

Absent:

None

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

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

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

III. PSA REPORTS – 1D, 3D

1D (PSA 103): Lieutenant Wayne Steinhilber reported that for the past 30 days, overall crime was down from 35 to 30. Theft from Auto declined from 17 to 7; there was an increase in Motor Vehicle Thefts. There was one ADW at 230 K Street NW (verbal altercation); ADW at 901 NJ Avenue, NW, and an Attempted Robbery at 301 I Street, NW; The DC Police Bike Patrol will be participating tomorrow in the funeral of Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick. He stated residents should monitor social media for road closures.

A question-and-answer period followed. Commissioner Blackson asked why there is no longer a patrol at 1st and M Streets, NW. There is damaged infrastructure in her neighborhood as a result of all the shootings and more police presence is needed in her area. Commissioner Rogers stated crime is up in his neighborhood. There was a camera there, but now it has been taken down. He would like to see another camera installed and additional lighting. He also asked about the status of a shooting on October 5, 2020. Commissioner Parlej asked whether any crimes occurred in 1D as a result of the Capitol Insurrection on January 6, 2021.

3D (PSA 308): Captain David Augustine reported on crime for the past 30 days. There was a homicide at 1300 7th Street, NW – a gun was recovered; hope to close the case soon; Robbery on 1/8 – started out as a stolen auto; Another robbery at 1700 block of 9th Street, NW – car recovered; 3 stolen autos; 1/18 – 600 block of P Street NW – vehicle recovered and made one arrest and recovered a handgun. 1/5 – 1200 block of 6th Street, NW and 1300 block of 9th Street, NW – Stolen Autos are a huge issue. Contact info: david.augustine@dc.gov

A question-and-answer period followed. Commissioner Wiggins stated he has seen more people sleeping in their cars and asked what the city's response is to this. Captain Augustine responded MPD is trying to connect these people with resources. Commissioner Eichler asked about Stolen Autos and the crimes that happen after they are stolen. He asked what preventative measures are being taken for idling cars and whether there is any strategic program for nabbing the thieves. He requested MPD provide statistics on the number of idling cars that were given warnings or citations, and examples of flyers used to discourage drivers leaving their cars running with the keys in the ignition.

IV. REPORTS FROM COUNCILMEMBER ALLEN'S OFFICE AND MAYOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND SERVICES (MOCRS)

Talib Shakir, Ward 6 Liaison for the Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services (MOCRS), reported on the vaccine process and upcoming Budget Oversight Hearings.

Commissioners raised issues with the registration process itself for COVID-19 vaccinations and that the system needs to be improved. Commissioner Eichler stated vaccine distribution is being given to priority zip codes.

V. BRIEFING ON THE SURSUM CORDA TURNKEY AND SIBLEY TOWNHOME RFP [6E06]

Representatives Present: Tyrone Garrett, Executive Director, DC Housing Authority, Andre Gould, Debra Jackson, Katrina Jeter

Commissioner Denise Blackson asked Mr. Garrett about the status of the Sibley Townhome RFP. Mr. Garrett responded this is an open procurement, the RFP has been put out to bid, and there have been submissions. DCHA is evaluating these now. There is no time frame yet. Mr. Garrett stated DCHA will be coming back to the ANC and residents directly as the RFP progresses.

Commissioner Blackson asked whether the relocation of residents has started yet and was informed yes. Commissioner Lopez asked – **(1)** are the 50 units for returning residents sufficient?; **(2)** are there any other requirements to build affordable housing? **(3)** will residents have a role in the process?

VI. SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH, 1500 BLOCK OF 9TH STREET, NW: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT OF AN AMENDMENT FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUTURE LAND USE MAP (“FLUM”) DESIGNATION FOR THE SHILOH PROPERTY FROM: A MIX OF MODERATE DENSITY RESIDENTIAL; MIXED-USE MEDIUM DENSITY COMMERCIAL/MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL; AND LOCAL PUBLIC FACILITY TO: ALL MIXED-USE MEDIUM DENSITY COMMERCIAL AND MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENTIAL [6E01]

Representative Present: Simone Goring-Devaney

Ms. Goring-Devaney stated there are no definitive development plans yet to share.

Mr. Timothy Babatz questioned whether it was inconsistent for Shiloh to pursue “densification” of the lots it owns, but publicly oppose the proposed 9th Street NW protected bike lane project.

MOTION: Commissioner Eichler moved and Commissioner Wiggins seconded that ANC 6E support the amendment for the Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map (“FLUM”) Designation for the Shiloh Property From: A Mix of Moderate Density Residential; Mixed-Use Medium Density Commercial/Medium Density Residential; and Local Public Facility To: All Mixed-Use Medium Density Commercial and Medium Density Residential and that said support be communicated in writing to the DC City Council, the Mayor, and the Office of Planning. The Motion *passed* unanimously.

VII. 441 M STREET, NW: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR RENOVATION TO PLAN FOR THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD [6E04]

Anthony Brown, Chair of the ANC 6E Zoning Committee, stated the Committee met and that the owner has come back with the following modifications to the concept plan: **(1)** no more stairs in the back; **(2)** a smaller footprint; **(3)** only use on the 3rd floor is the rear wing; **(4)** no under pinning. The Committee voted unanimously to recommend ANC 6E support of the application concept plans for 441 M Street, NW.

MOTION: Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Wiggins seconded that ANC 6E support the proposed modifications to the concept plan of 441 M Street, NW: (1) no more stairs in the back; (2) a smaller footprint; (3) only use on the 3rd floor is the rear wing; (4) no under pinning, and that said support be communicated in writing to the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB). The Motion *passed* unanimously.

VIII. 1527 8TH STREET, NW: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR ZONING RELIEF FOR A NON-CONFORMING LOT TO BUILD A DECK [6E01]

Representative Present: Mr. Davell - Contractor

Anthony Brown, Chair of the ANC 6E Zoning Committee, stated the applicant is seeking the following variances: **(1)** square footage; **(2)** lot occupancy; **(3)** special exception for the rear yard. The Committee met and voted unanimously to recommend ANC 6E support of the applicant’s request for the zoning relief.

MOTION: Commissioner Eichler moved and Commissioner Blackson seconded that ANC 6E support the zoning relief requested by 1527 8th Street, NW for a non-conforming lot to build out an existing deck into an enclosed sunroom and that said support be communicated in writing to the Office of Zoning and DCRA. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

IX. NORTHWEST ONE LIBRARY RESOLUTION [6E07]

Commissioner Rogers stated that more study is needed on this and that he would like to see an impact study.

Commissioner Lopez stated that there was very little community engagement on this and that the Resolution strongly opposes the closing of the Northwest One Library. Commissioner Lopez read aloud the following:

“BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 6E strongly opposes the closure of the Northwest One Library as proposed in the DCPL Facilities Master Plan for 2021-2030;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E believes that the current Northwest One Library is deficient in floor space, amenities, circulation, and programming required by the community it serves, and it is therefore inadequate to meet current and future demand for library services;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E urges DCPL to conduct dedicated outreach to residents Northwest One neighborhood and the broader ANC 6E community to identify service needs and desired attributes and features of a new full-service library for Northwest One;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E advocates for replacing the existing Northwest One Library with a full-service library in the same Northwest One community with floor space of at least 1.25 square feet per capita, based on updated projections for the service area population in 2030;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 6E supports the creation of a new library serving the Eckington and Edgewood Neighborhoods, but rejects the false premises that (1) the Northwest One Library must close in order to create a new library at Eckington/Edgewood and (2) that the Eckington/Edgewood library is a viable substitute for the Northwest One Library.

MOTION: Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Blackson seconded that ANC 6E adopt the Resolution language read above and that said Resolution be communicated in writing to the DC Public Library, Councilmember Charles Allen, the Mayor and the DC City Council Committee on Recreation, Libraries, and Youth Affairs. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

X. UPDATE ABOUT McMILLAN PROJECT AND REQUEST FOR RESOLUTION SUPPORT: DEVELOPMENT VS. LARGE PARK

ANC 6E resident John Shaw spoke and advocated for preservation of the McMillan Project as parkland and green space based on the following reasons: **(1)** the property is unique in the City; **(2)** plans for the redevelopment are 10-20 years old; **(3)** this property was purchased for \$17 Million and belongs to the City, not an individual Ward or ANC.

ANC 6E's Zoning Committee met on 1/28/21 and reviewed the matter. There was no Committee consensus on the matter and a vote was not taken. Also present was Dianne Barnes, ANC Commissioner for 5E09, who represents the McMillan area. Commissioner Barnes stated that the majority of her constituents support the long-delayed development of McMillan and the amenities it will create for the community. Commissioner Barnes voiced her opposition to the resolution being considered by ANC 6E. Noting that Mount Vernon Triangle and 6E05 was far away from McMillan, Commissioner Parlej stated that he would defer to the residents of the McMillan neighborhood as represented by Commissioner Barnes and vote against the proposed ANC 6E resolution. Commissioner Lopez observed that ANC 5E and adjacent ANCs 1B and 5A have consistently supported the McMillan development during the Council's disposition of the property, HPRB review of the plans, and the PUD case. Commissioner Lopez continued that it would be inappropriate for ANC 6E to oppose the project this late stage when the PUD has already been approved and the project enjoys the support of the surrounding community.

MOTION: Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded that ANC 6E resolves that any work at McMillan be ended until: **(1)** the full Council can tour above and below ground; **(2)** the public can be honestly and fully educated through outreach and on-site visits, and be engaged on the nature of their resource above and below ground; **(3)** a new process of open and transparent public hearings can be conducted, and **(4)** an international competition for park designs (above and below ground) can be convened and the plans judged on their merit to provide all Washington residents the best return on this last precious green space in their ever more crowded city. The Motion **failed** by a vote of 3 nays (Commissioners Eichler, Lopez, Parlej) – 2 yeas (Commissioners Rogers, Blackson) – 2 abstentions (Commissioners Nigro, Wiggins).

XI. ANC 6E TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: REQUEST FOR SPEED BUMPS BETWEEN Q STREET AND RHODE ISLAND AVENUE ON 5TH STREET, NW

MOTION: Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Eichler seconded that ANC 6E request DDOT to install speed bumps on the 1600 and 1700 block of 5th Street, NW and that said request be communicated in writing to the District Department of Transportation (DDOT). The Motion **passed** unanimously.

[Commissioner Rogers leaves the meeting.]

XII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JANUARY 5, 2021 PUBLIC MEETING

MOTION: Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded to approve the Minutes of the **January 5, 2021** ANC 6E Public Meeting with any edits to be submitted to the Recording Secretary. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

XIII. ANC 6E GRANT FORM DISCUSSION

Chair Nigro will provide a new ANC 6E Grant Form to Karen Jehle for uploading to the ANC 6E website.

XIV. APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Wiggins stated the balance in the checking account as of January 31, 2021 was \$50,570.69.

XV. APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

- A. MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded to reimburse Commissioner Lopez in the amount of \$17.00 for expenses relating to business cards. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.
- B. MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Eichler 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.
- C. MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Blackson seconded that the invoice submitted by Karen Jehle in the amount of \$250.00 for recording services for the **ANC 6E February 2, 2021 Public Meeting** and website maintenance be approved for payment. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.

XVI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Theresa DuBois, Acting Director of Community Engagement for Events DC, reiterated that 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. Virtual information sessions will be held on February 4th, February 10th, and February 16th, at 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m. where the application process and required documentation will be discussed.

XVII. NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Eichler seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Karen Jehle
Recording Secretary
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