**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E**

**Virtual Public Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 7, 2021**

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E convened via Zoom Video Conference and/or Telephone on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Michael Eichler, ANC 6E01

Alex Lopez, ANC 6E02

Frank S. Wiggins (Treasurer), ANC 6E03

Rachelle Nigro (Chair), ANC 6E04

Patrick Parlej, ANC 6E05

Denise Blackson, ANC 6E06

Kevin M. Rogers, ANC 6E07

Absent:

None

1. **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.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA****MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded to approve the Agenda as amended. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.
3. **PSA REPORTS – 1D, 3D

1D (PSA 103):** Capt. Jonathan Dorrough stated 1D is flat on the year; Violent Crime down 25%; however, last month had a few homicide cases; 30 shots fired on North Capitol Street. We are getting guns off the street – just a lot out there; stabbing at 307 K Street, NW – case closed; Property Crime: Uptick in Thefts from Auto in Mount Vernon Triangle. Homeless Encampments: Working with Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services – more money coming in for this from the city.

Q&A:
	* + Commissioner Rogers asked about the 17-year-old shot and killed on Plaza West and whether the perpetrator was someone he knew. Response: Not a complete stranger case.
		+ Is the P Street and 7th Street encampment owned by the city?
		+ Patricia Handy Women’s Shelter now a Men’s Shelter that has impacted public safety in MVT. Response: They do plan on closing it, renovating it, and turning it back into a women’s shelter; concerns should be addressed to the Department of Behavioral Health and their Community Response Team (CRT) – check their website; also reach out to the DC Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services.

**3D (PSA 308):** Capt. Small reported the following: Overall Crime increased by 5% overall. Uptick in Thefts from Auto and Stolen Autos.

Q&A:

* Commissioner Nigro asked about a carjacking in her area. Response: The victim was an Uber driver.
* Commissioner Eichler – **(1)** what are you doing to address package thefts? Response: These are not unique – city-wide problem – residents can purchase Ring doorbell cameras, apply for the Camera Rebate Program, and vouchers; **(2)** what are you doing regarding community outreach? Response: Normally there are two community outreach events per month, but the most recent events had to be cancelled due to weather. Had our National Night Out; 3D contact info on MPD website; Next event with feature Police Mountain Bike unit on September 11, 2021.
* Commissioner Wiggins asked whether the youth carjackings are interconnected or independent in nature. Response: Increase in carjackings due to

school summer recess and youths being out of school; now that school is back in session, these carjackings may be reduced.

* Is there a curfew program in effect in the District? Response: Yes, depending on whether school is in session; also have truancy program.
1. **REMARKS OF CHIEF ROBERT CONTEE, METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Violent crime is at the same level so far this year as we were at the same time last year. Still recovering incredible number of guns – 1,500 firearms recovered. Homicide this week in Ward 4. Ward 1 – recovered 4 guns from one crime scene. Armed kidnappings with perpetrator being only 14 years old. Carjackings are occurring all across the District – arrested a lot of persons responsible; closed out 9 cases this weekend. What is alarming are the 144 homicides this year; last year – 126; social media has caused an increase in violence; Huge marijuana ring - $28 million in last 3 years; MPD remains committed to making sure our city is safe. MPD is about 200 officers short, but they are totally committed. The City has 100 less people shot this year than the same time last year. There were 3 or 4 officer-involved shootings this weekend. Appreciate the community support.

Q&A:

Questions from Commissioners:

* + - Commissioner Eichler: **(1)** big uptick in car break-ins in 6E01; he has been hearing from his constituents that when they call to report, they receive pushback from both operators and officers ; **(2)** his constituents want to see physical police presence outside of their vehicles. Response: Expanding the police patrol units – more officers on bikes. Normally, get recruits from the policy academy each month, but now this will not happen until December.
		- Commissioner Lopez: **(1)** What percentage of your officers have received vaccinations and what are MPD’s vaccination requirements? Response: 75% of the MPD employees are fully vaccinated. MPD employees must be vaccinated by September 19, 2021 or be tested every week.
		- Commissioner Wiggins: There have been multiple shootings in Shaw – 3 – 4 shootings between 5th and 8th Streets; he talked with Commander Kim – is there a possibility to have a CCTV stationed at 6th and O Streets, NW? Response: Have cameras at 7th and O and 5th and O. We have not received an official request per Commander Kim. Have a light tower assigned to it. Chief Contee is an advocate of the Camera Rebate Program; crime has been caught on residents’ cameras. He will check what the inventory is like for a camera at 6th and O.
		- Commissioner Parlej: As commissioners, we get of a lot of questions concerning homelessness – how do you see MPD’s role in addressing homelessness? Response: MPD very much plays a support role to other government agencies. If we observe unlawful behavior, for example, a drug exchange, MPD will take action, but it is not MPD’s posture to clear homelessness encampments in parks. There is a fine line here.
		- Commissioner Blackson: What is MPD’s role in assisting residents when they see people hanging out on blocks who are not residents and they are committing crimes? What can residents do to assist with this? Response: MPD has to abide by existing law; residents can work with legislators to change the laws and then MPD will enforce it.

Questions from the community:

* + - How many people committing crimes, especially violent ones, are repeat offenders? Response: We have many violent crimes that are committed by repeat offenders and MPD’s focus is on violent crime.
		- Noise ordinance violations committed by trucks delivering goods between 2 and 4 in the morning. Response: Commander Kim will follow up.
		- Tried in the past to contact 911 to report an emergency and had to wait 10 minutes for someone to address this. Response: He will follow up to see what happened.
		- Ian Wondner – echoes Commissioner Eichler’s comments about residents’ desires to have more of a police presence in 6E01. Any information on the death at 8th and Rhode Island Avenue at homeless encampment two weeks ago? How can residents report these things to the police and then not seeing anything done or getting responses to their questions? Response: The death was not a homicide; it could have been a natural death or drug overdose. It is the responsibility of Commander Kim and others on the call to communicate with the officers on patrol.
		- What is being done about homeless encampments? Response: They are referred back to DOH and DBH – the issue rests with those departments to provide services to them.
1. **QUESTIONS FOR SHERRY HARPER, EXECUTIVE POSTMASTER, U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC**

Chair Nigro introduced Sherry Harper, Executive Postmaster, U. S. Postal Service, Washington, DC and asked for an explanation of what has been going on with delayed or undelivered mail in the District.

Postmaster Harper stated she has been away from Washington on assignment for the past five (5) months and only just returned to Washington. Eddie Masangcay served as Acting DC Postmaster during this five-month period.

Ms. Harper stated USPS has been experiencing staffing shortages due to COVID. Her office has been working diligently to fill vacant positions and is actively hiring and recruiting. Adding to the staffing shortages are retirements. The Postmaster General is looking to hire 40,000 employees for the Fall and the New Year. Since April, they have hired 133 employees. There is a high turnover of carriers, not clerks, because everyone is not made out to be a carrier – there is a lot of physical activity involving walking and dealing with hot and cold weather; it is a matter of work/life balance leading to resignations. USPS is actively recruiting and we do have strategies in place – placing banners for job openings within the department, also advertising via social media, and hosting a drive-through job fair. We move our employees around the city when there are shortages. We also monitor unscheduled absences for employees. We are working diligently to provide our customers with excellent service. Trying to alleviate this problem as quickly as we can. www.usps.com/careers

Q&A:
	* + Commissioner Blackson asked how does USPS value service. She has reached out to USPS and experienced rudeness from employees. Response: She apologized for this and will follow up with the employees in question.
		+ A resident stated she is receiving a lot of mail that is not hers and why does this keep happening? Response: This is a carrier issue – it is the carrier’s responsibility to ensure the right mail is in the right box regardless of how it is written.
		+ Another resident stated receiving the wrong mail happens when it is not their regular carrier.
		+ A condo association resident at 1st and New York Avenue, NW stated their building has only received mail twice in the last two weeks – how do we reach out to USPS and how do we fix this issue? Response: She will follow up with the department responsible.
2. **REPORT FROM THE MAYOR’S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND SERVICES (MOCRS)**Talib Shakir, Ward 6 Liaison, stated he had no major updates, other than MOCRS has identified the encampment at 7th & P Street, NW.

Q&A:
	* + Commissioner Wiggins stated he needs assistance with Washington Gas -- they did some work on the sidewalks – repairs were made with asphalt and now the sidewalks are sinking; there is also a sinkhole with bricks missing – these are sidewalk trip issues. Mr. Talib will follow up.
3. **REPORT FROM COUNCILMEMBER ALLEN’S OFFICE**

Naomi Mitchell of Councilmember Charles Allen’s Office reported the following: **(1)** redistricting of Ward boundaries – meeting on September 26, 2021; right now Ward 6 largest in size – may be some significant impact on our boundaries – 90 day period from September 16 to do the work; **(2)** in-person work at office end of September/October; **(3)** Kennedy Recreation Center – got money in its budget - looking to see that it gets spent.

Q&A:
	* + Commissioner Lopez expressed concern that ANC 6E would be redistricted into another ward – the second time in two redistricting cycles. Commissioner Lopez also asked where will the money for Kennedy Recreation Center be going?
		+ Will there be community participation on how the funds are spent for Kennedy Recreation Center? Response: Reach out to Alex Padro with the Friends of Kennedy Recreation Center.
4. **310 M STREET, NW: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD [6E04]**Representative Present: Daniel Kim

Tony Brown, Chair of the ANC 6E Zoning and Planning Committee, and Daniel Kim spoke regarding 310 M Street, NW. The owner is seeking a variance for rear yard setback to accommodate the addition of a 4 ft. balcony. This condo owner has secured letters of support from the other condo owners. Additionally, the owner of Unit 7, which is the penthouse unit, is also requesting support of a rooftop addition. He, too, has letters of support from the remaining occupants of the building. They are requesting support to add a rooftop deck. The Zoning and Planning Committee met and recommended support of both variance requests.**MOTION:** Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Wiggins seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the variance request of 310 M Street, NW, Unit 7, for rear yard setback for the 4 ft. rear balcony. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the variance request of 310 M Street, NW, Unit 7, for the variance for a rooftop addition. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.

1. **111 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NW: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR CHANGE IN PUD FOR GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY [6E07]**Representatives Present:Chris Murphy
 Abido Avitabile

	* + **Modification of Consequence to Authorize Education Use**
			- Property is located in underlying Downtown zoning, which permits university use as matter of right, but PUD only authorizes office, residential, and retail use
			- Current PUD allows office use, so university administrative office and conference space is permitted under existing PUD.
			- Other university uses, such as classrooms and student meeting spaces, require a modification of the PUD to allow education use as an additional permitted use.
		+ **Waiver of Rules to approve Modification Without a Hearing**
			- Changes in use of a PUD are ordinarily considered a “modification of significance” (9–12-month process)
			- University requests waiver of the hearing requirement for good cause and approve the new use as a “modification of consequence” (3-month process)
			- Prompt action is needed to allow university begin occupancy and renovations immediately after closing (expected in October 2021) and have renovated space read for Fall 2022 academic year.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Wiggins seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the request for support of 111 Massachusetts for a modification of consequence to the existing PUD to authorize higher education use and the waiver of rules to approve the modification without a hearing. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.

1. **1112 6TH STREET, NW: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD [6E04]**Representatives Present: Garima Gupta
 Lizzie Stuart
The owner is seeing HP Concept review approval for this property located at 1112 6th Street, NW. They plan to develop this property into 8 units, mostly 2 bedrooms, and incorporating a small mezzanine on the 4th floor which will be set back 18 feet and is not visible from across the street. Tony Brown, Chair of ANC 6E’s Zoning and Planning Committee stated the committee had some concerns regarding the windows and fenestration and was informed these will be taken into consideration in the final drawings. The Zoning Committee voted and recommended support of the HP concept design and to accept the recommendations made by the Committee. **MOTION:** Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Eichler seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the Historic Preservation concept design for 1112 6th Street, NW and that said support be communicated in writing to the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB). The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.
2. **1521 AND 1521 ½ STREET, NW: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD [6E01]**Representative Present: Kay Akinsinde

They have a by-right change of use and are seeking a change of use and a rear addition to be built**.** Worked closely with Brendan Meyer.

Tony Brown, Chair of ANC 6E’s Zoning and Planning Committee, stated there are two issues, there was concern from an abutting neighbor, but those concerns are being actively addressed at a meeting tomorrow between owners, neighbors, Commissioner Eichler, and Shaw Main Streets. The Zoning Committee met, had no issues, and supports the project.

Commissioner Eichler noted concerns brought to him by constituents about the change of use to a restaurant and a rental above the restaurant, including rats, delivery issues, trash, and alley access.

A neighbor shares a party wall with 1521 and noted that the owners are not good stewards of the property – there are rats and weeds and the back yard is a mess. His back door will be 10 feet way from the trash enclosure. He was asked to attend the 6:00 p.m. meeting on September 8, 2021. **MOTION:** Commissioner Eichler moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the request for support of 1521 and 1521-1/2 Street, NW and that said support be communicated in writing to the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB). The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.
3. **1708-1/2 10th STREET, NW: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD [6E01]**Representative Present: Jim Foster, Arcadia Design

The owner/developer of this property are seeking HP Concept review approval for this property.They plan to develop this property into a single-family home with a cellar rental apartment. It is currently a 2-story property and they wish to increase to a 3-story property with a rooftop deck. The new structure will be raised to 3 stories on the front of the development with a 6 ft setback on the 3rd floor. They are taking great measure to properly align the bay window to fit in the existing configuration. The Zoning and Planning Committee met and voted to recommend to the full commission support HP Concept design and accept the recommendations made by the Committee. Commissioner Eichler inquired about the stop-work order issued to the property. The developer noted he had received instructions from HPRB to assess the visual impact of the third floor and that was accomplished by constructing a wooden frame atop the current structure. This frame was flagged as construction without a permit but the stop-work order was swiftly corrected the following day.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Eichler moved and Commissioner Wiggins seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the Historic Preservation concept design for 1708-1/2 10th Street, NW and that said support be communicated in writing to the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB). The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.
4. **1251 4TH STREET, NW (HOAGIE HOUSE): REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD [6E04]**Representative Present:Amir SaleemThe property is in Concept Review with HPRB. Still in design development. The project is three properties, but only addressing the North property.

Proposing a 3rd floor addition on the rear of the building. Has 3 legal parking spaces; industrial design; 20-24 months (permitting) and 1 year for construction. There will be no retail underneath. Alex Padro stated trying to build it is one of the highest recommendations and considerable additional redesign is needed.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Wiggins seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the Concept Design for 1251 4th Street, NW with the recommendation from the Zoning Committee that particular attention be paid to the glass addition to set it back and that said support be communicated in writing to the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB). The Motion ***passed*** unanimously.
5. **455 I STREET, NW, RHYTHM AND EATS LLC: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR A SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE FROM CLASS C RESTAURANT TO CLASS C TAVERN [6E05]**Representative Present: Dean MosonesAlex Padro, Chair of ANC 6E’s ABC Licensing Committee, stated 455 I Street, NW is seeking a substantial change from a Class C Restaurant to a Class C Tavern. The ABC Licensing Committee met and recommended full Commission support for the substantial change.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Parlej moved and Commissioner Wiggins seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the request for support of 455 I Street, NW for a substantial change from a Class C Restaurant to a Class C Tavern and that said support be communicated in writing to ABRA. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously. **[Commissioner Blackson leaves the meeting at 10:04 p.m.]**
6. **1606 7TH STREET, NW, JAKE’S TAVERN: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR A CLASS C TAVERN LICENSE [6E01]**Representative Present: Todd CiubaAlex Padro, Chair of ANC 6E’s ABC Licensing Committee, stated the licensee would like to have a Sports Wagering endorsement. The licensee will partner with a third-party app and there will be no kiosk or cash on site. The Committee met and recommended that the full Commission support the substantial change.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Eichler moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the request for support of 1606 7th Street, NW (Jake’s Tavern) for a Class C Tavern License and a Sports Wagering endorsement and that said support be communicated in writing to ABRA. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
7. **TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Alex Lopez**Alex Lopez, Chair of ANC 6E’s Transportation Advisory Committee, and requested ANC 6E support on the following:
	1. **Establishing No Turn on Red and Enhanced Parking Restrictions at the Intersection of North Capitol Street and Massachusetts Avenue [6E07]

	MOTION:** Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the DDOT Notice of Intent (NOI) to establish no turn on red and enhanced parking restrictions at the intersection of North Capitol Street and Massachusetts Avenue, NW. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
	2. **Request for Support for Speed Humps on the 200 Block of Morgan Street [6E04]

	MOTION:** Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Eichler seconded that ANC 6E request that DDOT install speed humps on the 200 block of Morgan Street, NW and that said request be communicated in writing to DDOT. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
	3. **Request for Support for Speed Humps on the 1200 Block of Kirby Street [6E04]

	MOTION:** Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded that ANC 6E request that DDOT install speed humps on the 1200 block of Kirby Street, NW and that said request be communicated in writing to DDOT. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
	4. **Convert 900 Block of 4-1/2 Street from Two Way to One Way [6E05]

	MOTION:** Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the DDOT Notice of Intent (NOI) to convert the 900 block of 4-1/2 Street, NW from Two Way to One Way. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
	5. **Mount Vernon CID on Traffic Calming Proposal for 4-1/2 Street NW [6E05]

	MOTION:** Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the Mount Vernon CID’s Traffic Calming Proposal for 4-1/2 Street, NW and that said support be communicated in writing to DDOT. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
	6. **Reduction of Speed Limit on New York Avenue, NW from 30 miles per Hour to 25 miles per hour [6E04/6E06/6E07]

	MOTION:** Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Eichler seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the DDOT Notice of Intent (NOI) to reduce the speed limit on New York Avenue, NW from 30 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour and to additionally request that DDOT install speed cameras on both directions on New York Avenue to enforce the 25-mph speed limit. The Motion ***passed*** 5 yeas – 1 nay (Commissioner Wiggins) – 0 abstentions.
	7. **Installation of a Traffic Light at New Jersey Avenue, NW and O Street, NW [6E02/6E04]

	MOTION:** Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the DDOT Notice of Intent (NOI) to install a traffic light at New Jersey Avenue, NW and O Street, NW. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
	8. **Installation of a Traffic Light at Pierce Street and North Capitol Street, NW [6E06]****MOTION:** Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Eichler seconded that ANC 6E ***support*** the DDOT Notice of Intent (NOI) to install a traffic light at Pierce Street and North Capitol Street, NW. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
8. **CONSIDERATION OF GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE JUDAH PROJECT [6E01]**Representative Present: Richard White, FounderRichard White stated the Judah Project is a non-profit that services youth 14 to 24 yeas old and tries to reduce crime. The funds will be used to service youth in the community to deter them from committing crimes.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Eichler moved and Commissioner Wiggins seconded that ANC 6E **support** the grant application for $5,000 from the Judah Project. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
9. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 6, 2021 PUBLIC MEETING****MOTION:** Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded to approve the Minutes of the **July 6, 2021** **ANC 6E Public Meeting** with any edits to be submitted to the Recording Secretary. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
10. **APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT**Treasurer Wiggins stated that the ending balance in the checking account is $50,206.64.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.
11. **APPROVAL OF EXPENSES**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Wiggins moved and Commissioner Eichler seconded to approve for payment the following expenses:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Recording Secretary | $250.00 | Karen Jehle | Minutes 9/7/21 Meeting & Website Maintenance |
| FedEx Office | $50.37 | Rachelle Nigro | Meeting Flyers |
| Zoom Invoice | $164.29 | Rachelle Nigro | Zoom Meeting |
| Vista Print | $21.20 | Kevin Rogers | Business Cards |

The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

1. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**None.
2. **NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2021**
3. **ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:** There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The Motion ***passed*** 6 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions. The meeting adjourned at 11:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Jehle

Recording Secretary

Cell: 703-606-2010

Email: karen-jehle@outlook.com