

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E
Virtual Public Meeting
Tuesday, April 5, 2022**

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E convened via Zoom Video Conference and/or Telephone on Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Michael Eichler (Chair), ANC 6E01
Alex Lopez (Secretary), ANC 6E02
Rachelle Nigro (Vice Chair), ANC 6E04
Patrick Parlej, ANC 6E05
Kevin M. Rogers, ANC 6E07

Absent:

Frank S. Wiggins (Treasurer), ANC 6E03
Denise Blackson, ANC 6E06

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Michael Eichler with a quorum of five commissioners present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded to approve the Minutes of the **March 1, 2022 ANC 6E Public Meeting** with any edits to be submitted to the Recording Secretary. The Motion *passed* unanimously.

4. PSA REPORT: METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT 1D

Lt. George Donigian stated the last 30 days are looking better than the last. Had two Violent Crimes in the last month: Robbery on 3/29/22 on Pierce Street – a gun was displayed; there was a homicide on 3/13/22 in the 1100 block of 1st Place NW – working on this; have strong leads. Trends: MVT and K Street Corridor - there is really not a major driver such as gang violence. Stolen Autos – delivery drivers – opportunistic thieves stealing cars. The full department was prepared for the truck convoy but thankfully that did not really materialize. We are back to a normal schedule and have some overtime available – including our two additional officers in the MVT area. Good news – Busboys & Poets robbery was closed with several arrests.

A question and answer period followed.

- Commissioner Parlej stated thanks for the update about additional officers in MVT and the update about Busboys & Poets. What is the plan moving forward to move additional officers to MVT? Response: If the overtime is authorized, we are going to be using it.
- Commissioner Eicher stated he appreciates the feedback about vehicles being stolen from food delivery drivers, but he is tired of hearing this. DPW, MPD and DDOT need to figure out a solution. If someone leaves their keys in their vehicle and the vehicle is stolen and it turns into a homicide, is the owner of the vehicle responsible? Response: He has no answer about Commissioner Eichler's DPW, MPD and DDOT suggestion. Does not think the city, courts, juries would support the conclusion about drivers leaving keys in their vehicles – hard to hold those persons criminally responsible.

Community Q&A:

- Pleasant Mann: If the District can pay for a PSA to encourage flu vaccinations, can't we have a PSA warning about car jackings? Should we notify restaurants to post signs on their doors warning delivery drivers that their vehicles may be stolen? Response: We [MPD] do post on Nextdoor, Twitter, and Facebook.

5. PSA REPORT: METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT 3D

Lt. Michael Daeë stated in regard to the earlier discussion on Stolen Autos, MPD has reached out to Uber Eats and DoorDash that they need to tell their drivers not to leave their vehicles running. These are crimes of opportunity. **(1)** Last month, he reported robberies on N Street and Kirby Street – still investigating these; **(2)** on Friday, had a carjacking at 1600 4th Street – case closed; **(3)** had a firearms recovery on 400 block of O Street on 3/14/22 – closed with an arrest; **(4)** unlawful discharge of firearms on Kirby Street; **(5)** yesterday we had sounds of gunshots at 11:30 pm in the 1300 block of 8th Street, NW – shell casing recovered – still investigating.

A question and answer period followed.

- Commissioner Nigro – **(1)** has there been any follow up on the pistol whipping/robbery on the 1200 block of 4th Street, NW? Response: Still investigating; **(2)** she saw an officer at 5th & O Street and all she did was stand outside her vehicle; she called the watch commander. Officers need to move around on foot for at least 15 minutes.
- Commissioner Lopez – **(1)** there was a hit and run at the intersection of New Jersey and New York Avenue on 3/17/22 – a pedestrian was struck. This is the second time in 10 years at this intersection. Response: Being handled by our Major Crash Unit; **(2)** on 3/31/22, exchange of gunfire between two vehicles in the 400 block of Q Streets – neighbors interested to know if the unlawful discharge was location specific or random? Response: Techs working on strong leads for this case.

Community Q&A:

- John Shaw: **(1)** Who covers the area around the Howard Theatre? Intersection of 7th & T? Response: This is 3D. **(2)** neighbors very happy that this block has returned to normal.
- Chelsea Keyser raised a concern around an increase in gun violence in Shaw – particularly around Q Street between 7th and 5th. We have had a series of drive-by shootings in broad daylight. What can be done to address this increase? Response: MPD giving this area extra attention. Camera Rebate Program has been very helpful here.

6. REPORT OF MAYOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND SERVICES (MOCRS) Kevin Pham, kevin.pham@dc.gov, 202-341-3659

Kevin Pham (Ward 6) stated: **(1)** Second booster shots available to ages 50 and over and immuno-compromised; **(2)** It is budget season for the Mayor's Office. The Mayor put to the Council her FY23 Proposed Budget with additional investment in public safety, transportation, affordable housing, and education, among others.

A question and answer period followed. Commissioner Nigro commented on illegal dumping and stated a previously reported mattress is still outside in her area and has been there for weeks, in spite of her numerous emails and tweets.

7. PRESENTATION ON MAYOR'S PROPOSED BUDGET – LINDA HARLEE HARPER, GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION DIRECTOR

Linda Harlee Harper, Gun Violence Prevention Director, spoke regarding the Mayor's Proposed Budget specifically as it relates to Public Safety, Health and Human Services, Education, Housing Affordability, and Core Services & Customer Experience.

A question and answer period followed.

- Commissioner Lopez stated ANC 6E previously emailed written questions and asked that Ms. Harper respond to them in writing.
- Commissioner Nigro stated thank you for acknowledging Basic Services, but her major complaint is lack of acknowledgement for Basic Services.
- Commissioner Lopez stated the Mayor recently announced that ONSE will expand its Violence Interrupters program to Shaw in Ward 2 and asked for an update regarding this. Ms. Harper responded we are moving out of procurement into a grant program. RFA being released for those grants. Adding 50 additional interrupters across the city.

Community Q&A:

- Anonymous: How will the Office for Gun Violence Prevention measure success of life coaches and violence interrupters? What metrics will be used to measure their efficacy? Response: Have not decided how to hire the life coaches yet. Look at the ONSE website for the metrics.
- Ethan Hall: Does the 2% cap on senior property tax increases have any restrictions or income requirements? I have a serious issue with 65 year old lawyers getting a break on their penthouses.

*Full presentation will be uploaded to the ANC 6E website.

8. REPORT FROM WARD 2 COUNCILMEMBER PINTO'S OFFICE

bpinto@dccouncil.us; 202-724-8058; <https://www.brookepintodc.com/>
Brian Romanowski, Constituent Services Director, bromanowski@dccouncil.us

Mr. Romanowski stated the following: **(1)** In-Person Meetings: Earth Day Cleanup in DuPont Circle, Sunday, April 24, 2022, 11:00 am-1:00 p.m.; **(2)** Office Hours in Shaw next week 4/13/22, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 pm at Shaw Library; **(3)** Holding 2nd Annual Community Bike ride Saturday May 21, 2022 10:00 am – 12:00 Noon; **(4)** ANC Redistricting Task Force completed their recommendations. There will be two public hearings: April 7, 2022, Noon; April 28, 2022 at 10:00 am. Sign up to testify at Council website. Council will vote twice before June 7, 2022; **(5)** Voter Petitions to run for ANC commissioner must be picked up by July 20, 2022 and are due August 10, 2022; **(6)** Budget Priorities: Public Safety – expand Violence Interruption Programming in Shaw; Homelessness; Expedite the S Street Revitalization Project;

A question and answer period followed.

- Commissioner Lopez asked about installation of public restrooms at Shaw Skate Park. Response: The Mayor's FY23 budget does not include funding for public restrooms, but Councilmember Pinto is working to get it included.
- Commissioner Eichler asked what is the Council's position on loitering laws? Response: Does not think this would pass.

Community Q&A:

- John Shaw: Asked about redoing the alleyways and whether they will be redone in brick. He was informed yes.

9. REPORT FROM WARD 6 COUNCILMEMBER ALLEN'S OFFICE

Naomi Mitchell stated the following: **(1)** Ward 6 Redistricting completed; **(2)** homeless tents at Union Station will be cleared; **(3)** Job Fair at The Wharf – June 28 – to fill all the jobs at The Wharf and the new phase; Job Fair will be at Arena Stage from 10:00 am to 1:00 p.m.; **(4)** new legislation about short-term rentals – have to apply for a license – deadline extended to June 10, 2022.

A question and answer period followed.

- Commissioner Nigro stated Airbnb was concerned about the short time period to apply for a license.
- Commissioner Parlej expressed his appreciation to Councilmember Allen for coming out to MVT and doing a transportation safety walkthrough with DDOT and DPW.
- Commissioner Rogers expressed his appreciation to Kenyattah Robinson for supporting his concerns with bike lanes and the parking situation.
- Commissioner Lopez stated he has a meeting on Friday, April 8, 2022 with Councilmember Allen in regard to the proposed closure of the Northwest One Library.

10. BAAN SIAM, 425 I STREET, NW: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR RENEWAL OF ABRA CLASS C RESTAURANT LICENSE [6E05]

Representative Present: Tom Healy

Alex Padro stated the ABC Licensing Committee met last Thursday. There is no investigative history and no violations. The licensee is not proposing any changes to their operations. The Committee recommended support.

MOTION: Commissioner Parlej moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded that ANC 6E support the Class C Restaurant License renewal of Baan Siam, 425 I Street, NW, and that said support be communicated in writing to ABRA. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

11. OTTOMAN TAVERNA, 425 I STREET, NW: REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR RENEWAL OF ABRA CLASS C RESTAURANT LICENSE [6E05]

Representative Present: Felicia Ruffino

Alex Padro stated the Committee did not receive a presentation from Ottoman Taverna at its meeting last Thursday and did not make a recommendation at that time. There was one violation in which there was no ABC Manager present on March 14, 2022. Ms. Ruffino advised that they have corrected this violation.

MOTION: Commissioner Parlej moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded that ANC 6E support the Class C Restaurant License renewal of Baan Siam, 425 I Street, NW, and that said support be communicated in writing to ABRA. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

12. 1718 ½ 10TH STREET, NW – SUPPORT FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD DESIGN APPROVAL [6E01]

Representative Present: Randall Moreland

Randall Moreland reviewed the Concept Design package. Commissioner Nigro stated there was concern about the reflection coming from the top and massing of the windows. Mr. Moreland responded this will be corrected. The Zoning Committee met and recommended support.

MOTION: Commissioner Eichler moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded that ANC 6E support the corrected Concept Design of 1718-1/2 10th Street, NW and that said support be communicated in writing to the Historic Preservation Review Board and the Historic Preservation Office. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

13. 1100 6TH STREET, NW – SUPPORT FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD DESIGN APPROVAL [6E04]

Representative Present: Robert Kuentzel

Commissioner Nigro stated the plan is to make this into Corporate Housing. The Zoning Committee had a concern about the corner piece. Mr. Kuentzel stated this would be removed.

Commissioner Lopez asked about the current RA-2 Zoning. Mr. Kuentzel stated there will be a MAP Amendment to correct the use from RA-2 to MU-8.

Alex Padro stated Shaw Main Street appreciates the removal of the corner piece.

MOTION: Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded that ANC 6E support the corrected Concept Design of 1100 6th Street, NW and that said support be communicated in writing to the Historic Preservation Review Board and the Historic Preservation Office. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

14. SUPPORT FOR NOI: INSTALLATION OF ROAD DIVERSION AT THE INTERSECTION OF 4TH STREET, NW AND M STREET, NW [6E04]

Commissioner Lopez stated the TAC met and discussed the designs. A community meeting was held. The TAC recommended support of the NOI. There will be no loss of parking.

MOTION: Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Lopez seconded that ANC 6E support the DDOT NOI for the installation of road diversion at the intersection of 4th Street NW and M Street NW, installation of counterflow bike lanes between New Jersey Avenue NW and 5th Street NW, and modification and/or upgraded signage and pavement marking associated with the proposed improvements. Further, that DDOT hold a Public Hearing after three (3) months to receive feedback from community members and stakeholders. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

15. SUPPORT FOR INSTALLATION OF COMMERCIAL LOADING ZONE ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE 1000 BLOCK OF 5TH STREET, NW [6E05]

This item was **tabled**.

16. RESIDENT PROPOSAL TO FORM A NEW PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Representative Present: Charles Jow

Commissioner Eichler stated that the purpose of Mr. Jow's proposal is to get feedback from other commissioners.

Charles Jow stated he lives in the 1800 block of Wiltberger Street behind Howard Theatre. He started a neighborhood watch that is made up of community residents and businesses. He provided a brief presentation that provided background, vision, goals,

objective, strategies, actions and membership. It was suggested to use different terminology other than “Green Team” in “Actions for the coming year.”

Following his presentation, commissioners felt there were no measurable goals or actions and that more information is needed. Alex Padro stated he would be happy to work with Mr. Jow to formulate and refine his proposal with the pre-existing Public Safety Committee. Commissioner Rogers also offered his assistance.

17. LETTER PROTESTING THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE NORTHWEST ONE LIBRARY IN FY23 BUDGET

Commissioner Lopez led a discussion regarding a letter to Councilmember Trayon White, Chairperson, Committee on Recreation, Libraries, and Youth Affairs, protesting the proposed closure of the Northwest One Library in the FY23 Budget.

MOTION: Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded that ANC 6E adopt the protest letter to Councilmember Trayon White with revisions to be made to the paragraph regarding the equity impact statement and that said revised letter be included in the FY23 Budget Oversight Hearing. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

18. APPROVAL OF FY22 Q2 FINANCIAL REPORT

MOTION: Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Eichler seconded that ANC 6E approve the FY22 Q2 Financial Report and communicate that approval to the Office of Advisory Neighborhood Commissions. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

19. APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT

MOTION: Commissioner Nigro moved and Commissioner Eichler seconded to accept the Treasurer’s Report reflecting a closing balance in the checking account as of March 31, 2022 of \$69,050.59. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

20. APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

MOTION: Commissioner Lopez moved and Commissioner Parlej seconded to approve the following expenses: **(1)** \$250.00 to Karen Jehle for Minutes/Website Updating; **(2)** \$99.63 to Commissioner Eichler for the Zoom invoice; **(3)** \$42.61 to Commissioner Nigro for Agenda copies. The Motion **passed** unanimously.

21. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

22. NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, MAY 3, 2022

23. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Eichler moved and Commissioner Nigro seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Jehle
Recording Secretary
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