

**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E
Virtual Public Meeting
Tuesday, May 2, 2023**

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6E convened via Zoom Video Conference and/or Telephone on Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Present:

Chris Hart (Chair), ANC 6E01
George Viedma, ANC 6E02 (joined at 6:48 pm)
Kevin Rogers, ANC 6E03
Denise Blackson, ANC 6E04
Ahmad Abu-Khalaf, ANC 6E05
Dylan Forest (Secretary), ANC 6E06
Davina Carson, ANC 6E07
Ritanch Hans, (Vice Chair & Treasurer), ANC 6E09

Absent:

(Vacant), ANC 6E08

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Chair Chris Hart with a quorum of 7 out of 8 Commissioners present.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Commissioner Blackson moved and Commissioner Hans seconded to approve the Agenda as submitted. The Motion ***passed*** 8 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the Minutes of the April 4, 2023 ANC 6E Public Meeting was **tabled** until the June 6, 2023 meeting.

**4. PRESENTATION FROM DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT (DOEE)
DIRECTOR JACKSON**

Representative Present: Richard Jackson, Interim Director

Richard Jackson provided the following talking points regarding Mayor Bowser's FY 24 Fair Shot Budget:

- The Budget required us to make tough choices. The Federal dollars in response to Covid Pandemic are starting to run out.
- Slowdown in the economy.
- Prolonged teleworking had an impact on the commercial property market.
- Our resources are shaky while our fixed costs are increasing.

- Mayor Bowser's top priority will be to right size our investments and build sustainability and resiliency into our spending. This is our 28th consecutive balanced budget.
- We made big investments but struggled to fill positions.
- Eliminated programs that were not a good use of our dollars.
- Making much needed investments to our downtown.
- Budget is focused on people and expanding access to care services to vulnerable residents.
- Ward 6 Investments:
 - \$91 million for renovation of J L Wilson Elementary School
 - \$94 million for renovation of Brett Elementary School
 - \$90 million for renovation of Tyler Elementary School
 - \$25 million for renovation of Northwest One Library
 - \$10 million for renovation of Southeast Library
 - \$17 million for renovation of Randall Recreation Center
 - \$12 million for renovation of Ramsey/Rumsey Aquatic Center
- DOEE Budget was cut but it is manageable and will allow us to continue to do the work we have been doing all these years and enhance the work we have already started in certain areas.

A question-and-answer period followed.

- Commissioner Blackson asked when the DOEE office will be open to the public again and was informed they should be open within the next two months via appointments.
- Commissioner Hans thanked Mr. Jackson for his responses regarding Electric Vehicle charging stations.
- Commissioner Hart raised the matter of the future of K Street and why the Mayor thinks taking away the bike lanes and adding car lanes will be an effective investment for revitalizing downtown. Response: It was a matter of whether they could fit everything onto K Street which is why they went back to the drawing board to work on some redesigns. They moved the bike lanes one block up. He will work with Marcus Manning to get him some more information on that.
- Chat (Beverly White): Has there been any increase in plans and budget to manage the increase in crime such as engaging communities and more monitoring?
Response: The Department of Public Safety had a large influx of dollars in their budget that is available to them and they are increasing that engagement.

5. PSA REPORT: METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT 1D (PSA 103)

Captain Roth reported the following:

- 2 robberies: One on H Street (carjacking);
- ADWs: Pulled security officer out of vehicle – arrests made; – closed upwards of 20 cases; significant arrests made this past month;
- 1 Sex Abuse (between known parties);
- Couple of robberies on L Street;
- Sounds of gunshots on M Street 2-3 nights ago – no injuries;
- Shelter in the 800 block of Massachusetts Avenue NW was supposed to close on 4/15 but this did not happen. The new place is waiting for a Certificate of Occupancy. Made some security recommendations to businesses in that area but they went unheeded.

A question-and-answer period followed.

- Commissioner Hans asked if there have been more patrols between H and I Streets by the shelter.
- A resident (Closter??) thanked Captain Roth for the work they are doing in this area. Asked about a crime at 450 H Street on 4/30/23 in the middle of the day where a 60-year-old woman was assaulted.

6. PSA REPORT: METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT 5D (PSAs 501/502)

Captain Ronald Bridges introduced himself and stated he came over from 7D. Lt. John Sprague reported on crime for the last 30 days compared to the same period last year:

- 0 homicides
- 4 Sex Abuse
- 0 ADW
- Robberies up -- Attempted carjacking- open; 4/29/23: robbery – open; 5/1/23 - armed carjacking, BOLO; 5/1/23: Robbery at 7-Eleven

A question-and-answer period followed.

- Commissioner Viedma asked about an incident of stolen wheels off of vehicles inside the City Vista parking garage on 4/2 or 4/3.

7. UPDATES FROM WARD 6 COUNCILMEMBER ALLEN'S OFFICE – JEANNE MATTISON

- One of the things she wanted to do was to actually call out Commissioner Blackson in terms of creating a public safety working group and among the things we are doing aside from quelling gun violence, is trying to figure out a public space for teens and young people. One of the things she has heard from kids in the neighborhood is that there is nowhere to go in Northwest One for teens or young people. She wanted to highlight that we are working on it...whether it's the Boys and Girls Club, the Perry School that is trying to become more relevant, or whether it is the Walker Jones campus. She had a long meeting with Marcus Manning and the Principal of Walker Jones who is absolutely committed to opening up that to the neighborhood, if we can figure out a way to do that.
- The Council is still working on its budget and that will be sorted out tomorrow. She will be championing a couple of things from 6E
- She would like to hear from 6E residents on any issues and especially any ideas for youth in the neighborhood, so please reach out to her at: jmattison@dccouncil.gov

A question-and-answer period followed.

- Commissioner Carson echoed the need for more public space for youth and wants to get engaged.
- Commissioner Abu-Khalaf stated that speaking of public space and space for youth, will the new green space at ???? (audio garbled) be public? Response: It is small.

8. REPORT OF MAYOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND SERVICES (MOCRS)

Marcus Manning provided upcoming events per the following:

- Second Annual DC Small Business Expo, MLK, Jr. Memorial Library, May 3, 2023
- DC Small Business Week through May 6, 2023, dcsb.gov
- DC Latino Restaurant Week, May 1-5, 2023
- Mental Health Awareness Month (May), 888-793-4357.

A question-and-answer period followed.

- Jeanne Mattison stated Marcus has been a real asset and was instrumental in getting the meeting set up at Walker Jones about what can be done there as it relates to a space for teens.

9. PRESENTATION FROM THE OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE

Representative Present: Belinda Perry

Belinda Perry provided an overview of the Office of Campaign Finance (OCF) and stated it is composed of five sections: (1) Office of the General Counsel; (2) Training and Development; (3) Reports Analysis and Audit Division; (4) Public Information and Records Management Division; and (5) the Fair Elections Program.

- The Fair Elections Program (FEP) is a relatively new public financing program for local political campaigns in the District of Columbia through the combination of matching funds and lump sum base amounts.
- The FEP is voluntary and is available to candidates running for the covered office of Mayor, Attorney General, Chairman and Member of the Council and At-Large and Ward Member of the State Board of Education.
- Candidates must pledge to accept contributions only from individuals, and not to accept contributions from business entities or contributions from traditional Political Action Committees; and to accept lower contribution limits.
- To be certified by the Office of Campaign Finance as a "Participating Candidate" in the Fair Elections Program, the candidate must obtain certain qualified small dollar contributions dependent upon the office for which they are running, i.e., Mayor, Attorney General, Chairman and Member of the Council and At-large and Ward Member of the State Board of Education.
- Matching Payments: The maximum amount Participating Candidates may receive for the 2024 Election Cycle in matching payments at the 5:1 rate for qualified small dollar contributions from individual District residents is as follows:
 - At Large Council Member -- \$356,954
 - Ward Council Member -- \$266,666
 - At Large State Board of Education Member -- \$30,605
 - Ward State Board of Education Member -- \$24,434

10. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGE TO PUD TO ALLOW DAYCARE USE: 810 NEW JERSEY AVENUE NW (SMD 6E07)

Representatives Present:

Joel Patterson, Dantes Partners
Jacqueline Muhammad, Director, Supreme Learning

Center

Joel Patterson stated the building at 810 New Jersey Avenue NW has 104 affordable units.

Jacqueline Muhammad, Director of the Supreme Learning Center, stated the proposed daycare center will provide infant/toddler care from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Supreme Learning Center obtained a grant to operate and is trying to get 32 slots, 20 of them will be affordable. Anyone with a voucher from the DC Government will be able to apply for those first 20 affordable slots.

A question-and-answer period followed.

- Commissioner Blackson asked whether the Supreme Learning Center will be hiring from the neighborhood and was informed positions will be open to DC residents.
- Commissioner Abu-Khalaf asked whether there is retail space on the first floor and was informed yes. He also asked if the daycare slots would first be offered to the residents living in the building and was informed yes, followed by residents in the community.
- Jeanne Mattison asked what kind of outreach is being done and offered her assistance. She was informed an Open House is planned for the building and then the neighborhood.

MOTION: Commissioner Carson moved and Commissioner Forest seconded that ANC 6E **support** the Administrative Change to the Planned Unit Development (PUD) at 810 New Jersey Avenue NW to allow use of the retail space as a daycare facility and that ANC 6E will convey that support to the Zoning Commission. The Motion **passed** 8 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

11. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC SPACE PERMIT (SIDEWALK CAFÉ) – ALTA STRADA, 465 K STREET NW (SMD 6E 02)

Representative Present: Debra Moye, Restaurant Consultants
Alex Levin

Alex Levin expressed his appreciation for ANC 6E's support during this process. The sidewalk café will consist of a total of 23 tables with 46 seats.

A question-and-answer period followed.

- Commissioner Viedma asked whether the lighting has been improved and was informed yes, to the best extent possible.

MOTION: Commissioner Viedma moved and Commissioner Hans seconded that ANC 6E support Alta Strada's sidewalk café proposal and that ANC 6E will convey that support to DDOT. The Motion **passed** 8 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

12. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR NOMA MEANDER (SMD 6E05)

Representatives Present: Brian Smith, NoMa BID
Adrienne McCray

Hank Schauer

[Commissioner Blackson recuses herself from discussion and voting on this topic.]

Brian Smith provided an overview and stated the Meander is envisioned as a set of pedestrian-retail promenades between the “superblocks” between North Capitol Street and First Street NE. Proposed Meander improvements on M Street NE will connect Skanska-built properties and projects at the DC Housing Authority site.

A question-and-answer period followed.

- Commissioner Forest asked what the plans for seating are and what will the surface be. He was informed there will be four (4) NoMa standard benches and the surface material will be concrete pavers on a concrete base.

MOTION: Commissioner Abu-Khalaf moved and Commissioner Forest seconded that ANC 6E **support** the proposed NoMa Meander design and convey that support to DDOT. The Motion **passed** unanimously 7 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

13. PRESENTATION RE: 7 NEW YORK AVENUE NE (SMD 6E05)

Representative Present: Chris Koelliker, Donohoe Construction

Chris Koelliker provided a brief overview of their new building at 7 New York Avenue NE and stated it is a 14-story, 115-unit multifamily project in NoMa. They are up to level 12 on the concrete pours and the building is scheduled to be finished in early January 2024. The tower crane is coming down sometime in June. The building is comprised of brick and metal panels.

A question-and-answer period followed.

- Commissioner Forest – **(1)** asked if any units will be affordable housing and was informed there is no affordable housing and that all the units are market rate; **(2)** asked what the breakdown of the units is and was informed: 66 microunits; 26 one-bedrooms, 11 one-bedrooms with dens.
- Commissioner Abu-Khalaf asked if there will be retail on the ground floor and what it will be. He was informed there is no ground floor retail.

14. ANNOUNCEMENT FROM DC PUBLIC LIBRARY RE NORTHWEST ONE LIBRARY (SMD 6E03)

Representative Present: Martha Sacoccio, DC Public Library
Troy Donte Prestwood

Martha Sacoccio jointed the call and stated the DC Public Library is conducting a brief survey to gather feedback from residents who live near the Northwest One Library located at 155 L Street NW adjacent to the Walker Jones Education Campus. In 2029-2030, DCPL envisions replacing this small branch with a larger, full-service library, relocating it

north of New York Avenue. She encouraged residents to participate:
<https://zy54qr3p8iu.typeform.com/NorthwestOne>

Commissioner Blackson voiced her opposition to the closing of the existing library and the lack of community outreach and notice to the community.

15. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR A NEW RETAILER'S CLASS "C" RESTAURANT LICENSE FOR SOL MEXICAN GRILL THREE, LLC T/A SOL MEXICAN GRILL, 655 K STREET, NW (SMD 6E01)

Representative Present: Julio Postigo

MOTION: Commissioner Hart moved and Commissioner Hans seconded that ANC 6E **support** the application for a new Retailer's Class "C" Restaurant license for SOL Mexican Grill, 655 K Street, NW, and convey that support to ABCA. The Motion **passed** 8 yeas – 0 nays – 0 abstentions.

16. ANC 6E WEBSITE

MOTION: Commissioner Hans moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded to establish a special committee for the purpose of providing recommendations to ANC 6E for the redesign of the ANC 6E website and that the committee members be appointed by open nomination from commissioners. The Motion **passed** 7 yeas – 0 nays – 1 abstention (Commissioner Forest).

By unanimous consent, Commissioner Abu-Khalaf was nominated to serve as Chair and he accepted the nomination. Committee membership consists of Commissioner Carson and Mark Randolph.

17. ANC 6E EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Commissioner Hart stated the ANC 6E Executive Committee sets the agenda for ANC meetings two weeks before the meeting. He would like to extend an invitation to all the commissioners to participate in this process. He will send an invite out.

18. OPEN FORUM

- o Commissioner Blackson – **(1)** stated she is hosting a Community Engagement Resource & Safety Event at Walker Jones Educational Campus, 1125 New Jersey Avenue NW, on May 13, 2023 starting at Noon; **(2)** stated her Public Safety Meeting is held the third Tuesday of every month, with the next one being held on May 16, 2023 at Mount Airy Baptist Church, 1100 North Capital Street NW from Noon to 2:00 p.m.
- o Commissioner Carson suggested having a Mental Health Awareness Day for residents of Affordable Dwelling Units (ADUs).

19. APPROVAL OF FY23 Q2 QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT

MOTION: Commissioner Blackson moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded to approve the FY23 Q2 Report. The Motion **passed** unanimously 7 yeas – 0 nays – 1 abstention (Commissioner Forest).

20. NEXT MEETING: JUNE 6, 2023

21. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Hans moved and Commissioner Rogers seconded to adjourn the meeting. The Motion ***passed*** unanimously 7 yeas – 0 nays – 1 abstention (Commissioner Forest). The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Jehle
Recording Secretary
Cell: 703-606-2010
Email: karen-jehle@outlook.com