

ANC6D Monthly Business Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2023
Virtual Meeting held on Zoom

The Commission convened at 7:00 p.m. The following Commissioners were in attendance: Fredrica Kramer, Bob Link, Bruce Levine, Ronald Collins, Andrea Pawley, Ashton Rohmer, Gail Fast, and Rhonda Hamilton. Commissioner Collins joined shortly after the meeting started.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved 7-0-0 with the following change: Removing discussion of the mural project.

Introduction of Commissioners

Announcement of Next Business meeting: 4/17 at 7 pm via Zoom

A motion was made to move the April Administrative meeting, because of a conflict with a pre-scheduled SWNA event with Mayor Bowser et al., from April 3 to April 4 at 7 pm. The motion was approved 6-0-0.

Review and Approval of February 2023 Minutes

The minutes were approved 5-0-2 as corrected.

Meeting Announcements

On 3/16, DC Attorney General Schwalb and Councilmember Allen will be appearing at Westminster Church at 6:30.

CM Levine announced an upcoming used book sale at the DC Southwest Library on March 25 and 26.

CM Rohmer announced that she would be leading a 6D05 community walk.

Community member Ben Curran, representing SWNA's Emergency Preparedness Task Force, announced an upcoming talk on 3/16 at 6 pm in the SW Library by a representative of the DC Fire and Emergency Services regarding fire safety and prevention.

PSA 103/105 PSA would be holding a meeting on March 15 virtually, with a focus on how Violence Interruptors work with MPD.

Public Safety Report from MPD

Capt. Harding from PSA 105 reported on a homicide being investigated; the unlawful discharge of a gun at the Channel Square parking lot; the fact that reports of gunshots were down in the month since the February ANC Business Meeting; and that violent crime is down but property crimes are up.

Capt. Roth from PSA 103 reported that thefts from autos are down; two robberies occurred and the cases remain open; property crime is up; and there has been an increase in the number of delivery vehicles left unattended and reported stolen (hop-ins).

CM Fast inquired about an armed robbery that occurred behind 700 7th Street SW.

Community Concerns

Karthik Balasubramanian expressed concern about the number of motor vehicles stopped that continue to have their engines running.

Curtis Sloan, President of Gangplank Slipholders, offered an update of the situation at Gangplank and raised concerns about DC Visitor Parking permits and the affordability of ramped-up slip fees.

PRESENTATIONS

Councilmember Charles Allen

Councilmember Allen offered comments on a number of topics, including the DC budget season—he noted the upcoming Budget Town Hall on April 6; school budget cuts and his tour of Ward 6 schools; and numerous transportation matters, indicating that traffic safety will be his top priority, and that he will be holding hearings on traffic enforcement, WMATA, and the funding coming from the Federal government. He also covered public safety and described his preferred holistic approach to the issue.

Safeway General Manager

Safeway General Manager Michael Bigelow made a presentation, responding to a series of questions the ANC had sent him in advance. He reported on recent developments at the store, and indicated further steps that are going to be taken. Specific topics addressed, among others, were a cart containment system, cart replacement, store cleaning, store security, and product assortment. He invited community member and ANC input to him at Michael.Bigelow@safeway.com.

VPRA Long Bridge Project

Naomi Klein of Virginia Passenger Rail Association made a presentation on the status of the Long Bridge project that her agency is leading, which includes renovation of the existing bridge and the addition of a two-track new bridge. She indicated construction is projected to be completed by 2030. In response to questions, Ms. Klein indicated that she would be providing the ANC with plans for air quality monitoring during the course of the construction.

Consent Agenda

The Commission voted 8-0-0 to approve the Consent Agenda, which consisted of:

Approving the plans for the Army 10-Miler, scheduled to be run on Sunday October 8, 2023.

Update: 1 K Street

CM Rohmer led a discussion of the status of the design review of this project, indicating ANC issues with the proposed plan. Representatives of the developer were in attendance and laid out the developer's position.

A motion was made to oppose the developer's plans at the Zoning Commission on a number of bases, including, but not limited to, the design being inconsistent with the surrounding neighborhood, concerns over vehicle traffic, and a lack of benefits for the community.

The motion was approved 8-0-0.

Update: TOPP Letter

After the ANC sent a letter to DDOT requesting a meeting for a complete review of the TOPP for the SW/Navy Yard area, a meeting was held. As follow-up to the meeting, Charles Tenbrook and Abraham Diallo of DDOT reported on the status of the TOPP and CM Kramer reported on her perspective on that meeting and her analysis of the TOPP.

There was no ABC Report.

There was no Chair's Report.

There was no Treasurer's Report.

The Commission adjourned at approximately 11:04 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Bruce Levine