



ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 7F

Government of the District of Columbia

One Commitment, Our Community.

General Commission Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Streamed via Zoom & Youtube

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairperson Holcomb called the meeting to order at 6:23pm. Also present were Commissioners Hughes, Ruff, Thompson-Wright, and Bishop.

2. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Thompson-Wright moved to adopt the May 16, 2023, General Meeting Agenda. Chair Holcomb moved to have the discussion about the June 5th DGS ribbon cutting to be a resolution titled “Resolution of Dissatisfaction” for clearing of Minnesota Avenue on June 5th DGS ribbon cutting and blatant ignoring of concerns commission and community have expressed.

Commissioner Thompson-Wright found this amendment friendly. The Resolution of Dissatisfaction is now a part of the consent agenda. Commissioner Thompson-Wright moved to adopt the amended May 16, 2023, General Meeting Agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ruff. The motion passed unanimously with 4 in favor and 0 against (4-0-0).

3. Administrative/Reports

a. Secretary’s Report

i. Approval of the Previous Minutes

1. April 2023 General Commission Meeting

Commissioner Hughes motioned to have the administrative reports and approval of the meeting minutes be tabled until the July Special Call Meeting.

Commissioner Ruff seconded this motion. The motion passed unanimously with 4 in favor and 0 against (4-0-0).

4. Commission Business

a. Old/New Business

i. CBA Request

1. Anacostia Road Block Party.

CBA Annual Grant Fund Request request for Anacostia Road Block Party in the amount of \$750. Commissioner Ruff motioned to approve the request of \$750 from the Annual . The motion was seconded by commissioner Thompson- Wright. The motion passed unanimously with 4 in favor and 0 against (4-0-0).

2. Ward 7 SBOE Back to School Event

CBA Annual Grant Fund request for Ward 7 SBOE Back to School Even in the amount of \$500. The motion passed unanimously with 4 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

ii. Resolution of Dissatisfaction of clearing of Minnesota Avenue on June 5th DGS ribbon cutting and blatant ignoring of concerns commission and community have expressed.

Chair Holocomb moved to approve this resolution. The motion was seconded by commissioner Thompson- Wright. The motion passed unanimously with 6 in favor and 0 against (6-0-0).

5. Presentations/Special Guests

a. Councilmember Robert White (6:30pm)

There is a backlog in the housing assistance program. The mayor's proposed budget for rental assistance was eight million dollars which has grown to 68 million dollars due to the efforts of the council. The mayor's proposed budget was zero but has grown to 250. Without funding, it is impossible to fund and maintain these properties. The council has ensured that 75 million is in the baseline budget for public housing maintenance and repairs beginning in 2028 in order to stabilize the public housing agency and public housing stock. With building owners, landlords, and other advocates, the council took action on rent control laws to prevent rent increases by negotiating a downward rent increase that is limited to 6 percent. For seniors and people with disabilities, the limit will be 4 percent for the next 2 years. The Pathways to Behavioral Health Degrees Act creates a free Masters and Social Work program at the University of the District of Columbia for D.C residents and anyone who works in DC to fill the vacancies in social work and mental health positions. The University of D.C. should have this program started by 2024. The council is dedicated a part of the budget to help retain teachers and strengthen DC Schools by creating flexible scheduling for teachers. The council's main priorities are housing, jobs, mental health and education to address public safety. Councilmember White will be having a ward 7 Talkback and Resource Fair on July 7, 2023 at Pennsylvania Baptist Church at 3000 Pennsylvania Avenue.

b. Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie's Office- Kelley Cislo, Constituent Services Director (6:45)

The Metro Police Department, Office of Attorney General, United States Attorney's Office, Office of Gun Violence Prevention, Court Services and Offender Supervision, Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services, DC Department of Behavioral Health, and the DC office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement share responsibility for public safety. To receive information on resources and agencies that handle public service contact Kelley Cislo by email at kcislo@dccouncil.gov. Councilmember McDuffie's staff recommends that private property owners put up signage to prevent loitering. However, the city cannot prevent people from coming onto public public spaces. Director Cislo and McDuffie's Office wants to conduct a resource fair for community members to learn about agencies that contribute to public safety.

c. MBI Health Services- Director Morilus Black (7:00pm)

The Department of Behavioral Health is responsible for the operation of the public Behavioral Health System Forensic Services Division. in DC. MBI has management over all of their contract providers which are tasked with direct care for individuals in the Behavioral Health service support system. The Assessment and Referral Center (The ARC) screens individuals to later be referred to one of those contract providers for substance use disorder treatment. MBI aims to have one hundred percent provider coverage in their school based mental health program. MBI also has oversight of behavioral health based grants. The State Opioid Response Grant to place outreach teams to provide additional support Outreach teams in additional support specifically in place to address the opioid epidemic. Their Safety Net Services such as the Comprehensive Psychiatric Emergency Program, a 24-hour behavioral, health psych emergency room for an individual. Urgent Care Clinic on 35 K St helps those in need sign up for care and to receive benefits. The mental health hotline is open 24/7 and community members are able to receive up to six free counseling sessions. The mental health hotline is 988 or 202.

d. DC Department of Behavioral Health- Marie Marius Black (7:15pm)

MBI Health Services has group homes, Substance User Clinic, based in 30 schools in the district , developmental disabilities, and free mental health clinic. They provide in and out of home support, day habilitation program, supported living residential services, and rehabilitation services administration behavioral support.

6. Meeting Adjourned

Chair Holcomb adjourned the meeting at 8:31p.m.