



# ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION 7F

## Government of the District of Columbia

One Commitment, Our Community.

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### General Commission Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2023, 6:30 p.m.

Streamed via Zoom & Youtube

#### 1. Moment of Silence

A brief moment of silence was held for the late Emma Rivers, 7F resident and former member of the Dupont Civic Association.

#### 2. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairperson Holcomb called the meeting to order at 6:41pm. Also present were Commissioner Edwards, Hughes, Tompson-Wright, and Bishop.

#### 3. Consideration and Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Tompson-Wright moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hughes. The motion passed unanimously with 4 in favor and 0 against (4-0-0).

#### 4. Administrative/Reports

##### a. Chair's Report

The Commission discussed the close out of budget season. The expansion of Benning Stoddert Recreation Center is a priority for FY25. In a previous meeting a person from congresswoman Norton's staff person outlined the steps needed for the expansion of the recreation center. There will be a community cleanup with the MPD police cadets which was organized by the 6th district Citizens Advisory Council (CAC). There will be another community clean up on June 3, 2023. On May 19, 2023, at 1pm commissioners will be assembling in the parking lot of Chase bank or doing a community walk through with the new director of the mayor's office of community relations and services.

##### b. Secretary's Report

###### i. Approval of the Previous Minutes

###### 1. April 2023 General Commission Meeting

Commissioner Hughes moved to approve the 2023 April 2023 General Commission Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. The motion passed unanimously with 4 in favor and 0 against (4-0-0).

##### c. SMD & Committee Reports

**7F07 Commissioner Thompson-Wright:** The Hill East Civic association is hosting a reservation 13 presentation with the developers from Blue Sky and also the R-13 team on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 from 6:30 to 8pm. Those interested in, contact 7F07 by email at [7F07@anc.dc.gov](mailto:7F07@anc.dc.gov) to receive the event flier.

**7F03 Commissioner Orendoff:** 7F03 addresses mobile crisis issues in 7F06 at the BP gas station. A nuisance verbal warning has been served. There is a stench of urine and drug activity at the gas station. 7F03 is working with the mobile crisis at Benning Road and requesting help from other agencies to eradicate this issue. The Secretary Report will be sent out shortly.

## 5. Commission Business

### a. Consent Agenda

**i. Resolution 23-017 (Commissioner Ruff): Calling on DC Public Libraries and MBI to Increase Security and Mental Health Resources to Prevent Loitering and Substance Abuse Inside and Outside where the libraries are located.**

Commissioner Hughes motioned to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. The motion passed unanimously with 4 in favor and 0 against (4-0-0).

**ii. Resolution 23-018 (Commissioner Ruff): Calling on DHCD and The Office of Planning to Maintain Fair Housing Laws for African Americans Who Traditionally Lack Access to Home Ownership.**

Commissioner Hughes motioned to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. The motion passed unanimously with 4 in favor and 0 against (4-0-0).

**iii. Resolution 23-019 (Commissioner Holcomb ): Resolution of Condolence and Recognition for 20+ Years of Service for former Fort DuPont Civic Association Officer Mrs. Emma Rivers**

Commissioner Hughes motioned to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. The motion passed unanimously with 4 in favor and 0 against (4-0-0).

**iv. Resolution 23-020 (Commissioner Hughes): Calling on the Council's Public Safety Committee to Introduce and Pass The "Patronize or Passage" Legislation Along Business Corridors to Minimize Loitering and Spur Economic Opportunities in Ward 7.**

Commissioner Hughes motioned to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. The motion passed unanimously with 4 in favor and 0 against (4-0-0).

**v. Resolution 23-021 (Commissioner Holcomb): Recognizing outgoing MPD Police Chief and Robert J. Contee and former 6D Commander.**

Commissioner Hughes motioned to approve the consent agenda. Commissioner was seconded by Commissioner Edwards. The motion passed unanimously with 4 in favor

and 0 against (4-0-0).

## 6. Presentations/Special Guests

### a. Reservation 13- Yvette Alexander

Yvette Alexander is a consultant for the project. Reservation 13 will host monthly or at least quarterly meetings to give updates and address any concerns or from the community. R13 is looking to include everyone in the development of this project. The project is going to include rental housing, retail, and ownership housing, and hospitality. R13 is Planning for 38 affordable townhomes and condominiums. Out of 1,120 rental units available 668 will be affordable. The project is set to begin construction by the end of 2024. R13 is aiming to have a big box retailer such as a grocery store and is waiting on a letter of intent from the grocer. More information concerning the grocer will be available at a later date. Comments on this development can be submitted by email to [Yvette@yalexander.com](mailto:Yvette@yalexander.com) or phone to 202-257-5263. This project will take about 7 years to complete with the rental properties being completed in the beginning phases of the project. At this time the R-13 development has not received any government funding. R-13 is prepared for any issues with redistricting that may happen, but they hope the project remains in ward 7.

## 7. Agency Updates (5 minutes per speaker)

### a. Mayor Bowser's Office - Lawrence Davin ([lawrence.davin@dc.gov](mailto:lawrence.davin@dc.gov))

Chief Contee is retiring early this summer, so there is a national search for a new police chief. Brian J Hanlon is the new appointment in the Department of Buildings- Brian J. Hanlon. After the public safety submit in April, the mayor has completed another Safer, Stronger DC. This initiative's goal is to enhance penalties for violent crimes that victimize or target vulnerable residents, increase penalties for illegal gun possession, strengthen provisions that allow individuals to petition for early release to ensure the voices of victims and the community receive proper consideration, increase the reimbursement for the district's Popular Private Security Camera System Incentive Program, and Department of Public Works (DPW) Curbside Composting Pilot Program. Frequently asked questions can be found at [zerowaste.dc.gov/curbside](http://zerowaste.dc.gov/curbside). The Annual Truck Touch will take place on June 3, 2023. The Office of Attorney General has upcoming community events. There will be a Ward 7 listening Session Wednesday May 17, 2023 at Capitol View Neighborhood Library with Attorney General Brian Schwalb. Kingman Island Family Fishing Day will take place on Saturday, June 10, 2023.

### b. Ward 7 State Board of Education Rep - Eboni Rose Thompson ([Eboni-rose.thompson@dc.gov](mailto:Eboni-rose.thompson@dc.gov))

Panel on violence in schools and in school safety will be held on May 17, 2023. Council member Parker introduced an amendment to form a task force on school safety which came out of a resolution all ANCs passed. There will be a second vote on the week of the 23rd of May. Councilmember Treyon White will introduce an amendment at the second reading that will actually address the modernization of Marvin Gaye Recreation Center. The recreation center and the field at Eastern High School is in need of an update. The board is passing new social studies standards. This is an opportunity for students to have good windows and mirrors. Upcoming: Implementing a financial literacy standard and the board is looking for feedback on this initiative. There will be a big shift in the education budget. Mendelson recommended moving about 24 million dollars out of the central office and giving it directly to school communities. There is concern about some of the positions that will be cut such as head of HR.

### c. MPD 6th District - Captain Fitzgerald & Commander Darnell Robinson ([matthew.fitzgerald@dc.gov](mailto:matthew.fitzgerald@dc.gov))

Captain Fitzgerald discussed the Violent Crime Reduction Partnership because there has been a significant increase in homicides. The motives of the homicides are mostly from arguments and domestic violence. Arianna Davis, 10 years old who was shot while riding parents and siblings on the 3700 of Hayes following a homicide at 3800 block. The offices have been successful in recovering the weapons from both incidents and working with the property manager. The 6th district has been partnering with DOES in the 4400 block in Minnesota Avenue with Dr Hughes and other efforts to address the concerns along the corridor. Last year's homicide reduction partnership greatly impacted the reduction of violence along the Minnesota Avenue Corridor to include TSA 604. The 6th district has seen significant decrease using a whole of government approach to include the multi-agency task force that addressed a lot of the quality concerns of life. DPW and DC Families played a significant role in the reduction. Although that partnership ended in December 2022, they have identified a reduction partnership in the Good Hope Road Corridor. The corridor is split between 701 and 607. Assault with deadly weapons is down 9 percent. 52 percent of ADW are connected to domestic violence in ward 7 and 8. There has been a robbery spree along the Minnesota Avenue Corridor that is also targeting a Citgo gas station. As units deployed to the area, they were being surveyed. 8-10 robberies occurred within a week. Persons of interest were identified and 5 arrests have been made by the car jacking task force. The 6th district has partnered with Honda and Kia to prevent those vehicles from being targeted. The 6th district plans on implementing a Focus Patrol which is a strategy for deployment based on previous numbers.

### **Commissioner Shirley Thompson- Wright**

**Question:** Does the summer crime initiative include walks with other DC agencies to combat drug use?

**Response:** The 6th district did complete walks along that Corridor with the Department of Behavior Health and DCFems to hand out education and Narcan.

**Question:** Is it possible for officers to build relationships with the leasing office of Meadow Green Courts to help lower crime in that area?

**Response:** They plan to reach out to the property manager at Green Meadow Courts.

### **Commissioner Orendoff -Does the 6th units employ mobile crisis units for the areas that have bad management practices such as drug use and loitering?**

Yes, once a location has been identified as a nuisance property it is brought to the attention of the Office of the Attorney General. The office of Attorney General makes contact with the owner. Before legal matters take place, they come to mediate the issue. The Shell gas station in that area has been identified as a nuisance property. Commander Robinson is in contact with Officers Jason Medina and Fultcher who are in close connection with the Office of Attorney General. The Department of Behavioral Health uses a mobile unit to deploy through neighborhoods sporadically. Robinson will follow up with the frequency of its deployment. They are also trying to exhaust all means in providing tactics or strategies that they can use even to include outside employment; security companies.

There is no loitering law for these properties, but the 6th district is willing to revisit this concern.

## **8. Community Concerns/Announcements**

There has been a suspect identified for the shooting that occurred at 4500 block of Dicks, Commander Robinson plans to follow up to see if an arrest warrant has been made. He also plans to include Commander Bryant in the concerns regarding the stadium. They are in connection with the property managers at this location in order to assess the grounds. In addition, the 6th district plans to hold property managers and owners accountable for providing a safe environment for their residents. Lieutenant Sotello will be addressing the people visiting

neighborhoods by visiting the property (4551 Burbank St.) during the hours that the disturbance usually occurs. The status of flexible scheduling for teachers is there is 3 million dollars for pilots available to schools or school districts across both sectors. There has not been a hearing on the teacher retention legislation. It is expected that the hearing will occur in the fall. There has been no confirmation on when meetings will be returning in person for 7F. There has been a push by council member Robert White to have commissions transition into having hybrid meetings. The commission will provide its updates in the future.

## **9. Meeting Adjourned**

Chair Holcomb adjourned the meeting at 8:29pm.