

February 28, 2017

D.C. Board of Zoning Adjustment
441 4th Street, N.W. - Suite 210
Washington, DC 20001

Re: BZA Case No. 19451
Square 643 LLC Response to Applicant's Opposition to Party Status
Request 850 Delaware Avenue, SW (Square 590E, Lot 800)

Dear Chairman & Members of the Board:

Square 643 LLC filed for party status in the above referenced case. The Applicant filed its opposition to Square 643 LLC's party status, to which Square 643 files this response.

Response to Opposition Section 2- Applicant Wrongfully states that Square 643 LLC was an applicant for Ward 6 STFH at 700 Delaware

The Applicant's opposition wrongfully states Square 643 LLC made a proposal for locating the homeless shelter on its property. Square 643 LLC ("Sq. 643") made no proposal for the Ward 6 homeless shelter.

In support of this wrong assertion, the Applicant submitted a document entitled "Application and Referral to the Historic Preservation Review Board." Sq.643 Ex.1 (Applicant's Additional Support for Opposition to Party Status Request-Filed Feb.24, 2017). The document shows the applicant for the relief as 700 Delaware LLC, not Square 643 LLC. Sq. 643 nor any of its members have an ownership interest in 700 Delaware LLC.

Sq. 643 had been in talks with 700 Delaware about the possibility of locating the homeless shelter at the rear of the 700 Delaware property, and the parameters of such use on the property. However, Sq. 643 gave no entity permission to file any applications with a government agency.

The Board should strike in total Section 2 of the Applicant's opposition statement because it wrongly states that Sq.643 proposed or applied for relief for a homeless shelter.

Response to Opposition Section 3- Square 643 LLC's property line is the closest occupied property to the proposed homeless shelter

The Applicant attempts to move the Board away from the fact that Sq. 643's property is the most affected by the request for relief by arguing the homeless shelter's physical structure will be closer to another property. However, Sq. 643 has stated from property line to property line its property is the closest occupied property to the homeless shelter.

An examination of Applicant's Exhibit 10 visibly supports Sq. 643's assertion it is the most affected by the requested relief. Sq. 643 Ex. 2. Unlike any other occupied property, 700 Delaware is the most affected occupied property. To access 700 Delaware, a person must pass by or through 850 Delaware. Uniquely, any access to 700 Delaware requires its occupants and invitees to enter to the front or rear of the Applicant's property. To its west, the 700 Delaware Avenue property dead-ends on Delaware. To the east, 700 Delaware dead-ends at H Street, where it abuts the Applicant's property. To the north of 700 Delaware, there is no access to 700 Delaware. Any access to 700 Delaware requires access from its south; its occupants and invitees must enter to the east or west of the Applicant's property.

700 Delaware is internationally recognized and considered a place to see in the District of Columbia. The property host daily tourist from around the world who come to view the building's exterior and interior artwork. The property host events attended by many celebrities and government officials. See Sq. 643 Ex.3.

Response to Opposition Section 4- 850 Delaware's plans for Safety, Security and Maintenance does not include the impact of the relief on 700 Delaware

The Applicant argues that Square 643's interests in the safety, security and environmental interest of 700 Delaware will be protected by the Applicant's "Advisory Team." The Applicant's Advisory Team has held several meetings and has failed to include a representative of Sq. 643. The Advisory Team has only mentioned the 700 Delaware property in a cursory way. As it can be seen in the report of the Advisory Team (Sq. 643 Ex.4, page 8), the Advisory Team refused to consider the impact of the homeless shelter on Sq. 643's property at 700 Delaware. Regarding 700 Delaware, which is bounded by H Street, the Advisory Team stated, "[e]ngage H Street SW,

behind the site. No one goes back there, except to visit the Blind Rhino space.” This statement is a clear example of why Sq. 643 should be allowed party status. The Advisory Team has no concern for 700 Delaware and the impact of the homeless shelter on the property.

The Applicant states the Advisory Team welcomes Sq. 643’s input into the “Good Neighbor Agreement.” However, the Advisory Team rejected Sq. 643’s attempt to join the Advisory Team and has failed to be concerned with the property.

Square 643's interest is more significantly, distinctively, or uniquely affected by the requested relief than any other occupied property. Sq 643’s property is more affected because: 1) no other property access is as affected by Applicant’s property than 700 Delaware. To get to 700 Delaware, a person must pass by or through 850 Delaware; 2) the property is an internationally recognized destination; 3) users of the property include celebrities and government officials; and 4) the exterior of the building is art. No other property or interest is similarly situated. Sq. 643’s interest in the relief requested is unique, and not the same as the general public.

Sincerely,
Motley Waller LLP



Lloyd J. Jordan



Rose M. Waller

Encls.

cc: Christopher H. Collins via email
Jessica R. Bloomfield via email
ANC 6D via email
Maxine Brown-Roberts, D.C. Office of Planning via email

SQ. 643 EXHIBIT 1



APPLICATION AND REFERRAL TO THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD

HPA

The DC Historic Landmark and Historic District Protection Act of 1978 requires the Mayor to refer construction plans to the Historic Preservation Review Board (HPRB) for consideration before issuing a building permit affecting a designated historic landmark or property within a historic district. To initiate a historic preservation review with HPRB, please submit this form with all required attachments as directed below.

THIS IS A REQUEST FOR THE FOLLOWING REVIEW BY THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD:

- CONCEPTUAL REVIEW** to receive HPRB guidance at the early stages of design and to enable delegation of final permit review to the Historic Preservation Office (HPO)
- PERMIT REVIEW** to receive final historic preservation review of the building permit plans for a project
I have confirmed with the HPO staff that the proposed work needs to be submitted for HPRB review

1. OWNER, APPLICANT, AND PROPERTY INFORMATION

Property Owner's Name: Square 643 LLC

Applicant's Name (if different from owner): 700 Delaware LLC

Project Address: 700 Delaware Ave SW

Square: 0643 Lot: 0830 Historic District: _____

To find your square, lot and historic district, see www.propertyquest.dc.gov

- I am currently the owner of the property
- I am a homeowner currently receiving the DC homestead deduction for this property
- I am an authorized representative of the property owner
- I am or represent a potential purchaser of the property

2. SUBMISSION MATERIALS FOR HPRB

Please provide an electronic version (3MB maximum size, by email or flash drive) and two print copies of the following (11" x 17" preferred):

- Comprehensive exterior photographs of the building, site and its context showing adjacent buildings, immediate surroundings, and the areas of proposed work
- Site plan showing the existing footprint of the property and all other buildings on the block or square
- Building plans, elevations, and site plans sufficient to illustrate the footprint, height, massing, design, and materials of the proposed work and its surrounding context

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Addition Exterior Alteration New Construction Subdivision Other

Briefly describe the nature of the project: See attached narrative description of project.

	YES	NO	UNSURE
Is the proposed work visible from a public street?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Will there be work on the front of the building or in the front yard?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the project include work in public space?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the project include removal of roof or floor framing or bearing walls?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is this a Fair Housing Act request for "reasonable accommodation"?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(over)

SQ. 643 EXHIBIT 2

Sq. 643 Ex. 2
APPLICANT'S EXHIBIT 10 EXCERPT



SQ. 643 EXHIBIT 3



PRESS:

<http://www.wjla.com/articles/2013/07/former-dc-church-is-transformed-into-art-space-91172.html>

<http://www.myfoxdc.com/story/22868653/abandoned-southwest-dc-church-transformed-into-a-work-of-art>

<http://washington.cbslocal.com/2013/07/10/former-d-c-church-being-transformed-into-arts-center/>

<http://www.thesouthwester.com/august2013.pdf>

<http://www.readexpress.com/2013/09/faith-in-blind-whino>

<http://blog.preservationnation.org/2013/11/25/slideshow-update-painted-dc-church-now-artistic-inside/#.VGOVrjTF9rM>

<http://teambushido.blogspot.com/2013/09/open-your-world-heineken-mural-project.html>

<http://dc.curbed.com/archives/2013/09/new-sw-arts-club-offers-beauty-and-brings-people-together.php>

http://www.elevationdcmedia.com/features/SWartsdevelopment_092413.aspx

<http://www.washingtonian.com/blogs/openhouse/development/the-mural-project-aiming-to-beautify-dc-streets.php>

<http://meetsobsession.com/2013/local/dc/photo-diary-heineken-mural-project-at-blind-whino-arts-club-in-washington-d-c/>

<http://www.amlitmag.com/blog/amlit/2013/10/location-review-blind-whino>

<http://www.wtop.com/41/3646273/Couples-opt-for-pop-up-weddings-DC-company-delivers->

<http://popwed.co/2014/03/01/dc-elopement-wedding-mural-washington-dc/>

<http://woldcnews.newsonline.com/1502899/photo-recap-marvin-gaye-grooves-blind-whino/>

<http://citizenmixnet.weebly.com/cm-b-l-o-g/venue-watch-blind-whino>

<https://www.wpadc.org/news/wpa-interviews-shane-pomajambo-blind-whino>

<http://www.washingtoncitypaper.com/articles/45775/trapitol-hill-at-blind-whino-saturday-may-17/>

<http://www.itschazak.com/2014/05/08/art-war-weapons-mass-change-blind-whino/>

http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/crime/photo-exhibit-shows-the-collateral-damage-left-behind-by-the-districts-incarcerated/2014/07/05/c5f0e0d2-03a7-11e4-b8ff-89afd3fad6bd_story.html

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/local/wp/2014/07/07/at-blind-whino-collateral-damage-highlights-redemptive-responsibility/>

<http://www.navyyardproject.com/blog/creativemornings-at-the-art-whino>

<http://thefabempire.com/2014/10/21/recap-pusha-t-and-wale-pop-up-when-hennypalooza-comes-to-dcs-blind-whino/>

<http://www.thrillist.com/entertainment/washington-dc/secrets-of-dc-13-things-you-didn-t-know-about-dc>

VIDEOS:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z7f2KMLebY> - Blind Whino SW Arts Club & Event Space

<http://vimeo.com/73346702> - Blind Whino Soft Opening + CIROC Amaretto Launch Event

<http://vimeo.com/74295974> - G40 Art Summit Opening + Heineken Mural VIP Reception

<http://vimeo.com/78069644> - Heineken Sight + Sound Pop Up Music Photography Exhibit

<http://vimeo.com/83012007> - Blind Whino: A Short Story on a Hidden Gem in Southwest DC

<http://vimeo.com/99110723> - Hennessy House Party w/ Anthony Hamilton

<http://vimeo.com/102293278> - Brisk Bodega w/ DJ Mustard

<http://vimeo.com/106293964> - Doc in a Day: Blind Whino x G40

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=avk2SCXA0ks> - Blind Whino x Collateral Damage

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f78r3r8VWVM> - HennyPalooza Howard Homecoming

13 DC SECRETS YOU HAD NO IDEA EXISTED

By LAURA HAYES

By LAURA HAYES @BTMenu

Published On 10/08/2014 Published On 10/08/2014

@BTMenu



LAURA HAYES

If anyone has an ear to the ground in DC it's Dan Silverman. In fact, the guy has both ears to the ground... even though it's anatomically impossible. You know him as the [Prince of Petworth](#), and we solicited him to identify the secret-est spots in town. How does one man make so many discoveries? Easy — he walks everywhere. 15-20 miles a day sometimes. We got him to hold still long enough to help us find these 13 hidden gems.

1. [There's an amazing technicolor church](#)

SW Waterfront

Murals on a wall are cool and all, but what about an entire church? At 700 Delaware Ave SW you'll find a previously white, unassuming church that has been transformed by

Atlanta-based artist Alex “Hense” Brewer into something way way cooler. We imagine that if this church were still a place of worship, they’d switch out hymns for Grateful Dead riffs. The purpose of the project was to aid in the transformation of the SW neighborhood into a true arts district.

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Your First-ever DC Metro Restaurant Map



[Slideshow] UPDATE: Painted DC Church Now Artistic Inside and Out

By:
Emily Potter



[Link: <https://nthp-savingplaces.s3.amazonaws.com/2015/07/31/15/43/57/921/Renovated-Friendship-Baptist-Church.jpg>]

The former Friendship Baptist Church is unique for its eclectic use of Victorian and Romanesque architectural styles combined with Gothic Revival and Queen Anne elements.

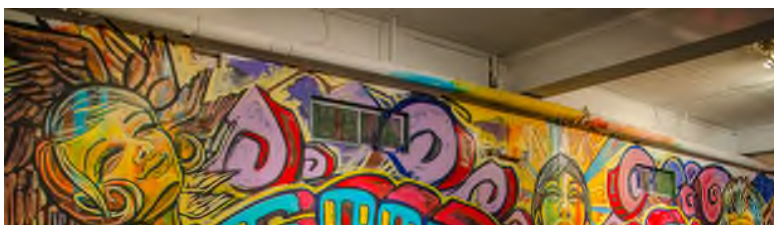
Back in the spring, we presented a slideshow of how graffiti artist HENSE transformed a vacant historic church in Washington, D.C., into a work of art.

Today, the building is home to [Blind Whino: SW Arts Club](http://blindwhino.org/) [Link: <http://blindwhino.org/>], a local nonprofit organization that promotes creativity and learning in an inspirational and artistic environment.

Inspirational and artistic it certainly is: In addition to the eye-catching and colorful exterior, the once-abandoned church has found new life and purpose within the neighborhood as an art center and events venue. Blind Whino Executive Director Shane Pomajambo says, "All the neighbors have come to thank us personally for transforming what was an abandoned space for over 20 years into a beautiful piece of art."

Inside, Blind Whino hosts art workshops and classes, supper clubs, concerts, art exhibits, and more -- serving as not only a community arts club for the city, but also a pillar of creativity in our nation's capital.

Below, check out photos from this unique example of reuse:



P A R A C H U T E

5 Offbeat Art Destinations For Your Travel Wish List

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by [Jackie Strawbridge](#) | Contributor | March 1, 2016

Art-loving travelers know all the big name destinations: the Louvre, the Met, Tate Modern. But sometimes when wanderlust kicks in, we want to see experimental art and lesser known museums — or maybe we're just sick of waiting in line. For a glimpse at some of the many unique or underrated art pieces and museums open to tourists across the globe, I've picked out five unconventional art destinations from my travel wish list:

1. Museo Subacuático de Arte (MUSA), Cancun, Mexico

You'll need an oxygen tank to get the full experience of this museum, which sits on the ocean floor off the coast of Cancun, Mexico. The underwater sculpture museum consists of 500 permanent, life-size sculptures by artist Jason deCaires Taylor, fixed to the seabed. According to the [MUSA website](#), marine life is meant to "colonize and inhabit" the museum like a reef. You can visit by glass bottom boat or snorkeling, but MUSA suggests scuba diving for the deepest sculptures.

2. "Her Secret is Patience," Phoenix, Arizona

Janet Echelman's "Her Secret is Patience" is a 145-foot-tall floating,

dynamic sculpture in Phoenix's [Civic Space Park](#). Created from a colorful net, this public sculpture was inspired by Arizona's "distinctive cloud formations and the shadows they cast," according to the artist's website. It's meant to draw the eye upward while also casting "shadow drawings" below. "Her Secret is Patience" is free to visit.

3. Artist-designed mini golf at the Walker Art Center, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Over recent summers, the [Walker Art Center](#) in Minneapolis has invited artists to design unique holes for its mini golf course. Past putting holes have been based on Andy Warhol's work, a graveyard, the constellations and the inside of a chicken coup. Last year, the full course cost \$19 (\$15 for museum members), which included free admission to the Walker gallery.

4. Stockholm Metro, Stockholm, Sweden

It's not unusual for cities to dedicate space for public art within their public transportation systems, but Stockholm has received special attention for its [underground collection of artwork](#), which spans 70 miles and 150 artists. It's often described as the world's largest art museum. The central station is painted blue and white with larger-than-life figures, another is designed to look like an archaeological dig and another like a spruce forest more than half a mile long, among many others.

5. Blind Whino, Washington, D.C.

The [Blind Whino Arts Club and Events Space](#) occupies a historic church that has been completely decked out in a bright, multicolored mural by Atlanta-based artist Alex Brewer, aka HENSE. Blind Whino was founded with the mission to foster creativity, education and community; it provides a space for art exhibits, events, live performances and workshops. The inside of the former church is now divided into a stage, arts annex and "talent area," among others. Blind

Magazine

At Blind Whino, high spirits are the thing

September 1, 2016

A avid sneaker collector Ian Callender loved his hobby so much, in 2005 he threw a sneaker party for his 23th birthday at Eyebars nightclub.

“The concept of the party was to make it a free event for people to come and experience this subculture,” he says. “[It] was my way of sharing that love and that passion that I had for sneakers with the general public.”

A decade later, he’s still producing community events. But now he’s sharing a love of art instead of athletic shoes as the vice president of Blind Whino . This nonprofit group promotes art throughout the District and manages a visually striking event venue in Southwest Washington.

The former Friendship Baptist Church (700 Delaware Ave. SW), constructed in 1886, had been vacant for more than 20 years when Atlanta artist Alex Brewer painted a colorful mural over the exterior in October 2012. He used huge patches of pinks, blues, oranges, yellows and greens.

Three months later, Callender saw the result and immediately wanted to transform the building into a cultural center. He got Heineken to sponsor a mural project on interior walls, as well as four outdoor walls in sections of the city.

On Aug. 26, 2013, Callender and his co-founder, Shane Pomajambo, held their first Blind Whino event. The name draws from Pomajambo’s Art Whino gallery and the term “blind pig,” slang for speakeasy.

They’ve been hosting festivities ever since. At first, they planned to do one thing: produce art programming. By mid-2014, they repositioned the building as “a private rental facility, but still programming art and having that community concept,” Callender says.

Part of the ground floor has white walls for artists’ shows, which are open to the public on Sundays. Vibrant hues cover the walls of other event space.

Robyn Dixon of “The Real Housewives of Potomac” recently hosted a launch party for a wig line for her hair stylist Shirley Gordon at Blind Whino.

Gordon at Blind Whino.

“I had no clue what I was venturing into when I heard the name. I was pleasantly surprised what a cool space it is,” says attendee Sari Karson Kurland, a lawyer. “It is not one of those sterile, boring, conventional, painful event spaces. It’s got personality.”

Blind Whino is celebrating its third anniversary. The party began Aug. 28 and continues Sept. 4 from noon to 6 p.m., with free live music, a moon bounce, barbecue and more.

Events there have included weddings, fundraisers, a yoga festival, a Smithsonian at 8 Folklife Festival Peruvian dance party, a Rock the Vote White House correspondents’ dinner pre-party and Callender’s annual Kicks for Kids shoe drive. Base prices for rentals start at \$1,500 and can go to \$6,000. Discounts are available for nonprofits.



(<http://capitolstandard.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/art-galleries-dc.jpg>)

OUT OF OFFICE
([HTTP://CAPITOLSTANDARD.COM/CATEGORY/OUTOFFICE/](http://capitolstandard.com/category/outofoffice/))

DC's 'Hidden' Art Galleries

Karly Smith (<http://capitolstandard.com/author/ksmith/>) |
JULY 11, 2016 (201607)

Stumble upon the city's unique and underrated arts scene.

[f](#) (#) [t](#) (#) [g+](#) (#) [in](#) (#) [p](#) (#)

“What’s less talked about, but equally impressive, is DC’s underground

Entryways to other worlds are hidden in DC alleys. The Capitol is booming with cultural experiences that transport us to different countries and times – from world-renowned museums, to grungy modern performance art spaces.

Tourists come from all over the world to walk through DC’s free museums. But what’s less talked about, but equally impressive, is DC’s underground modern visual arts scene.

It’s full of hidden galleries, trinkets and treasures to discover, and inspiring spaces that aren’t populated with gigantic crowds – a welcome change from many better known hot spots around the city. These “secret” art galleries not only make for interesting and offbeat evenings that don’t break the bank, but give you new experiences and anecdotes to use at next week’s networking

modern visual arts scene.”

[event \(http://capitolstandard.com/the-networking-course-every-young-pro-needs-to-take/\)](http://capitolstandard.com/the-networking-course-every-young-pro-needs-to-take/).

Here's where you'll find the best unique art in the city:

The Hamiltonian Gallery

When I first moved to DC, [The Hamiltonian Gallery \(http://www.hamiltoniangallery.com/\)](http://www.hamiltoniangallery.com/) was one of the first places I visited. A tiny gallery on U Street, this space has a unique collection of modern art focused on [Hamiltonian artist fellows \(http://www.hamiltonianartists.org/start-page/\)](http://www.hamiltonianartists.org/start-page/) just starting out in their careers, meaning you could be seeing the work of the next Jackson Pollock. Noelle Tucker, a student, call The Hamiltonian, “the perfect platform for art.” Bonus: artist talks happen on select nights with new exhibits. I'm always amazed at how down to earth, relatable, and friendly the artists are as they explain their process and inspirations.

Cost: \$0 | **Hours:** Tuesday – Saturday, 12 PM – 6 PM | **Where:** 1353 U Street NW, Suite 101, Washington, DC 20009 | **Nearest Metro Station:** U Street

The Fridge DC

If you're lost around Eastern Market and wander into a back alley, you'll stumble upon [The Fridge DC \(http://www.thefridgedc.com/\)](http://www.thefridgedc.com/). A small space with unfinished concrete floors and scribbled marks on the doors, with its funky fringe-like atmosphere, The Fridge aims to make the arts “accessible to everyone.” Bonus: get your hands dirty. The Fridge hosts community events like stencil and spray paint workshops throughout the year.

Cost: Varies. [See website for details \(http://www.thefridgedc.com/\)](http://www.thefridgedc.com/) | **Hours:** Thursday – Friday: 1PM–7 PM. Saturday: 12 PM–7 PM. Sunday: 12 PM–5 PM. *Events often happen outside of these hours. [See website for details \(http://www.thefridgedc.com/\)](http://www.thefridgedc.com/)* | **Where:** 516 1/2 8th Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003 | **Nearest Metro Station:** Eastern Market

Dupont Underground

You may have heard about the [abandoned tunnels](#)

(https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/could-these-formerly-sealed-off-tunnels-be-dcs-new-artsy-photo-op/2016/04/28/fe8d12c6-0be8-11e6-8ab8-9ad050f76d7d_story.html) about 20 feet beneath Dupont Circle. This vast space was originally a trolley station, then a fallout shelter, and then, for a short period of time, a food court. In 2014, an organization called [Dupont Underground](http://www.dupontunderground.org/) (<http://www.dupontunderground.org/>) reclaimed and revitalized the underground space as an art gallery, opening an innovative installation called *Raise/Raze* in late April of 2016. Bonus: this gallery is a landmark piece of weird DC history.

Cost: Varies. [See website for details](#)

(<http://www.dupontunderground.org/>) | **Hours:** Varies. [See website for details](#) (<http://www.dupontunderground.org/>) | **Where:** Connecticut Avenue and Massachusetts Avenue, Dupont Circle | **Nearest Metro Station:** Dupont Circle

Blind Whino

This renovated 1900s Victorian and Romanesque church is covered in colorful murals and stop-and-stare-worthy works of inventive public art. [Blind Whino's](http://www.blindwhino.org/) (<http://www.blindwhino.org/>) exhibits aren't constrained to its interior. Artwork changes weekly. Bonus: any resident can rent the space, and showcase art, music, spoken word, or even hold festivals.

Cost: Varies. [See website for details](#) (<http://www.blindwhino.org/>) | **Hours:** Varies. [See website for details](#) (<http://www.blindwhino.org/>) | **Where:** 700 Delaware Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20024 | **Nearest Metro Station:** Waterfront

The Phillips Collection

If you dig more traditional forms of modern art, or are looking for a more accessible introduction, head to [The Phillips Collection](http://www.phillipscollection.org/) (<http://www.phillipscollection.org/>). The Phillips hosts more than 3,000 works by artists like Monet, O'Keeffe and Klimt, along with lesser known contemporary artists. Bonus: formerly the home of its founder, Duncan Phillips, the historic mansion housing the art is a must see itself.



Inside Look TV Magazine added 28 new photos to the album: **SMITHSONIAN AT 8 CHICHA PARTY** — at [Blind Whino](#).

June 20, 2015 · 🌐

The Smithsonian Folk Life Festival hosted SMITHSONIAN at 8 event the event series offers one-of-a-kind experiences. SMITHSONIAN at 8 makes a summer night even hotter with a Peruvian-style celebration at DC's Blind Whino. Guests experienced music by Lima's DJ Sabroso and local favorite DJ Kristy la rat spin chicha beats. Sample of Peruvian beers and pisco cocktails at the cash bar, and a taste of the country from local food truck El Fuego.

The Smithsonian Folklife Festival is an international exposition of living cultural heritage annually produced outdoors on the National Mall of the United States in Washington, D.C., by the Smithsonian Institution's Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage.

The Festival takes place for two weeks every summer overlapping the Fourth of July holiday. It is an educational presentation that features community-based cultural exemplars. Free to the public, like other Smithsonian museums, each Festival typically draws more than one million visitors.

Peru is one of the world's most biodiverse nations, containing ninety microclimates across extreme variances of altitude. The coastal, rain-forested, and mountainous environments provide abundant resources, including major exports such as fish, copper, and asparagus. Many culturally and historically significant areas are popular tourist destinations that encompass complex layered histories.

[HOME](#)[OUR WEDDINGS](#)[INFO](#)[BLOG](#)[CONTACT US](#)**POP!**
WED+CO

TC & Bev's DC Elopement Wedding at a Rainbow Church of Art

Have you ever seen a building that's so beautiful you just want to hug it? Or stare at it all day and just live there? Well if not, you've never seen this building. You can see it from the highway for a tiny second, and it's right over by the Waterfront. It is without a doubt the most beautiful building I've ever seen, covered in bright, gorgeous murals inside and out. It used to be a church, but with art...so I'm calling it a Church of Art.

MARC

When TC & Bev contacted us about being the first ever couple to have a Pop! Wed Co wedding, the Blind Whino SW Arts Club building was the perfect location – they love art and bright colors, so we were so excited to be married at such an awesome location! The outside of the building is painted by the awesome Hense, and the interior was done by equally awesome Meggs, making it totally one of a kind art space.

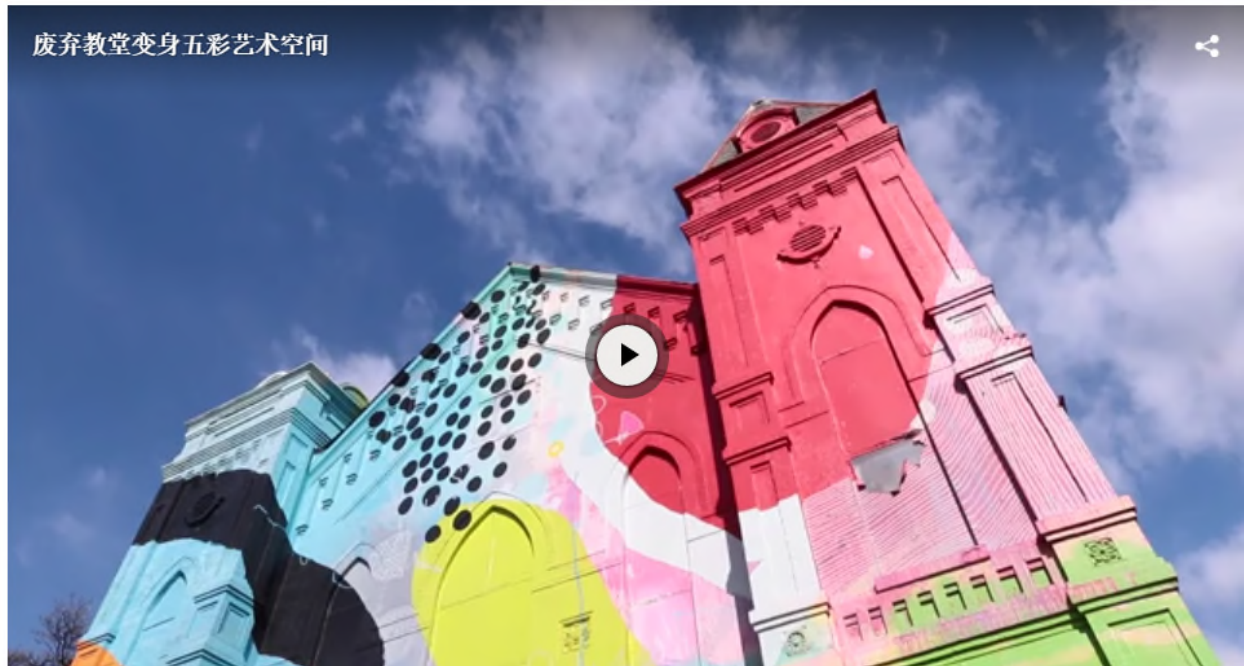
boxes, with each piece having one of their vows to each other written on them. What a
remember your vows – I can totally see them becoming family heirlooms and being u
generations!

We had the best time ever hanging out with TC & Bev and are so glad they chose us fo
Congratulations guys!



废弃教堂变身五彩艺术空间

2016年7月12日



据皮尤研究中心2015年的报告指出，没有宗教信仰的人在美国人口比例中从16%增加到23%。随着教区信徒的流失，不少教堂被闲置。在华盛顿市就有这么一间拥有上百年历史的教堂，在被荒废了20多年后，它摇身一变，成了美国首都艺术圈里最炙手可热的一个地方，我们来看看究竟是怎么一回事？

华盛顿“盲酒鬼”艺术俱乐部的创始人伊恩·卡勒德说：“这个建筑有144岁，它曾经是一个历史悠久的教堂。后来在社区里变成荒废没落的一块，我们给它带来一些鲜艳的色彩。有点儿禁酒期地下酒吧的意思，因为你光看外面的样子，猜不到里面是干什么的。”

伊恩·卡勒德说：“我是伊恩·卡勒德，华盛顿“盲酒鬼”艺术俱乐部的创始人之一。”

伊恩·卡勒德说：“艺术是一种通用的语言，可以打动每个人。”

周六下午，一个名为“甜蜜极乐”的活动在“盲酒鬼”里渐入佳境。这个活动面向LGBT社群，邀请了8位表演艺术家，5名DJ，5位画家，11位手工艺品展商。

卡莉·莎尚德说：“没有比这里更多彩的了，它非常非常独特，里面的艺术作品也刚好是我们这个活动要找的感觉。”

来参加的人当中很多在以往并不会步入教堂。

伊恩·卡勒德说：“我在华盛顿土生土长。这些年发生了很大变化，但是，作为一个随着时间的推移接纳了80万新居民的城市，我认为这里绝对有好事发生。”

珠宝艺术家帝安雅说：“我的名字是帝安雅，我跟我妈丽莎合作的“更多珠宝”今天在这里展卖。我觉得这里很酷，说到宗教，对我来说无所谓，与宗教信仰相比，我更追求精神信仰。”

活动参与者芝奈恩说：“宗教场所在很长一段时间里，对一些人来说意味着排斥和禁止。现在，我们在这里看到，这个“性别中立卫生间”的标志，在这样一个曾经是给人做礼拜的教堂里，这是我以前根本无法想象的。所以，我认为这样真好。我希望有更多这样的空间来被再利用。”

活动参与者乔斯林说：“如果教会真要我们爱和接纳，就应该这么做，我们在这里应该更自如，这里是对我们自由的歌颂。”

伊恩·卡勒德说：“如你所说，这是一个教堂的空间，是社区的焦点，我们希望将对话交流继续下去，但只是加点更酷的元素罢了。”

杰克·库豪斯说：“我的态度是，有越多能听到好音乐的地方越好，就这么简单。”

可经营“盲酒鬼”并不像听好音乐那么简单。

伊恩·卡勒德说：“作为一个非盈利组织，我们还没有盈余，说实话，这就是为什么我们接这么多私人活动租赁业务，酒吧的收入可以帮我们自负盈亏，用来支付大楼的水电等等开销，因为我们所有公共活动都是免费的，还有我们所有的艺术展览，我们向公众开放的活动，总是免费的。”

伊恩接下来要为年底的改造工程募捐集资。

SQ. 643 EXHIBIT 4



Department of Human Services
Office of the Director | 64 New York Avenue N.E., Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20002

Ward 6 Short-term Family Housing Advisory Team Meeting
Thursday, September 22, 2016
1101 4th Street SW, Room W-254 - Washington, DC 20024
7 pm – 8:30pm

Ward 6 Advisory Team Members

Name	Inviting Organization	Affiliations	Attendance
Andy Litsky	ANC 6D	ANC 6D Chairperson; SMD 6D04 Commissioner; Advisory Team Co-Chair	Present
Stacy Cloyd	ANC 6D	SMD 6D02 Commissioner (site location)	Present
Lucy Rojansky	ANC 6D	Amidon-Bowen PTA President	Present
Marilyn Melkonian	ANC 6D	President & Founder of Telesis	Present
Robin Walker (for Andrenia Walker)	Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA)	Community Representative, Greenleaf Gardens Extension	Present
Katelynd Mahoney	Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA)	Community Representative	Present
Vyllorya Evans	Southwest Neighborhood Assembly (SWNA)	Community Representative	Not Present
Charles Allen	Councilmember Allen's Office	Ward 6 Councilmember	Present
Bob Hall	Councilmember Allen's Office	President and Board of Directors, Capital Park IV Condominiums	Present
Deborah Shore	Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH)	Executive Director and Founder, Sasha Bruce Youthwork	Present
Jay Melder	Department of Human Services (DHS)	DHS Chief of Staff; Advisory Team Co-Chair	Present
Greer Gillis	Department of General Services (DGS)	DGS Director	Present

Additional Support Staff Present

Naomi Mitchell	Councilmember Allen's Office	Community Liaison
Jackie Stanley	Department of General Services (DGS)	DGS Community Outreach Coordinator
Wanda Sherrod	Department of General Services (DGS)	DGS Program Manager: Health and Human Services Cluster
Kathy Haines	Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services (DMHHS)	Capital City Fellow

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Purpose and Scope of Advisory Team
3. Update on STFH Process in Ward 6
4. Identifying Community Issues and Concerns
5. Review Programmatic Needs and Launching Advisory Team Input on Site Design
6. Summary of Next Steps & Adjourn

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

- The meeting began at 7:15pm
- Ward 6 Advisory Team Co-Chair Jay Melder provided an overview of homeless services in the District.

Co-Chair Melder's Comments:

- We are here because we must close DC General. It is too old and does not reflect that values our community has for how we serve DC families.
- Our goal is to make homelessness rare, brief and nonrecurring through three strategies. This is possible, but requires resources and new programs like short-term family housing.
- One: The first part of our strategy is to prevent homelessness through increasing affordable housing, and increasing access to jobs. In September of 2015 the Department of Human Services (DHS) launched its Prevention Program. In a year 1,300 families who originally came seeking shelter were referred to this program, and ultimately only 10% ended up in shelter.
- Two: The second part of our strategy is to offer safe and dignified short-term housing when families need a safe place to stay immediately. That is the goal of short-term family housing or emergency shelter. It needs to be a place that is dignified, service-enriched, where families are connected to the resources they need to get back into permanent housing in the community.
- Three: The third part of our strategy is helping families who experience homelessness, exit homelessness quickly and achieve permanent housing. Every family faced with homelessness has their own unique strengths and challenges. It takes a lot of skilled social workers to help. Sometimes it only takes a week for family to exit homelessness. Sometimes much longer. Some families have a great deal of active rental debt, poor credit scores, and other significant rental barriers that can make the finding housing extremely challenging, and we have built partnerships and programs to help lessen those barriers for families.
- For families with very serious challenges, Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) may be the most appropriate long-term housing option. We also have Targeted Affordable Housing (TAH) as an option and Rapid Rehousing (RRH, for families that just need a short-term rental subsidy with wrap-around services). Our exit rates from shelter have

increased dramatically in the past 2 years; more than 2,000 families have exited shelter into permanent housing. This is a sign that the system is working, but also a sign that a lot of families in our community are struggling to afford housing and maintain stable housing and need additional support.

Community Representatives' Comments:

- How do you define “short-term” and how do you enforce it?
 - **Co-Chair Melder’s Response:** *We are one of three jurisdictions in the United States that have a “right to shelter” law, which obligates the District to provide emergency shelter for residents who otherwise do not have a safe place to be. For families in shelter, we do not set a time limit, but length of stay is a measure that we track to assess how healthy the system is and how quickly families are able to overcome housing barriers and achieve permanent housing. Some families have higher barriers to housing than others. Sometimes the head of household has a job but they may have lost an apartment, and they are offered temporary housing until they can increase their income further and are able to move on to permanent housing. Other families might have tens of thousands of dollars of active rental debt, less than perfect credit, no work histories, and need more support and stronger connections to employment programs to increase family income and reduce their debt, which can take months. So some families can be in short-term housing for a year or more. The goal is for the average length of stay in emergency shelter to be less than 90 days. We are not there yet—it’s a five year plan we are working—but we are making real progress.*
- Definition of “permanent” housing – are these places where they could fall behind in rent again? Are we giving them a house like in Salt Lake City?
 - **Co-Chair Melder’s Response:** *Yes, we are following the Salt Lake City “housing first” model. Permanent housing means simply housing—like anyone one of us in the room enjoys, whether we have an ownership stake, a lease agreement, or maybe in multi-generational setting—that the family has safe and legal access to. Now, we have permanent housing resources that help families achieve it, such an affordable housing voucher (e.g. HUD Section 8, or LRSP), permanent supportive housing (which is an affordable housing voucher coupled with case-management services) and we have rapid rehousing (which is a time-limited housing subsidy that enables a tenant to find housing on the private market).*
- How many of the families in shelter are TANF long-stayers/about to lose their benefits after 60 months?
 - **Co-Chair Melder’s Response:** *The 2011 law that creates a time-limit on TANF benefits after 60 months has always been extended, and benefits have continued (for good reason). There is a working group now working on a policy for TANF extensions and exemptions, and experiencing homelessness is one of the factors being considered for protection under that new TANF policy. There is a great deal of work to do on the TANF side and the Council will hold a hearing in*

October of 2016. We are working with TANF participants, advocates and Council to create a TANF policy that works for District families. About 95% of the family shelter population are receiving TANF or are TANF eligible. The TANF caseload is about 13,000 families and about half of these families have been enrolled in TANF for longer than 60 months.

Commissioner Litsky's Comment:

- Part of tonight's goal is to document our concerns and to learn what the Administration is promising.

Introductions

- Introductions were made of the Advisory Team Members

Councilmember Allen's Comments:

- Jay Melder outlined this robust strategy for addressing homelessness in our city. We need to helicopter up a little bit and see what that goal is. We don't want to re-hash what led us to here, but we have been able to hit the reset button. Andy is right, Southwest is a neighborhood that knows how to make this work and is committed to making this work. Everyone in Southwest that I have talked to has talked about how to make this site successful. There were tough questions, but they are thoughtful questions that we should be able to answer. With the people here and the networks you connect to, Ward 6 is going to show the city how to do this, and how to do this right. We are building a more just and humane system. It will also show in the way that we ensure that we have a quality community health center that serves both the families who will live on the site, and the community. Having Randall on board as well is also important. Everyone here is a leader in their community. You will help give voice to the community. This will be a meaningful conversation. My expectation is that as thoughtful individuals, we will have a dialog that leads us to a place we are all proud of. You all bring a valuable perspective to this. I am excited about this. The rest of the city will look at us and say you got it right.

2. Purpose and Scope of Advisory Team

Purpose: (Slide 3)

1. Coordinate community feedback and input opportunities on issues and concerns related to the development of Short-term Family Housing and share information
2. Provide feedback on concerns related to residents' quality of life during construction.
3. Develop Good Neighbor Agreements.

Scope: (Slide 4)

- In-scope for the Advisory Team:
 - Gathering community input on exterior design.
 - Listening and responding to concerns and questions regarding quality of life issues during construction and how the program impacts the community.

- Coordinating the sharing of information amongst stakeholder groups. Information shall not include anything that may be construed to relate to active litigation.
- Working with the program service provider to establish shared expectations for both the community and the program regarding being “good neighbors.”
- Out-of-scope for the Advisory Team:
 - Program Components and Rules and Regulations relating to the Short-term family housing program.
 - Legislative or judicial processes relating to the Short-term family housing program.

3. Update on STFH Process in Ward 6

Advisory Team Milestones: (Slide 5)

1. Launch Advisory Team
2. Provide input on facility design
3. Receive BZA application and presentation (formally presented to the ANC)
4. Receive final design and construction timeline presentation
5. Develop a good neighbor agreement with Short-term Family Housing program

Ward 6 Project Process: (Slide 6)

- July– request for proposal for architects
- September – architects awarded
- October – community input on design
- October – development of test fit & approval
- November – BZA submission
- December/January 2017 – BZA hearing
- Fall 2017 – estimated construction start
- 2019 – program opening

Community Representatives’ Comments:

- What is your definition of a test fit?
 - **Wanda Sherrod’s Response:** *Test fit is the beginning of the design process. It helps us determine whether the entire program fits into a building and site, including what needs to be present for DHS casework.*
 - **Director Gillis’ Response:** *How many rooms can we fit on a floor plan? Do we need space for laundry facilities? How much will remain on the floor plate? We will be testing different options.*
- Can you share program information with us as well?
 - **Co-Chair Melder’s Response:** *We will provide those specifications; this is a question in every ward.*

4. Identifying Community Issues and Concerns

Assignment: As the design team masses the site, think about the design elements you would or would not like included. We know where the site is going to be. Please consider the challenges we have there with massing based on what the building borders, and the functions of the buildings next door (of those there now, or will soon be there). What should we direct the architects to focus on?

Community Representatives' Comments:

- Maintain Delaware Ave. viewshed. Capitol Park – the remnants of the Delaware Ave viewshed – the new building should be situated to respect that viewshed. We are not as concerned with issues like safety and lighting. This is an opportunity to build community in an area of Southwest that is really devoid of much life right now. We are looking to the future to the Randall School right now. Capitol Park is fenced off, and we don't want that. We see this as an opportunity to engage with I Street SW, Delaware Ave. SW, and Randall School. This is already a mixed-use facility by definition, with a community health clinic and housing. Why can't we make it slightly more mixed use than that? Why can't we put a commercial art gallery that complements the Randall School next door, then the entrance to the health clinic, and coffee shop on I Street SW, with the residential entrance on Delaware Ave. SW. Will the building be completely demolished?
- Make it mixed-use. We can engage the community, add commercial space, and maybe create some employment opportunities for the people living in the housing. There are so many reasons why mixed-use works. Since we are already doing mixed use, let's make it an 18-hour a day mixed-use building. It would be great to sit at a coffee shop there; this would only enhance safety. These are first thoughts. We are committed as partners for community building.
- Keep interesting features, make a courtyard, watch deliveries and trash. We should consider whether there is a way to reuse some of the interesting parts of the façade, perhaps by putting them inside or out. There should be family restrooms and indoor homework space. Also smoking space outside, separate from space where kids hang out. Take a look at N Street Village in DC; there is a courtyard there set back from the street. You don't see people hanging out. I used to work at Bread for the City and that is something we didn't think enough about in our renovation. Also parking for staff and residents, space for trash trucks, food drop-offs, and dumpsters. Food and diapers are very attractive to rats. Dumpsters should be safe and secure. Make sure that H Street SW doesn't become a dead space.
- Engage all sides. On another project, we emphasized the need to engage the project from all sides. The Capital Park IV Condominium Association surrounding the site doesn't want it to be one or two-sided. They do not want to have a "backside" that faces them.
- Add a child-care provider. There are no home-based day-care providers in zip code 20024. There are only federally-run daycares with priority for federal employees. Only one church on I Street SW has a daycare, and this cannot accommodate all the children. Others supported the idea that adding childcare would be helpful.

- Courtyard. The idea of an inside place that is outdoors (e.g. courtyard) accessible to the community is important. If you've been to N Street Village in NW DC, it is a garden, easy to walk in, people come and sit. It will be important for people to have space outside. If you don't build it in, people will sit outside anyway.
- Playground. Playground area for the very young kids could be only accessible through the housing facility – something where parents can really monitor their children. While we talk about the interior, we recommend there be computer labs for older kids.
- Review the plans for neighboring Randall School. This will be a new neighbor on the other side of the family housing site that is already designed. This building is designed by Bing Thom, who also did Arena Stage, and will bring first class architecture for Randall School. Also note that 1st Street SW is split between DC government and the project. The design was made with street-level entrances around the perimeter of Randall School. There are gardens and front doors to engage with 1st Street SW. Also they have coordinated deliveries and other activities with the art museum. Randall School also has outdoor space, and once onboard, it might be useful for both architectural firms to work together.
 - Suggestion - bring in Bing Thom Architects: With the Telesis project (Randall School), Bing Thom architects came and explained what they wanted to do. We should invite Bing Thom to come and meet with this group. We don't want a facility that ignores what is already planned for this area, and Bing Thom came up with this great design. We should spend a few hours on site with this architect.
 - Both the ANC and SWNA have been very involved with architects on projects in this area. This will be a wonderful building next door. It would be good to engage with them.
 - **Wanda Sherrod's Response**: *Could we get a copy of the plans for the Randall School before the next meeting? That would also help us show the BZA how we are interacting with other proposed structures in the community.*
- Consider the National Park grass to the north: I also wanted to mention as we think about design, that there is a desire to make sure there are different entrances for the clinic and the shelter. This is unique in that there is a federal piece of land to the north, but we can't build on it. We are trying to convince the federal government to give it to the District. Early on, we might want to speak with the National Park Service. While there may not be a transfer, we can see if there are ways that this space can be incorporated into the design.
- Inside: location of the stairs. Outside: lighting, sidewalks. If you have to evacuate, make sure that you think about the stairs in relation to the rooms. Outside there are huge increases in pedestrian traffic. Work with DDOT early on to provide better lighting, sidewalks. There will be 500 new residences with the adjacent Randall School project.
- Crosswalk, north side of South Capitol and I Street SW. The ANC has previously discussed the need for a crosswalk on the north side of South Capitol and I Streets SW. We are connecting a homeless shelter, recreation center, and school directly with a McDonalds across South Capitol Street, but no crosswalk between the two. Jaywalking is already common between the two sides, and is extremely unsafe.

- **Engage H Street SW, behind the site.** No one goes back there, except to visit the Blind Whino space. While there is more traffic due to the outdoor field renovations, the whole area needs a lot of work.
- **Concern about school enrollment.** Amidon-Bowen Elementary School serves 342 students (up from 240 a few years ago) and enrollment is increasing. The special education population makes up about 30% of the school. PARCC scores are about 5% on grade level. [In 2012,] it was listed as one of the 40 lowest performing schools in DCPS [one of 21 Elementary Schools on the list]. The school is expected to be a social worker, and take care of all of these troubles, but also to teach, all on a limited budget. We don't have the resources for even an additional handful of children that might come in. We need counseling services in the school or adjacent to school hours. It's not enough to do this in the shelter. It would be hard to know how many living in the short-term housing would opt-in to Amidon-Bowen and for how long. Money attaches to students, then to the school at a certain point. It is a priority that we want to take care of all of our children at the school. There isn't any more room in the DCPS budget. This project must bring resources for the school too.
 - **Co-Chair Melder's Response:** *This is an issue in every ward. We are engaged with the Deputy Mayor for Education on this. We can provide the federal information on the protections for students experiencing homelessness, which you may already have. We can give you figures on how many children in DC General Emergency Shelter attend their local schools. We will continue to work with the education system on the funding issue.*
- **Impact on Greenleaf Gardens.** With Greenleaf across the street from the site, we need to think about the potential impact and ensure there is good coordination.
- **Greater transparency on process.** The more transparency that there is from the government side, even if it is in the "out-of-bounds" category, the easier it will be for us to put our expertise to use with innovative problem solving. The more information we have, the more we truly understand where you are coming from and what you have to do. Even if there is budget, there may be other ways we can address this issue. Add to the list that complete transparency is important.
- **Private bathrooms.** If this building is a blank slate, it must have private bathrooms.
 - **Co-Chair Melder's Response:** *There was a bill introduced last year on this, it went through a long legislative process, with amendments added, and ultimately a minimum standard was set for certain specifications in regards to short-term family housing, including bathrooms. DHS' commitment was to exceed that standard. In the three designs that have already been completed and approved by BZA, we have eliminated the need for congregate bathrooms (which is what DC General has) and we have maximized private en suite bathrooms and private access family bathrooms (family bathrooms are private, with private access, but not connected to your room).*
 - **Community Representatives' Response:** *This is better than it could be, but the law is a floor. I think you are aware of this community's feelings. What you've said is a no-go. No-go's are also loitering and littering. For day care, there are*

public-private partnerships possible. Providers have contacted the ANC and we have directed them to the Business Improvement Districts (BIDs). Two program things are important: swing space for the community health center and transparency around the RFP for shelter operators.

5. How to Get Advisory Team Input on Design

Input: (slide 10)

1. Gather meaningful input from stakeholder groups on what is important to them in building design.
2. Advisory Team holds listening session with Design Team to give input on design.
3. Design Team presents draft design to community and receives feedback.

Input, continued: (Slide 11)

- What logistical aspects of the facility does your stakeholder group want the design team to focus on or consider while during the site massing process?
- What exterior design attributes would your stakeholder group want reflected in the final design, and provide examples?
- What exterior design elements would your stakeholder group absolutely not want included as part of the final design, and provide examples?
- What other aspects of the design and site should the program or design team take into account while designing the Ward 6 STFH?

6. Summary of Next Steps & Adjourn

Next Steps & Adjourn: (Slide 12)

- Make sure we have the best email address for you (see Kathy Haines)
- Next Meeting: First Week in October
- Website: mayor.dc.gov/homewarddc
- Thank you for participating!

Community Representatives' Comments:

- We are not subject to open meeting laws?
 - **Co-Chair Melder's Response:** *This meeting is not, per BEGA. But our intention is to be completely transparent. For the next meeting, Kathy will send a Google poll avoiding debates, post-season baseball, and high holy days.*
- Can we see the RFP for the architects?
 - **Director Gillis' Response:** *We can share the scope of work for the RFP, but because it is still in the competitive award phase, there may be some things we can't share.*

[Adjournment at 8:45 pm]