

East County Citizens Advisory Board (ECCAB)

Eastern Montgomery Regional Center

3300 Briggs Chaney Road

Silver Spring, MD 20904

(240) 777-8414

Wednesday, 1 May, 2013

MEETING MINUTES

Called to Order: 7:15 p.m.

Members Present: Rachel Whavers, Anthony Ramirez, , Roy Chavera, Jerry Samet, Alison Praisner-Klumpp, Tamika Bennett, Allan Mulligan, Len Newman, Christine Stephan, David Kochanski, Teddy Wu, Lucretia Bartley, Peter Myo Khin, Paul Myers, Fatmata Barrie.

Members Absent: Lucretia Bartley

Staff Present: Jewru Bandeh

Guests Present: Mark Pharoah, Mara Parker, Darryl McSwain, Nancy Sturgeon, Donald Johnson, John Damskey, Richard Romer, Jan Baird, Lee Y Stark, Margaret Poore, Bernie Karns, Chris Bradley, Alexis Reed, Evan Glass, Tom Hickey, Mara Parker, Eileen Cahill, Sally Ladd, Dan Welheim, Jennifer Hoffman, Mark Doore, Marya Ford, Claire Rupert, Jerry Ruppert, Tom Aylward, Jonathan Genn, Gigi Goin, Michael Price.

• Citizen's Forum

- Ed Weiler: Stated problems he is having with HOC renters in his neighborhood. He believes that the HOC does not handle confidential information appropriately as they ought to. They may be responsible for releasing information about who complaints about violations. There is a great need for policing. He talked about crime statistics in the area.
- Christopher Bradbury: IMPACT Silver Spring would like to have a letter/statement from the Quality of Life committee/ECCAB in support of IMPACTS funding request to the County.
- Javel Wilson: Talked about the availability of emergency preparedness training for organizations and residents. He is available to assist with requests to access this resource.
- Jerry Rupert: Calverton Citizens Association would like to see police support and presence at their monthly community association meetings.

- **Presentations**

- Darryl McSwain, Montgomery County Assistant Chief of Police provided an overview of crime statistics, MCG police operational structure and resource distribution. Main points included:
 - They are one of the largest agency in the county and have recently added a 4th bureau to track crime in pockets of certain districts in the county.
 - For the last 10 years homicide crimes decreased.
 - They will also be adding a District Community Action Team (DCAT) to the East County.
 - In the IDA Sector, assaults, burglary, and stolen car percentages have gone down while vehicle thefts and robbery has increased.
- Nancy Sturgeon, Montgomery County Planning Department, Area 2 Division, Planner Coordinator and Transportation Planner provided an overview of staff recommendations on the White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan:
 - There will be a public hearing on the White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan on May 23rd. Individuals interested in testifying can call: 301-492-4605.
 - The focus for East County development in the Master plan is concentrated in the following areas: White Oak, Cherry Hill, and Hillandale.
 - Central to future development and growth in the planning area will require a balance between transportation and land use.
 - The model for transportation for the WOSG Master Plan is connected in many ways to other areas of Montgomery County, especially along Route 29. A brief transportation analysis was also provided as part of the presentation.
 - The National Labor College is proposed for re-zoning. It is within the Hillandale node and on sale.
 - The Adventist Hospital will be submitting a certificate of need to the State. However, if it is rejected again, it is possible that they can use the 50 acre site for other medical development purposes besides a hospital.
 - The Planning Board will discuss county transportation at its May 16, 2013 meeting.

- **Approval of Minutes**

- With the correction of the spelling of 'Briggs Cheney', the minutes for April were unanimously approved.

- **Director's Report**
 - Summarized in handout
- **Chair's Report**
 - Three representative of the ECCAB (including the Chair) met and presented to the County Executive, Isaiah Leggett need priority areas and concerns and recommendations for the East County region. The group was well received.
- **Council Staff Update**
- Richard Romer, Council member Ervin's office:
 - Provided a list of reconciliation items to be decided by the Council and there is a wide budget gap to cover. The County Council meeting on these reconciliations will be held on May 16th.
 - On May 23rd, Council will make a decision on the proposed budget.
 - May 17th is bike-to-work day.
 - May 29th will be the screening of "American Winter" at AFI at 6:30pm. RSVP and tickets are free. This is being organized by Councilmember V. Ervin's office.
- Mara Parker from County Council member Marc Elrich's Office:
 - On May 8th the FED Committee will take up the Wheaton re-development area plan.
 - May 17th will be the final vote for technical issues.
- **Committee Reports**
 - **Quality of Life & Services:**
 - The committee is discussion the idea of having two East County Summits in the fall, perhaps in October: Leadership and Public Safety/ Crime. The last Leadership summit was held 5 years ago.
 - **Infrastructure:**
 - Request to have DOT look into the concern regarding the U-Turn on Briggs Cheney and Robey Road. The request was submitted to DOT by the ECRSC Director.
 - The Director has contacted DOT, but he is still waiting on a DOT staff assessment to be completed.

- They would like to defer to the Quality of Life/Services committee on the issue of illegal parking in handicap spots in shopping centers. There is also a lot of illegal parking in fire lanes at the Colesville shopping center.
- **Old Business**
 - There are some light outages (blinking lights) on Randolph Road. They also need more lighting on New Hampshire Road, as proposed in the CIP.
 - The committee would like Councilmember Nancy Navarro to provide support and funding for lighting along New Hampshire Road.
- **New Business:**
 - It is time for the election of ECCAB Officers for: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Parliamentarian. Nominations will be accepted between now (May 1) and the next meeting date (June 5) when the elections will be conducted.
 - Recommendations for new ECCAB appointees were submitted to the Council by the County Executive. They will begin their service in June.
 - There was a motion to have the ECCAB take July and August off. Motion passed.
- **Announcements**
 - September is African Heritage month. The Annual Pan-African Festival will be in downtown Silver Spring on the Civic Center Veterans Plaza on September 27th.
 - Burtonsville Day is planned for September 28th.
 - There will be a Spaghetti Diner fundraiser at the Burtonsville Fire Department
 - Please provide all East County related news and events to Jewru for posting in the weekly eblast.
 - **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.