

East County Citizens Advisory Board (ECCAB)

Eastern Montgomery Regional Center

3300 Briggs Chaney Road

Silver Spring, MD 20904

(240) 777-8414

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

MEETING MINUTES/SUMMARY

Called to Order: 7:15 p.m.

Members Present: Rachel Whavers, Anthony Ramirez, , Roy Chavera, Jerry Samet, Alison Praisner-Klumpp, Allan Mulligan, Len Newman, Christine Stephan, David Kochanski, Teddy Wu, Peter Myo Khin, Marya Ford, Samantha Blizzard, Fatmata Barrie.

Members Absent: Lucretia Bartley, Tamika Bennett, Ian Swain

Staff Present: Jewru Bandeh, Anita Mwalui

Guests Present: Mark Pharoah, Mara Parker, Marlene Newman, Renesha Alphonso, Dan Wilhelm, Evan Glass, Jay Wilson, Mark Doore.

• **Citizen's Forum**

- Ed Weiler talked about discussion on public safety at a recent Calverton Civic Association meeting.
- Mark Doore mentioned the Legislative breakfast is scheduled for December 16, 2013. He distributed fliers about the event.
- Javel Wilson: Talked about the availability of free emergency preparedness training for organizations and residents. He is available to assist with requests to access this resource.
- Marlene Newman talked about the need for a traffic light at the northern entrance to the Paint Branch High School nearest to the crest in the on Old Columbia Pike.
- Dan Wilhelm mentioned that he signed up to testify at the scheduled County Council public hearing on October 29 on the White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan. He also noted that the Montgomery County Civic Federation has voted to support the plan based on issues related to the staging and policies of the master plan.

- **Presentations**

- Steve Silverman, Director, Montgomery County Department of Economic Development provided an update on the transmittal of County's Planning Board's White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan recommendations to the County Council and County Executive. He gave a brief overview of issues being discussed by the entities and stressed the importance of its approval by the County Council and the need for support from the east county community at large-citizens, civic associations, businesses, etc. The County is eager on moving the planning process along. Other key points he made included:
 - Burtonsville Crossing shopping center and very few options available to the County given Giant's role and position on any potential occupancy arrangement. Giant and Eden (development company) may be coming up with some possible solutions to be discussed with the County, perhaps in January or February.
 - The Washington Adventist Hospital submitted its Certificate of Need for relocation to White Oak. This will create great potential for increased employment and economic development revitalization in this region.
 - Mitigating transportation challenges that would support the desired level of development is a huge task.
 - The County is determined to push forward through collaboration to get the plan approved with a focus on promoting balanced development in East County.
- Heather Dlhopsky, Chairperson, Montgomery County Nighttime Economy Task Force presented the group's draft recommendations to the board. She focused on four elements the task force wants to accomplish: 1) convey a message that Montgomery County is open for business, 2) economic development benefits to the County, 3) open and hold community comment period for the report, and 4) explore policies and policy changes needed to expand the night time economy. Other points and questions from the board and residents included/focused on:
 - Need for strong focus on 20-40 year olds-millenniums.
 - Addressing some of the needs of baby boomers just retiring.
 - Consideration of adding pilot areas to include those outside the suburban areas of Silver Spring and Bethesda (such as Burtonsville, White Oak, etc).
 - Include strong safety and transportation related plans/measures.
 - Policies and program recommendations that acknowledge and promotes cultural diversity of the County.

- **Approval of Minutes**

- The minutes for June and September 2013 were unanimously approved.

- **Director's Report**
 - Summarized in handout for the Month of September 2013.
- **Chair's Report**
 - The ECCAB Chair talked about the scheduled East County Leadership Conference scheduled for October 12, 2013, and the need for full board participation and support.
 - The Quality of Life and Social Issues Committee will be finalizing the plan for the conference.
 - The ECCAB Chair attended a meeting along with other CAB Chairs to present East County's CIP priorities to the County Executive.
 - Mentioned ECCAB participation in the Burtonsville Day celebration and thanked members who volunteered at the booth.
- **Council Staff Update**
- Dean Christmon from Council member Hans Riemer's office:
 - Mentioned that Council member Riemer's community survey on night time economy has been completed.
 - Stated Council member Riemer's leadership efforts to boost the County's Earned Income Tax Credit.
- Mara Parker from Council member Marc Elrich's Office:
 - PHED Committee will hold public hearings on the Zoning Rewrite on November 12th and 14th.
 - October 1 will be the first BRT Functional Transit Corridors Study meeting for the T&E committee.
 - There will be a joint committee meeting on October 24 at 9:30am on the School Resource Officer (SRO) and the School Truancy Program.
 - The White Oak Master Plan will be discussed by the PHED committee on November 13, 2013.
 - Council member Marc Elrich has introduced a \$11.50 minimum wage legislation, and the first public hearing on this will be on October 24 at 7:30 pm.

- **Committee Reports**
 - **Quality of Life & Services:**
 - The committee chair provided an update on the October 12, 2013 Leadership Summit. Volunteers are needed to staff the breakout sessions. Contributions are also needed for food and drinks.
 - **Infrastructure:**
 - The committee had a discussion with the Coalition for Smarter Growth on transportation related issues. The group will be holding a public meeting in East County in early November on Rapid Transit.
 - The chair made a brief mention of some aspects of the BRT plan with reference to dedicated lanes, interchanges, integration with the White Oak Master Plan.
 - Next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the ECRSC.
- **Old Business** (none)
- **New Business:**
 - ECCAB support and participation in a (East County) Small Business Assistance conference being planned for early next year.
 - Need to restart the IDA Sector meetings
 - A suggestion to have ECCAB make recommendations supporting revitalization efforts for the Burtonsville Crossing.
- **Announcements** (none).
- **Adjournment:** meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.