

East County Citizens Advisory Board (ECCAB)

Eastern Montgomery Regional Center

3300 Briggs Chaney Road

Silver Spring, MD 20904

(240) 777-8414

Wednesday, September 4, 2013

MEETING MINUTES

Called to Order: 7:15 p.m.

Members Present: Rachel Whavers, Anthony Ramirez, Jerry Samet, Alison Praisner-Klumpp, Allan Mulligan, Teddy Wu, Lucretia Bartley, Peter Myo Khin, Paul Myers, Fatmata Barrie, Samantha Blizzard, Ian swain, Marya Ford

Members Absent: Tamika Bennett, Len Newman, Roy Chavera, David Kochanski, Christine Stephan

Staff Present: Jewru Bandeh

Guests Present: Congressman John Sarbanes, Mark Pharaoh, Mara Parker, Richard Romer, Alexis Reed, Dean Christmon, Rob Richardson, Ed Weiler, Amjad Chaudry, Jason Washington, Adrienne Lees

- **Citizen's Forum**

- Amjad Chaudry from the Ahmadia Muslim community presented its Muslims for Life blood drive initiative and handed out a flier.

- **Presentation:** by Congressman John Sarbanes-key points included:

- Established a satellite office in the Burtonsville Crossing shopping center. Provides outreach to the community at various locations including the East County recreation center.
- Highlighted his background and exposure to daily challenges his constituents face, such as commuting, family life issues.
- Highlighted issues very important to him – healthcare, Chesapeake Bay, service and volunteerism (AmeriCorps, VetCorp), education, fighting back big money in politics, congressional arts competition, nominations for service academy.
- Highlighted the pressing issues – Syrian crisis, immigration reform, the budget battle, sequestration and the debt ceiling.

- He responded to a number of questions from the board and other attendees regarding – high unemployment rates, need for law enforcement officers in Maryland (in light of the killing of a police officer in Baltimore and crime rates in general), gun safety, cuts in the Headstart program, small business assistance, in-state tuition for military families and the Syrian crisis/vote.

- **Approval of Minutes**

- Approval of the June 2013 meeting minutes was postponed awaiting submission by the Secretary

- **Director's Report**

- Summarized in handout
- Report highlighted key community activities and events- MC Planning board review of White Oak Master Plan staff recommendations, Briggs Chaney Community Day Celebration, upcoming Burtonsville Day Parade and Celebration, and Washington Adventist Hospital certificate of need application time line.

- **Chair's Report**

- CIP recommendations to the County Executive and a follow up meeting with all CAB chairs on September 9, 2013.
- Establishing new meeting times for the two ECCAB committees
- Announced Paul Myers' resignation from the board, and thanked him for his service and leadership efforts for the community.

- **Council Staff Update**

- Richard Romer, Council member Valerie Ervin's office:
 - Highlighted important events and dates- council comes back on 9/10, BRT public hearing on 9/24, safe route to schools on 1/14, Silver Spring GreenFest on 10/5 , the annual 3on3 basketball tournament on 10/12, and the public hearing on the White Oak Science gateway Master Plan on 10/20.
 - Talked briefly about an issue with the contract process for auto ticketing of cars driving past school buses.
- Dean Christmon from County Council member Hans Reimer's Office:
 - Talked briefly about the Earned Income Tax Credit with county match to 100%.

- Highlighted Council member Reimer's nighttime economy survey, and BRT public hearings.
- **Committee Reports**
 - Quality of Life & Services:
 - The committee update on the East County Summit on October 12, 2013 in Burtonsville. The committee met and a plan for the summit is in place.
 - New committee meeting is set- second Wednesday of the month at 7 pm.
 - Infrastructure:
 - New committee meeting date set for the second Monday of the month at 7 pm.
 - Need to focus on issues related to BRT.
- **Old Business**
 - Unanimous approval and ratification of the ECCAB CIP priorities letter to the County Executive.
- **New Business:**
 - CAB chairs meeting with the County Executive on September 9, 2013 to present recommended regional lists of CIP priorities.
 - Burtonsville Day Celebration and need for ECCAB participation. Director to work on having a tent for RSC and ECCAB.
- **Announcements**
 - September is African Heritage month. The Panafest festival will be in downtown Silver Spring on the Civic Center Veterans Plaza on September 21th.
 - Burtonsville Day is planned for September 28th.
 - The Burtonsville Fire Department Carnival will be held in September.
 - Please provide all East County related news and events to Jewru for posting in the weekly eblast.
 - **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.