

East County Citizens Advisory Board (ECCAB)

Eastern Montgomery Regional Center

3300 Briggs Chaney Road

Silver Spring, MD 20904

(240) 777-8414

Wednesday, 3 April, 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, Marva Deskins, Allan Mulligan, Len Newman, Christine Stephan, David Kochanski, Teddy Wu, Lucretia Bartley.

Staff Present: Jewru Bandeh

Members Absent: Peter Myo Khin, Paul Myers, Fatmata Barrie.

Guest Present: Mark Pharoah, Mara Parker, Bertha Flores, Ed Weiler, Maya Ford,

Mensah Adjogah, Gigi Goin, Alexis Reed, Rev. Jeffrey Thames, Nardra Johnson, E. Finnigan, Agbegnigan Amouzou.

• Citizen's Forum

- Ed Weiler: Police apprehended a suspect for a homicide that occurred in White Oak last year in Tennessee State for an unrelated cause. He also made comments about crime and public safety concerns in a number of areas in East County.
- Mark Doore: Announced there will be a Calverton Citizens' Association meeting at the Calverton Elementary School – PG County side. Maryland Legislators will be attending.
- Alexis Reed from Congressman Sarbanes' office: The Congressman will be doing monthly outreach on constituent services in various eastern areas of the county.
- GiGi Goin of the MilkLady Farmers' Market made announcement about two farmers' market locations in East County in 2013: the Burtonsville Farmer's Market to be held on Sundays starting in April, and Briggs Cheney Farmers' Market on Saturdays starting May 5.
- Agbegnigan Amouzou (Coach Fofu) introduced himself and the non-profit sports club, Elite Soccer he represents and services provided to youth and families in the county.

- **Presentations**

- Brian Roberts – Montgomery County Organization Capacity Specialist (311 Representative):
 - The 311 system as the single contact for all county services such as bus, tax information, recycle programs, and request for services provided by other departments, information and complaints.
 - The 311 system is intended to provide efficient and effective customer service.
 - The system currently has a database of over 13,000 numbers.
 - 240-277-0311 is the telephone number to call when outside of Maryland. Hours are: 7am-5pm.
 - The 311 system takes around 500,000 calls per year, with a high customer satisfaction level (89%).
 - Average call time per citizen is 4 minutes.
- Kristen O'Connor, Planning Coordinator, Montgomery Planning Department:
 - Her colleague, Nancy Sturgeon, will speak on the White Oak Plan at 7:30 on April 4th. It will also be streamed online.
 - Provided a brief update on Public Actions to date on the Burtonsville Crossroads and Town Square Shopping Centers.
 - Zoning for 72 acres was re-zoned for mixed-use.
 - Public Parks purchased by Athey property.
 - Burtonsville Crossing and Giant Foods are negotiating for a new anchor. Other ideas for potential use of the shopping center are being explored.
 - Burtonsville elementary classroom expansion meeting will be held on April 5th to discuss the addition of a second level.

- **Approval of Minutes**

- February minutes were unanimously approved.

- **Director's Report**

- This is his (Jewru Bandeh's) first official full board meeting.
- Some of the major concerns of the community include youth engagement, employment, public safety and crime based on few community meetings he attended so far. There are requests for meetings with County Police and other agencies to address them.
- There will be a Youth Job Fair on April 6, 2013 for County Youth in the Silver Spring Civic Building. He is promoting it in East County in order to encourage area youth to attend.

- Working with the County Executive's office to start the process for filling the vacant ECCAB seats.
- Mentioned the February 4, 2013 East County Budget Forum held by the County Executive in the ECRSC, about 92 individuals attended

- **Chair's Report**

- Len Newman sat in for Peter Myo Khin, Chair who was out due a death in his family.
- Interviews will commence on April 23rd for the vacancies on the ECCA Board. There are 13 applicants which includes the re-appointments. An ad-hoc nominating committee will be put in place to conduct the interviews and make recommendations to the County Executive.

- **Council Staff Update**

- Bertha Flores from County Council President Nancy Navarro's Office spoke about the New Hampshire street lights on the CIP list.
- Mara from County Council Member Marc Elrich's Office talked briefly:
 - County Council (PHED) committee hearing dates set on zoning ordinance on April 5th at 9:30 am.
 - The proposed number of school Resource Officers will show an increase. The PHED/Education committee meeting is set for April 18th.
 - Excel Beyond the Bell program will be discussed at the next Education committee meeting, April 19th at 1:30 pm.
 - Budget – meeting for consideration of raises for county government workers, April 22nd and April 25th.
 - Budget – meeting for Regional Services Centers, April 23rd.
 - County Council members Elrich, Leventhal and Reimer's Bill (8-13) on Working Families Income Supplement-Amount was introduced March 19, 2013.

- **Committee Reports**

- Quality of Life & Services – It has partnered with the Recreation Department and IMPACT Silver Spring to have the first county-wide Teen Summit in East County in May 2013.
- Infrastructure – On behalf of Paul, Committee Chair a recommendation was made for the committee to get more involved in the public participation process in matters relating to the White Oak Science Gateway Master Plan.
 - A request to contact County Transportation to enquire about a “No U-Turn” on Briggs Chaney at Robey.
 - Roy Rogers Sign Variance Letter – the Hearing Committee deliberated on the sign variance and it was denied.

- Letter of support for the Burtonsville Master Plan that was sent to the Planning Board and is awaiting a response.

- **Old Business**

- Quality of Life and Services Committee meeting date has moved back to the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

- **New Business (None)**

- **Announcements**

- Marva Deskins was recognized by the Board for her outstanding commitment to the community for the last six years. She was presented with a plaque and flowers. The Board and other attendees thanked her for her leadership, service and commitment to the County.
- Briggs Chaney Day will be held on July 13th from 10 am – 3 pm.
- Burtonsville Fire Department Auxiliary will have a Spaghetti dinner at the Liberty Grove Church.
- Fire Department Community Relations is working on reinstating the baby sitting class followed-up by training in CPR. It may be free of charge or will only charge for the materials for the adult and child CPR classes.

Will host an outdoors movie night at the Fairland Park – awaiting permit.

- **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:19 pm.