



Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB) Meeting Summary

Mid-County Regional Services Center, 2424 Reddie Drive, Wheaton, MD

Call to Order:	Francisco Romero, Chair			Respectfully Submitted by: Oriole Saah, Secretary	
Date/Time:	December 20, 2016; 7:00 PM ET				
Attendees:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Adjogah, Mensah	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mozzano, Louis	Rowden, David
		Bonilla, Luis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Neuringer, Jason	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saah, Oriole (Secretary)
		vacant		Newman, Rick (Vice Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shoenberg, Robert (Parliamentarian)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Frank, Ron	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Reed, Patrick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tankersley, Judy
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mansori, Hasan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Romero, Francisco (Chair)	vacant
Staff:	Luisa Montero, Director, Mid-County Regional Services Center				
Guests:	Scott Goldstein, Fire Chief Dr. Ellie Giles, Workforce Montgomery				

Approved

Call to Order: 7:02 PM by Francisco Romero

Introductions

Minutes – Question about some items marked as “questions” not actually being questions. But some items in conversation with speaker were statements, not questions, but still on the “Q” side of a “Q&A” exchange. Approved November minutes unanimously.

Agenda – approved unanimously

Services Update: Fire Chief Scott Goldstein

- Uptick in winter fires – people place hot ashes, believed to be cold, in garages or near houses outside and house catch fire. Public awareness campaign: “Cool your ashes!”
- New Glenmont Fire Station now open.

Q: Does the new building attract new volunteers?

A: Most volunteers are at the Kensington Station at Connecticut and Plyers Mill.

Q: What new technologies is the fire department using?

A: Using advanced respirators and thermal vision miniaturized for better use.

Q: Can you give us an update on the new training facility?



Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB) Meeting Summary

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A: Transition to new facility is almost complete. Lots of new technology there. Also featuring new police interaction simulation and building burn technology.

Luisa encourages members to request a “ride along.” Chief Goldstein pointed out that the best stations are #4 (Bel Pre & Connecticut). Plan on three or four hours.

Q: Is there a list of known areas or streets where paramedics do not ride to calls on a firetruck because the roads are too narrow and parking is such that firetrucks can’t fit through?

A: No list, but parked vehicles and lane width can be an issue.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Ellie Giles, WorkSource Montgomery

Dr. Giles has been with Montgomery County for 37 years, including work as a Principal with MCPS, including a special needs school, and Montgomery Business Economics Development Corporation as Director of Operations for five years. The new Workforce Montgomery is a public/private partnership as Leggett moves functions out of government. The goal of WorkSource Montgomery is building workforce talent and keeping businesses here.

Wheaton has a “One Stop” – working to make the place welcoming, not “institutional.” Also in Germantown & Boyds. Working on creating “pop up centers.”

Goals: more college presence, work with HHS & social services, bring businesses in to work with the organization. Currently more jobs than qualified people. Industry-led talent development will lead to higher placement success.

Changed flow – career specialists, youth services, adult and dislocated services.

Talent pool for industry: serving health care, IT/cyber, construction, life science. Funding: Federal, county, grants (has won 8 of 9 applied for). Education is responding to employer’s needs. Developing a data dashboard, which will include performance and market data.

Q: Are most jobs low level/entry level?

A: 40% of those place have Bachelor or higher, health care industries need post-docs. Training also addresses basic skills.

Q. The public/private funding; what is the percent of each? Where does the money come from?

A: Trying to increase the private contribution. Currently:

- 60% is Federal – through Workforce Investment & Opportunity Act, but more flexible & local funding is needed (see on website)
- County funding level is down



Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB) Meeting Summary

Mid-County Regional Services Center, 2424 Reddie Drive, Wheaton, MD

- Seeking additional grants and corporate sponsorships

Q: Dealing with private companies, what is the selection criteria?

A: WorkSource is building relationships to meet their needs. Examples are Donoghue Construction – a big project, EAP storm water management, Medimmune. Working to become the “go to place” for companies. HIGE marketing and effort to forecast company needs to avoid “talent dehydration.” 95% of Montgomery County businesses are small businesses.

Q: Montgomery County unemployment is low. What happens when more jobs come to the county?

A: Yes, Unemployment is low. More employers will raise the quality of life, help employed people move up.

Q: What if people are not looking? Will WorkSource help recruit workers?

A: Unemployment recipients are required to go to centers. Will work with the long-term unemployed. Some employers need bulk hires to be sustainable.

Q: What is the industry, currently, with most sustainable jobs?

A: Construction, bio health, IT, hospitality

Q: Is most “talent” unemployed or seeing to advance?

A: Most are underemployed and in financial crisis.

Q: How are the underemployed finding you?

A: Focus on outreach.

Q: Tech industries need trained people but for jobs with no future – what success is WorkSource having getting companies to provide career paths?

A: Stackable certifications -- #1 gets you to X, ask employers what they need next. Montgomery College offers certifications. You get their first certification within six weeks (several are offered).

Q: What happens when Employers bring a need for higher level jobs?

A: American Promise grant is for higher level IT. Dr. Giles also sits on the Economic Development Board and their CEO is on her board. Will co-locate soon. The majority of board members are employers.

Q: Accountability – commitments to Montgomery County for hiring?



Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB) Meeting Summary

Mid-County Regional Services Center, 2424 Reddie Drive, Wheaton, MD

A: Career pathways, boot camps, internships, apprenticeships – all formal.

Q: Bigger co-promotion may relocate folks out of Montgomery County?

A: No control over that possibility. Many employers want people with roots here.

Q: What do you want the County Executive/County Council to do for WorkSource?

A: Montgomery County funding would be more flexible than Federal Funding, allowing WorkSource to meet county needs. The Return on Investment within one year for each \$1 invested will generate county tax income. The current County contribution is \$2M. Council President Berliner introduced a bill to encourage a microloan program and teach revenue generation. A greater contribution from Montgomery County would help.

Q: What would be required to get a loan through the microloan program?

A: The details are not yet known, need the bill to pass first.

Q: What is WorkSource's current staffing?

A: Six in the office. The next hires will be project based to fulfill grants.

Community Concerns: None

Director Report

- WUDAC – 12/21 letter regarding signage: “Open for business” and map of alternative parking during upcoming construction distributed to businesses. A delay is expected: MCDOT securing “Tie back” agreements for construction which will reach under existing properties. May cause delays; geothermal permits are needed from the state. Parking mitigation plan is on the website (MCDOT). Small business financial assistance for demonstrated losses due to construction are for currently healthy businesses only.
- AMC – was charging inappropriate tax. No longer doing so but they qualify for A&E tax incentive.
- MNCPP – HQ will be the bulk of the new building. The developer of the residential portion of the new construction experiencing difficulty securing financing. Opportunity to build may become available, again, to a new developer but this could lead to delays.
- Boards & Commissions training – additional open meetings training required for all members.
- GOCA – Ellie Giles & David Petr also speaking with GOCA. Will seek to work with Greg Intoccia on these issues, which MCCAB is also investigating.
- FY18 Budget – 2.6% “across the board” cut. County Executive’s budget forum for mid-county is January 18th.



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- Location of old Wheaton Rescue Squad, recently rented by the Glenmont Fire Station, will be occupied by Wheaton Safe & Clean. Mid County office staying in current location as long as possible due to need for a meeting room. No meeting space in the old rescue squad location.

Committee Reports

Quality of Life – met with and learned about Safe Silver Spring. It is an amazing program and if such a program were launched for the mid-county area, QOL would urge MCCAB to participate in summits and other community activities.

Land Use, Transportation, & Zoning –
BRT letter

- Our letter got to the County Council committee in time and it was part of their review packet.
- Our concern about slowness of traffic, focused on Viers Mill only & not connectivity to other modalities of transportation but presenter to Committee misrepresented our concern
- Submit a second letter now – another hearing will be in January/February.

AGWG letter for Ernie Benjamin – Layhill Ave “bridge letter” drafted, but needs work. Adam Fogel is working directly with Mr. Benjamin.

Liaison Reports

Permitting – Meets first week of January, no meeting since last MCCAB report.

WUDAC – focused on development. Considering forming teams rather than committees. Focus on making good use of the Arts & Entertainment accreditation.

Olney Town Center Advisory Committee – no report.

Old Business:

- Multi CAB meeting
 - Statistics presentation was great. Members agree with Luisa Montero that a presentation focused on Mid County would be valuable.
 - List of issues in common (in no particular order):
 - Transportation
 - Economic Development
 - Workforce



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- Education
- Public Safety
- Affordable housing
- Bethesda was not represented
- Questions about increasing or fostering public attendance of local CAB meetings: How do we promote more active community involvement in our meetings? We need some data on this issue. What issues or vents bring out higher community attendance at CAB meetings? How is ongoing involvement, rather than the first presentation of issues measured?
 - Bring ideas regarding above to next CAB meeting!
- Bus Depot – Aspen Hill Civic Assn. President Jaimisson reported recently that Navarro & Katz both found the former Mark Twain location inappropriate. Elrich also opposes it. We understand that Legget is still considering this as an option.

New Business:

- List of members and terms distributed. Please check for accuracy and respond to Luisa Montero.
- Thank you letter to police and fire departments – move to send letter as amended
 - For = 9
 - Against = 1
- Property Tax Credit letter referred to Quality of Life.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn meeting approved at 9:01 pm.