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| **Call to Order:** | Kieran McHargue, Chair | | | | **Minutes**: Oriole Saah | | |
| **Date / Time:** | March 18, 2014; 7:00 PM ET | | | | | | |
| **Attendees:** | **X** | Adjogah, Mensah | **X** | Newman, Rick | | **X** | Walker, Will |
|  | Bonilla, Luis |  | O’Donnell, Anna | | **X** | Wijentunge, Gam |
| **X** | Intoccia, Gregory (Vice Chair) | **X** | Owusukoko, Kimberly | | **X** | Williams, Zuberi |
|  | Lahr, Patrick (Secretary) | **X** | Saah, Oriole | | **X** | Young, Brenita (Parl.) |
| **X** | McHargue, Kieran (Chair) | **X** | Shoenberg, Robert | |  | Vacant |
| **Staff:** | Ana Lopez van Balen, Mid-County Regional Service Center  Tiffany Ward, Aide to Councilmember Elrich  Ruthanne Eiser, Aide to Councilmember Floreen | | | | | | |

**APPROVED**

**Call to Order and Introductory Remarks**

* 7:09PM by Kieran McHargue, Chair.

**Introduction, Acceptance of Agenda and Minutes**

* *Motion to amend agenda to address MCCAB Awards rather than hear a guest speaker by Gam Wijentunge; 2nd by Rick Newman. Vote was 11 in favor, 0 opposed; the motion was accepted.*
* *Motion to accept agenda, as amended, by Gam Wijentunge; 2nd by Rick Newman. Vote was 11 in favor, 0 opposed; the motion was accepted.*
* *Motion to accept meeting minutes, as presented, from February 18, 2014 by Brenita Young; 2nd by Greg Intoccia. Vote was 11 in favor, 0 opposed; the motion was accepted.*

### **Community Concerns**

* None offered.

Old Business

Action Item Review: Refer to updated list

Council Report

Tiffany Ward shared the following items:

* Items of interested in approved CIP:
  + Ross Boddy Community Center in Sandy Spring
  + Good Hope Community Center in Silver
* Historic Preservation Designation of the Wheaton Youth Recreation Center (WYRC): The committee voted down historic designation. The full Council will weigh in and vote during a full work session on April 1 at 1:30 PM. Councilmembers who are not on the committee will want to make statements, on the record, before voting.
* Operating Budget was forwarded to the Council on March 17. Council will hold public hearings April 8-10. Call 240-777-7803 starting 3/20/14.
* Combined Gov Ops & PHED committees will meet regarding the Wheaton Redevelopment CIP item on April 28 at 1:30 PM and will go to the full Council a week and a half later.

MCCAB Awards

Group reviewed nominations silently and cast ballots.

**Director Report**

* Leggett’s Operating Budget is now available online. Provides additional funding for: MCPS, Police, Job creation, Seniors, and the Night Time Economy is not in the current budget. The committee has been requested to write an implementation report. More on that later.
* Upcoming Meetings:
  + Olney-Sandy Spring – MNCCP Community Meeting of town center/whole village plan
  + Aspen Hill Minor Master Plan meeting – April 1, 6:30 at the Aspen Hill Library
* Wheaton Redevelopment
  + Budget goes to County Council for final decision
  + Land swap: Veteran’s Park goes to the county
  + Relocation of current tenants of the County Services Building will occur within two years. No decisions made at this time.
  + Construction, starting with demolition, will begin in two years
  + General contractor has not been selected yet.
  + Recommendation to combine WUDAC and WRAC. Awards already being managed jointly (same banquet when MCCAB awards will be presented): April 30 at Hollywood East @ Wheaton Mall.
* Snow – keeping the Urban District very busy this winter.
* Nighttime Economy:
  + Leggett is enthusiastic about the results of the Committee. He requested an implementation report exploring costs, which is in progress.
  + State legislation is under consideration to remedy some liquor law issues. Liquor laws are passed by the State but enforced by the County, which causes some confusion.
* MCCAB Awards
  + Citizen of the Year: Tom Brown
  + Civic Group of the Year: First Book of Montgomery County
* Layhill Update
  + Miracle Church – follow up from Department of Permitting Services. Permits for the site are still valid. Delay in construction was related to a gas line on the property. Warmer weather will see construction resumed. Mensah Adjogah will convey this update to the community
  + DOT looked at the intersections highlighted by the community
    - Bonifant & Notley Road: Greater Colesville Community Association was in favor of the installation of the right turn red light and does not support its removal. DOT puts great weight on the support of the local association.
    - Bonifant & New Hampshire: state owned so DOT passed the concern onto SDOT. This is not within MCCAB boundaries.
    - ICC Ramp Signals: cycles consistent with major roadways. Changes to left signals must go to the state
    - Signals on Georgia in Wheaton: synchronization depends on the time of day. Requested specific questions/information that they can look into.
  + MCCAB/Leggett meeting moved to April 3
  + Gam Wijentunge pointed out that Ana Van Balen was named on of Daily Record’s top 100 women. You can read more at dailyrecord.com.
  + Montgomery County Planning Board seeking applicants (flyer circulated)
  + Craig Rice responded to MCCAB letter regarding historic designation of the Wheaton Recreation Center, thanking us for our input. The letter was circulated.

**Committee Reports**

Quality of Life (QoL)

* Recapped information learned during committee meeting from guest speaker Stephanie Killian, Affordable Housing Programs Manager, Department of Housing and Community Affairs, Division of Housing. Please find details in separate email.
* Please send specific MPDU and affordable housing questions to Oriole Saah in preparation for a future speaker on housing issues.

Land Use

* County Transportation List transmitted to State requesting funding
  + BRT moved from #13 to #15
    - General sense from conversations with Council members was that Rt. 29 will be the first route pursued.
    - State is considering authorizing special taxing districts as primary funding mechanism. Other sources of funds not available for this project at this time. Taxing districts may be a deal breaker for most public support.
  + Interchange of Norbeck & Georgia moved from #12 to #5
    - Still might not be funded at #5.
    - Olney area launching a letter writing campaign & inviting civic groups from other areas to join.
    - *Reviewed draft of thank you letter to Leggett. Voted 11 yes, 0 opposed to amend and submit letter.*
* Recent MCCAB request for high priority road repair issues generated extensive community feedback. However, the feedback tended to be more minor and local.
  + Some issues may be best handled through calls to 311.
  + Greg Intoccia and Ana Van Balen will vet the list and consider forwarding to DOT.
  + Question of contractor quality of work, quality of materials, and county resource for failures of each was raised. Land Use will pursue this question.
* Riemer legislation: considering writing legislation that would create a small pot of money for the purpose of funding small community projects with big impact. I.e., streetscapes and town centers, such as that suggested in Olney. Riemer requested further conversation with Rick Newman, who agreed to follow up with Riemer.
* Farquhar Middle School Land Swap – following a brief discussion of the suitability of the land to be swapped, the County Council will vote on the issue on March 20.

**Liaison Reports**

Olney Town Center Advisory Committee, Rick Newman

* Next meeting is March 25 at 7:30 PM
  + A representative of Councilmember Navarro will attend (and perhaps the Councilmember herself). Other Councilmembers and their staff are invited, as well.
  + Discussing the vision of the master plan. Need funding for studies, etc., to make the Committee meaningful.
* Olney Library opened to much fanfare. Thanked Leggett for including children in the ribbon cutting.

Pepco Community Group, Rick Newman

* Next meeting is Monday, March 24. Observed that Montgomery County fared better through a difficult winter than in past years.

Wheaton Library & Recreation Center, Robert Shoenberg

* As the County Council nears a final vote on the historic status of the Community Center, the committee is meeting again. Reported an expected 25% increase in cost due to higher costs and reduced county funding but further information is needed on this point. The library is expected to close, prior to demolition, in the summer of 2015. The community center will remain open past that time. The next meeting depends on Grimm & Parker’s readiness.

**New Business**

* Quick analysis of impact of MCCAB Budget Letter on Leggett’s proposed operating budget:
  + Increased funding proposed for Wheaton Rescue
  + Silent on overtime for Kensington
  + Increased funding for pedestrian safety
  + Silent on special taxing districts for BRT
  + Silent on requested study of predatory towing
  + Flat funding for regional service centers
* There has been some anguish expressed over the loss of the Wheaton Community Center, as evidenced in the effort to obtain historic designation. Is there a mechanism that MCCAB and our communities can use to be proactive about future sites we want to preserve? How can we think now about sites we do not want to lose in the future so that we can assign resources to maintain them now rather than loose them when it is too late to salvage them? Question remitted to Quality of Life Committee for follow up.

**Adjournment**

*Motion to adjourn by Oriole Saah; 2nd by Brenita Young. Vote was 11 in favor, 0 opposed; meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.*