

SSCAB Meeting Summary – March 12, 2018- v02

Attendance

■	Matthew Losak–Chair/ Nbrhd	X	Jay Elvove	■	Barbara Darko
■	Edward Levy –Vice-Chair	X	Abdurahman Mohammed	■	Delia Aguilar
■	Mark Mendez -Secretary	■	Uri Pasternak	■	Patricia Germann
■	Jonathan Bernstein - TREE	■	Mulegeta Habteselassie	■	Lysette House
■	Stacey Brown - CED	X	Donald Coffey	■	Mandisa Berry
X	Daniel Morales - SSUDAC	X	Mary Anderson		
■	Mary Ann Zimmerman	■	Vineda Myers		

Present: ■ Absent: X Resigned: R

1. *7:05 Welcome and Introductions:* Chair led self-introductions of attendees.
2. *Previous Meeting Summary:* Feb. 12, 2017 meeting minutes were approved by the board.
3. *Public Safety/Police Report:* with 3rd District Lt. Mark Sheelor
 - Offered updated crime numbers- no significant changes since last month
 - As usual, theft from auto is the leading crime both in downtown and residential areas
 - Discussed shooting at gas station at Piney Branch Rd. and Arliss St- may be connected to robbery attempt at another nearby gas station.
4. *Neighborhood Highlight- Takoma Park:* with Vineda Myers. Takoma Park was founded in the 1880s as a community neighborhood for a growing DC labor force and is divided into six wards. Washington Adventist University began in 1904, followed three years later by the Hospital. Local schools and library opened in the 1920s.
5. *Community Dialogue-connecting Elementary and Middle Schools to Nearby Neighbors and Community*
 - Augustine Kang - Asst. Principal at Silver Spring International School sees space as a problem, especially for testing and special events. Dr. Kang recognizes students from families in need commonly have emotional problems.
 - Chrystal Brown – Asst. Principal at Sligo Elementary School notes that their physical location, within the old Blair High School, is not ideal for an elementary school. Space is also a problem, but the condition of the playing field is especially bad. Even light rains turn the dust bowl into mud.
 - Cheryl Booker –Principal of Pinecrest Elementary School has an extremely diverse student body of 472 students in grades 3 through 5. They have a 49% FARMS rate (Free and Reduced Meals) which is just below the threshold for some county benefits and Title One recognition that provides financial assistance to public schools with high numbers or percentages of poor children. Pinecrest is actively looking for partners to fund summer programs.
 - Maurice Young- Asst. Principal of Pinecrest Elementary School which has a largely Latino minority population. He sees the social and emotional needs of students and is recruiting mentors. He works with Community Bridges, and a local fraternity to run a chess and coding club.
 - Discussion with the principals covered a number of topics, including “What do you want to do more of?”

- Brown –would like to offer an enriched STEM program and wants to make a big push to reach bench marks for kindergarten students.
 - Booker- wants to increase mentoring and offer mindfulness and yoga program to address stress.
 - Kang –wants more parent volunteers. They are a challenge to onboard, but worth the investment. Likes the idea of senior mentors
- Former MCPS PTA Paul Geller and Melissa McKenna offered insight into school funding. They have proposed that a full 45% of Maryland Gaming monies go to education as initially intended when gambling came to the state. Currently only 15% is earmarked for schools. Geller and McKenna are running for at-large seats on the Montgomery County Council in 2018
 - Julio Ceron, Legislative Aide to Tom Hucker, reported the council has approved funding for the restoration of sports fields at several local schools but recognizes the \$750,000 won't go very far.
 - The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) now has 70 retired scientists assisting in local schools. Program needs more recognition.
6. *Council member report-* Julio Ceron, Legislative Aide to Tom Hucker, provided a council update. Council receives County Executive's final budget recommendations on 3/15. Council will then hold public hearings in April on 4/10-12.
7. *Committee Meetings Report:*
- **CED-** Feb meeting with Small Business Navigator Judy Stephenson affirmed that "Businesses are residents too!" The county sees that there is a gap in communication with small businesses.
 - **TREE** - Focused on County's EPA work.
 - **Neighborhoods** – No report.
 - March Committee Meeting will be a joint meeting to hear from Permitting Services with hope of finding ways to coordinate services.
8. *Chair Report:* Matt Losak noted that the April 9 full board meeting will feature members from fellow advisory boards to understand their interests and experiences. He also reported that Stacey Brown would need to step down as Chair of the CED committee. Mulegeta Habteselassie offered to fill that role. Stacey will stay involved to help with the transition.
9. *Regional Director Report:* Regional Director Reemberto Rodriguez asked the five new board members to introduce themselves and to offer background on their interests and experiences.
10. *New Business:* No new business.
11. *Adjourn:* 9:00 PM

Upcoming meetings: This month's joint committee meeting is scheduled for the fourth Monday, March 26. The Full Board meeting in April will be held April 9.