



UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Summary

January 12, 2015

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Robert Nelson and introductions were done.

The meeting summary from December 8 will be addressed at the February 9 meeting.

Update from the County Council – Dale Tibbitts, Chief of Staff for Councilmember Elrich, updated the board on Council activities planned for the near future.

Update from the Upcounty Regional Director – Catherine Matthews, Upcounty Regional Director, referred members to announcements in the recent newsletter, *Upcounty Today!* She also informed the board that: a) County Executive Leggett was recently elected President of the Maryland Association of Counties (MACo); b) he has proposed a bill creating a new Development Ombudsman position to facilitate development-related activities; c) DEP and WSSC recently held a community meeting to discuss the process for bringing sewer service to the Ten Mile Creek Area in Clarksburg; d) the County Council will reconvene on January 13; and e) the MD General Assembly will convene on January 14.

Discussion and Presentation: “Planning and Transportation”– Casey Anderson, Chair of the Montgomery County Planning Board, provided a presentation on the future development plans for Clarksburg and Germantown. Christian Deschauer, Director of Government Relations from Transurban, presented on the opening of 29 miles of express toll lanes on I-95 in Virginia.

Chair’s Report – Board Chair Robert Nelson announced: a) the resignation received from board member Annie McDonald; b) the February 9 meeting topics being a second presentation on Montgomery College’s development plans for the Germantown Campus, and the proposed merger between Pepco and Exelon; and c) the appointment schedule for new/additional members.

The board is planning to hold their March 9 meeting in the Damascus community, potentially on the relationship of development and demographics.

Board member Scott Graham suggested that UCAB send a letter of appreciation to retiring Director of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Art Wallenstein, for the great service he has provided. It was suggested that the board send similar letters to all of the retiring department heads. Board member Daisha New volunteered to draft the letter.

Board member Cherian Eapen suggested that the board submit a letter to the County Council regarding the infrastructure along MD Route 355 and supporting services.

Committee / Liaison Reports –

The Land Use Committee and the Quality of Life Committee will meet jointly on January 26 to discuss pedestrian safety and how legislation is supporting efforts.

Community Concerns/Comments – None

The meeting was adjourned (moved by M. Firley, seconded by B. Donohue).

Board Attendance: Juan Cardenas, Brian Donohue, Cherian Eapen, Mark Firley, Scott Graham, Darlene Kerr, Robert Nelson, Daisha New, Tobi Printz-Platnick, David Rosenbaum, and James Wallace.

Additional Guests: Samantha Schmieder, Bruce Goldensohn, Tristan Fernandez, David Stein, Dale Tibbitts, Rosemary Arkoian, Phil Usatine, Rich Parsons, Anna Derry, Brian Jones, Warren Hansen, Joe Nelson, Charles Tilford, Capt. John Dimitriadis, and _____.

Staff: Catherine Matthews and Miquitta Scott