



## UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

### Meeting Summary March 18, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kevin Linck and introductions were done. The meeting summary from February 11, 2013 was approved as corrected (Aviles moved; Eapen seconded).

**Update from the County Council** – No report.

**Update from the Upcounty Regional Director**

Catherine Matthews shared the following information.

- CE's recommended operating budget for FY 2014
- Montgomery County Council President Nancy Navarro issued the following statement today after County Executive Isiah Leggett submitted his recommended Fiscal Year 2014 operating budget to the Council:

“The County Executive’s Fiscal year 2014 Recommended Operating Budget provides a good starting point for the Council’s decision-making process. We appreciate the hard work by the Executive and his staff that has gone into developing it. Over the past several years we have made many difficult decisions to address the severe fiscal challenges of the Great Recession. Now, as the economy continues to recover slowly, we must carefully balance a wide array of County needs. That is what our Council Committees and the full Council will undertake over the next two months.

The participation of County residents will be a key component of this process. **The Council’s public hearings on the operating budget are scheduled for April 9-11**; residents should call (240) 777-7803 to sign up to speak. Input can be submitted via email at [county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:county.council@montgomerycountymd.gov); via regular mail to: County Council, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850; or by calling our Council’s budget hotline at 240-777-7802. Information on the budget can be found at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council) and by clicking ‘budget update.’ We look forward to receiving the comments and suggestions of our residents as we move through the budget process. “

- New owners of Lakeforest Mall recently presented to the Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce and stated that they plan to redevelop and possibly reorganize the site somewhat, but will continue to have retail as the major component.
- Pedestrian safety is urged with the weather warming and more pedestrians out and about. For tips, visit [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/walk](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/walk).
- The County Executive’s annual meeting with UCAB representatives has been postponed. It will be rescheduled as soon as possible.
- The Button Farm, Maryland's only living history center depicting 19th century slave plantation life and the story of the Underground Railroad, and that is located in Germantown, was saluted by the Montgomery County Council on Feb. 26.
- At the February 28 hearing of the Frederick County Board of Zoning Appeals, Global Mission Church’s application was upheld. The Sugarloaf Citizens Association’s challenge was dismissed due to a technicality. Sugarloaf has indicated that they will again challenge the project.

- Ms. Matthews has asked the Planning Directors from Montgomery County and Frederick County to meet with Greg Ossont and her to improve communications between the two jurisdictions.
- The County Executive is appointing a Nighttime Economy Task Force as part of the New Montgomery Initiative. Ms. Matthews has recommended three people from the Upcounty to serve on the task force. More information will come soon.

**Guest Discussion – “An Update on the Smart Growth Initiative and Other Upcounty Facility Projects”**

Greg Ossont, Deputy Director with the Department of General Services, provided an overview and update of the various projects located in the Upcounty, including those in the Smart Growth Initiative that will be relocated from the County Service Park.

The Board asked when Executive staff would reconvene the Shady Grove Initiative Implementation Advisory Group. Mr. Ossont will check with his team members and get back to the Board Chair or Regional Services Director Matthews.

**Chairperson’s Report**

Board Chair Kevin Linck stated that he hoped the two county planning directors would update UCAB members in the near future. A Board photo will be taken at the May 20 meeting for the annual report.

**Committee Reports**

*Land Use* – Committee Chair Robert Nelson reported that the meeting with Philip Tarnoff was successful. Mr. Nelson acknowledged the expansion plan for the Laytonsville Fire Station and may ask for an update. The April 29 meeting will focus on the Agricultural Reserve with Montgomery County and Frederick County representatives presenting.

*Shady Grove Plan Implementation* – Board member Natalia Farrar reported that developer EYA presented their mixed use plan that will be on the west side of the County Service Park and next to Metro. The CARMAX dealership is moving to former site of the Great Indoors store and upscale housing is being planned for the former Reed Bros.

*Dickerson Facility Implementation Group* – Board member Beth Daly reported that the NRG Company in Dickerson is working with MDE re the proposal to apply a permanent cap on ash piles.

**New Business - None**

**Community Concerns** - None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm. (Aviles moved; Firley seconded).

*Attendance:* Andres Aviles, Juan Cardenas, Beth Daly, Brian Donohue, Cherian Eapen, Natalia Farrar, Mark Firley, Scott Graham, James King, Matthew Leakan, Kevin Linck, Robert Nelson, Daisha New, Gail Robinson, David Rosenbaum., Ruyan Teng, James Wallace.

*Additional Guests:* David Stein, Mansfield Kaseman

*Staff:* Catherine Matthews