



Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB) Meeting Notes*

Thursday, November 16, 2023

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Held virtual via Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82931330898>

Members: Susanna Parker, Ayhanna Booker, Rob Fox, Serge Thomas, Debra Liverpool, Aggie Alvez, Norman Goldstein, Arquilla Ridgell, Gary Fellman, Philip Ardanuy, Liza Smith,

Montgomery County staff: Luisa Cardona,

Guests: Wendy Howard, One Montgomery Green, Commander Smith, MCP, David Lorenzo-Botella (Representative Councilmember Glass), Kathia Chevez (Representative Councilmember Fani-Gonzalez)

Attendees:

**Please note these are meeting notes and not minutes approved by the Board.*

Time	Topic	Notes
7:00 p.m.	<p>Call to Order & Welcome</p> <p>Meeting Protocols</p> <p>Introduction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair called meeting to order 7:08 p.m. • Motion made to accept Agenda, and Agenda accepted • Motion made to accept minutes, and Minutes accepted. • Chair reviewed meeting protocols and introduced guest speakers.
7:08 p.m.	Agenda Minutes	Acceptance of September meeting which was a community forum. Acceptance of October meeting notes.
7:15 p.m.	Board Business	<p>Board voted unanimously to approve Urgent Budget Letter</p> <p>Board voted unanimously to not hold December 21st meeting due to upcoming holidays.</p> <p>Elections held and Board positions filled. Position remain vacant is Secretary. Board Chair will take Board notes until Secretary position is filled.</p> <p>Chair: Arquilla Ridgell</p> <p>Vice Chair: Rob Fox</p> <p>Parliamentarian: Gary Fellman</p> <p>Secretary: Vacant</p>
7:30 p.m.	Elected Officials	<p>David: (Councilmember Glass’s Office). Councilmember Glass is focusing on tree initiatives to preserve more trees in the County.</p> <p><i>Question:</i> Phil asked a question regarding the capacity of greenhouse gases and emissions.</p> <p>Councilmember Glass is also focusing on more funds for transportation infrastructure. Montgomery County home to 30%.</p> <p>Katia: (Council member Natalie Fani Gonzalez’s office) The Council approved the Drone Program. The Council will allow overnight stay in Agricultural Farm.</p> <p>Encouraging students in County - They are looking for idea of ways to engage students.</p>

<p>7:45 p.m.</p>	<p>Mid County Director's Report</p>	<p>Luisa Cardona, Mid-County Regional Services Center Director discussed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Executive's trip to India and Asia included looking for opportunities for business partners. • The Private Security Camera Rebate Program. This program allows residents to purchase any camera you want and provides up to \$250 rebate. Businesses will get up to \$1250. Residents should be willing to send the camera film to the police. • Camera must meet certain specifications. • Need three volunteers to interview new candidates. (Serge, Arquilla and Norman volunteered). • RFP to build out floor of • Drone program has two sites Wheaton and Silver Spring. • County has partnered with the Arts Council and are open to suggestions for "Artist in Residence" <p><i>Question:</i> Phil asked if Arts program was only for non-whites. <i>Question:</i> Gary asked if the language could be changed to reflect level of inclusivity for the arts program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Program is open to language skills and no one should be discouraged. <p>Link for Budget https://apps.montgomerycountymd.gov/BASISOPERATING/Common/Index.aspx</p>
<p>8:00 p.m.</p>	<p>Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee Report</p>	<p>Rob Fox, WUDAC Liaison discussed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WUDAC is concerned about planned funding reduction for the Wheaton area. There is a planned reduction of \$71,000. WUDAC is requesting for Board to write or sign on to letter. <p><i>Question:</i> Arquilla asked question about basis for area funding and reductions. Luisa responded that reduction may be due to a decrease in parking fees. Areas raise money through certain fees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a vision for each area based on funding.
<p>8:10 p.m.</p>	<p>Guest Commander Smith, MCP</p>	<p>Provided Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Challenges in Fentanyl use. Attempting to reduce use • Councilmember Fani Gonzalez has been helpful in coordinating efforts on reducing Fentanyl use. • Cameras providing intelligence on drug use in community. • MCP performing deep dive into downtown areas. • Positive tangible results. Over 5,000 pills seized, 100 enforcement actions, 23 search warrants • Community meetings held at Pembroke square apartments • Glenmont community has decrease in certain activity around McDonalds

		<p>and there is a reduction in calls since MCP cameras installed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in auto theft and carjacking. MCP made 13 arrests in one day. • MCP will be placing license plate readers in police cars. • Challenge that large amount of offenders are juveniles. • Drone Program was approved and is already working in positive way. • MCP Staffing challenges. Continue to recruit offering \$5000 hiring bonus • Safety-Encouraging residents to lock cars and remain alert/aware. <p><i>Question:</i> Norman asked How recruitment was going? Commander Smith responded that MCP is taking potential recruits on tours, Early hire program and mentoring program.</p> <p><i>Question:</i> Phil asked about morale, retention and what can community do to help? Commander Smith responded that kind words help motivate and go along way.</p> <p><i>Question:</i> Debra asked if devices like Apple tag are helpful? Commander Smith responded Yes because devices can serve as preventive measures and are helpful tools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MCP will be hosting movie night, Candies and Reses events see MCP website.
8:25 p.m.	Guest Wendy Howard, Executive Director One Montgomery Green	<p>Focused on Models of sustainability. Organization named from idea of green Wheaton. In 2011, Green Wheaton and Silver Spring transformed into Montgomery Green.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focused on climate, Environment Stewardship • Opportunities for youth available • Business Programs are available. Montgomery County local mapping of green businesses. Over 300 businesses listed. • Wheaton is a sustainable zone. Awarded prize for sustainable zone. • Innovation for businesses to become green sustainable. • Partnering with Work source Montgomery, MC Greenbank • Wheaton streetery. Other areas have developers, but Wheaton has to maintain its own streeteries. • Applying for grants to help green Wheaton Streetery for public benefit. • Would like to make Wheaton Green streetery permanent at Price Street. <p><i>Question:</i> Debra asked if Wheaton businesses “buy into” the green initiatives. Wendy Howard responded Yes.</p>
8:50 p.m.	Community Concerns	Resident raised concerns about neighbors’ still operating business out of homes in residential neighborhoods.
9:00	Adjourn	Chair adjourned meeting.