



Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB)

Mid-County Community Recreation Center, 2004 Queensguard Road, Silver Spring, MD

Call to Order:	Francisco Romero, Chair			Respectfully Submitted by:	Oriole Saah, Secretary	
Date/Time:	June 19, 2018; 7:00 PM ET					
Attendees:	X	Adjogah, Mensah		vacant	Shoenberg, Robert (Parliamentarian)	
	X	Lynda Brooks	X	Romero, Francisco (Chair)	X	Solomon, Jobe
	X	Frank, Ron (Vice Chair)	X	Rowden, David	X	Tankersley, Judy
	X	Gelman, Michael	X	Reed, Patrick		Wright, Ursula
	X	Mozzano, Louis	X	Saah, Oriole (Secretary)		Partap Verma
Staff:	Luisa Montero, Director, Mid-County Regional Services Center					
Guests:	Fire Chief Scott Goldstein, Clarence Snuggs, Director/ Stephanie Killian, Acting Chief, Housing Division; Rogers Stanley, Chief, Neighborhood Revitalization Section ; Patrice Chetham, Senior Planning Specialist, Neighborhood Revitalization Section Carmen Hernandez, Impact Silver Spring					

Call to Order: 7:02 PM by Ron Franks, Vice Chair

Introductions

Agenda – Approved unanimously.

Minutes – Approved unanimously

Council Report – None.

Fire Chief Update – Chief Goldstein reported on the Mayhan & Viers Mill/Randolph and Georgetown Paper Recycling fires as recent major fires.

- Summer marked by aquatic issues, BBQ & fireworks incidents. Possession of fireworks is illegal.
- FY19 – 60 new firefighters & support hired, originally 29. Normal rate of attrition is three per month so the average is 40 new recruits per year

Q: What is the Elder Abuse Kickoff?

A: Villages are organizations of folks looking out for each other. They do home safety checks to keep people ageing in place safe. Visit help prevent falls, address lighting, smoke detectors. Population is aging.

Q: What was the cause of the Mayhan fire?

A: Electrical. If breakers trip, figure out why. Hire a licensed electrician.

Q: Are whole house surge protectors useful?



Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB)

Mid-County Community Recreation Center, 2004 Queensguard Road, Silver Spring, MD

A: Value with complicated electronics that don't last as long. Started with GFCI around water sources.

Community Concerns – none.

Guest Speakers: Department of Housing and Community Affairs, presented by Clarence Snuggs, Director/ Stephanie Killian, Acting Chief, Housing Division; Rogers Stanley, Chief, Neighborhood Revitalization Section ; Patrice Chetham, Senior Planning Specialist, Neighborhood Revitalization Section

See powerpoint presentation and other handouts

Q: How will people seeking housing know what is available in inventory?

A: Updating websites – shows building location and size of unit but not specific address or real-time availability. MCPDUs are not waived easily. See the list of apartment buildings on the website.

Q: How do tenants access assistance?

A: Tenant Rights Bill – tenants need to know their rights and participate actively, organize themselves. Agency required to do a baseline assessment of all the multi-family rental units in Montgomery County by July 2019. Remedies when issues found:

1. Violation notice
2. Evaluate for safety – short deadline for response
3. Will follow up with civil citations and court enforcement as needed
4. Properties classified, publicly, as “troubled.”

Q: Is there outreach to tenants who may be afraid to come forward due to residency issues?

A: Complaints can be filed anonymously. The agency needs facts to investigate. Best to organize with a group to voice ongoing concerns.

Q: How does the agency find people in need of help in single family units (inspections find people in multi-family units)?

A: Requested that MCCAB members share agency information with neighbors, people who need to know about these services. Montgomery County doesn't report people who reach out through 311 to ICE. Neighbors can call for help. The agency will respond to all complaints.

Q: What are the consequences of being listed as a troubled housing unit?

A: More routine enforcement – move to three to six-month inspections. The standard is three years. There is a deadline to resolve issues and a \$500 fine per issue and/or court enforcement.

Q: How much do we leverage from the State?

A: Apply for Community Legacy Grants – about \$150,000 received, allowed to apply for up to \$500,000 (only \$6 million total available for all agencies in the State). Montgomery County is



Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB)

Mid-County Community Recreation Center, 2004 Queensguard Road, Silver Spring, MD

not getting its fair share. We have 17% of state residents. Also, access the Homeownership Partnership.

Q: How are landlord rights safeguarded?

A: Enforcement of laws is even handed. 85% of issues are decided in favor of tenants.

Director Report

- DEP has followed up with companies throwing marketing material in plastic bags.
- September's meeting will be moved to 9/25/18 because the Jewish Holiday falls on the standard meeting day
- Retreat will be October 4, 6:00 PM
- WUDAC is setting up a Community Priorities meeting

Committee Reports

Quality of Life – no report

Land Use, Transportation, & Zoning

- Report on date change and retreat plans
- Next committee meeting will include presentation by RideOn, community participation
- Aspen Hill gas problem – person will attend committee meeting

Liaison Reports

Permitting Services – no meeting until September.

Olney Town Center Advisory Committee – Meets in September. Drafted a letter (will share by email) regarding the McDonalds drive thru redesign.

Old Business:

- Need to fill current vacancies. Waiting for resumes. Deadline to receive applications was June 15.
- Five members renewing – Deadline for them is also June 15th.

New Business:

- Office nominations – email Luisa with nominations; need to vote next meeting
 - Chair – Ron Franks (unless elected to public office)
 - Vice Chair – Louis
 - Parliamentarian – Bob to continue
 - Secretary – Oriole, but term might be ending



Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB)

Mid-County Community Recreation Center, 2004 Queensguard Road, Silver Spring, MD

- Rock Creek Palisades Civic Association – currently dormant but revitalizing. Meeting at Newport Mills Middle School on June 25, 7:30 PM
- Francisco announced that he will not be applying for a second term. His work is now too demanding.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn meeting approved at 8:55 pm.