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COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

APPROVED

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland convened via video conference at 9:03 A.M. on Tuesday, October 12, 2021.

PRESENT

Councilmember Tom Hucker, President Councilmember Gabe Albornoz, Vice President

Councilmember Andrew Friedson Councilmember Evan Glass
Councilmember Will Jawando Councilmember Sidney Katz
Councilmember Nancy Navarro Councilmember Craig Rice

Councilmember Hans Riemer

The President in the Chair.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Proclamation was presented by Mr. Rice recognizing Bullying Prevention Awareness Month.

GENERAL BUSINESS

A. Announcements – Agenda and Calendar Changes

There were no agenda or calendar changes.

(1) B. **Acknowledgement** – Receipt of Petitions

No petitions were received this week.

(2) COUNCIL SITTING AS BOARD OF HEALTH

A. <u>Updates from County Government and Montgomery County Public Schools</u> (MCPS) - Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Health Planning

Participating in the discussion were Dr. Bridgers, Acting Health Officer and Chief of Public Health Services, and Mr. O'Donnell, Program

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Administrator, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response, DHHS; Lt. Commander Dr. Snitchler, US Navy, Uniformed Services University; Mr. D'Andrea, Chief of Staff, Office of the Superintendent, and Ms. Dublinske, Coordinator, Student Welfare and Compliance, MCPS.; and Dr. Stoddard, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer.

Received information on plans for flu vaccination clinics, current Covid-related statistics and ongoing Covid vaccination events, case rates by race/ethnicity, hospitalizations, availability of booster shots, anticipated availability and coordination for distribution of the distinctly labeled vaccine for children aged 5 to 11, and the need to increase staffing to provide rapid testing at schools. Noted the County currently has a "substantial" transmission rate based on CDC guidelines, but no increase in cases at senior and assisted living facilities; and that 99.1% of County residents have received at least one dose of the vaccine (based on CDC numbers).

Received information from Mr. D'Andrea that they anticipate the new MCPS Public Health Officer position to be filled in early November and would continue to work closely with and follow guidance from DHHS; and that to-date over 40,000 parents have "opted-in" for student rapid testing to keep students in school and minimize quarantines.

Mr. Friedson suggested a more in-depth discussion on healthcare staffing be scheduled, that more clarification on the County's indoor mask mandate is needed and should be provided in multiple languages; and that it would be helpful for the public to know the job description for the new MCPS Public Health Officer.

(3) **INTERVIEWS** - Montgomery County Planning Board Applicants

Interviewed Ms. Carol Rubin and Mr. Roberto Pinero, applicants to fill the Planning Board seat vacated by Ms. Fani-Gonzalez.

Action is tentatively scheduled for October 26, 2021.

(4) **ACTION** - <u>County Executive appointments for Assistant Chief Administrative</u> Officer, Sonia Mora, Yaakov (Jake) Weismann

Adopted **Resolution 19-1006**, approving the County Executive's appointment of Sonia Mora, and **Resolution 19-1007**, approving the appointment of Yaakov (Jake) Weismann, as Assistant Chief Administrative Officers.

Mr. Riemer made the motion, which carried without objection.

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(5) CONSENT CALENDAR

Approved the following consent calendar items listed below. Mr. Jawando made the motion, which carried without objection. Item H was removed from the consent calendar.

- A. Acknowledged/Received The Council acknowledges receipt of the following Inspector General Report: Investigation Involving the Misuse of HOC Vehicles, OIG Publication #22-002.
- **B.** Adopted **Resolution 19-1008**, approval of the Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan 2020 2029.
- C. Adopted **Resolution 19-1009**, confirming the County Executive's appointments to the Adult Public Guardianship Review Board: Stephanie Edelstein, Virginia Nuta, Lynn Nover, Katia Lathrop.
- D. Adopted Resolution 19-1010, confirming the County Executive's appointments to the Commission on Children and Youth: Stephanie Clark, James Hopkins, Chanel Speaks, Jeanett Peralta, Anna Marie Finley, LaTanya Johnson, Tatiana Lollo, Thanh-Thuy "Twee" Nguyen, Albert Reed, Phebe Melaku, Simoni Mishra, Rohin Shah.
- E. Adopted **Resolution 19-1011**, confirming the County Executive's appointment to the Friendship Heights Transportation Management District Advisory Committee: Peter Fosselman.
- F. Adopted **Resolution 19-1012**, confirming the County Executive's appointments to the Board of Investment Trustees and Board of Trustees for Consolidated Retiree Health Benefits Trust: Joseph Beach, Brian Swain.
- G. Adopted **Resolution 19-1013**, confirming the County Executive's appointment to the Commission on Juvenile Justice: Erynn Penn.
- H. **Action** Confirmation of County Executive's appointments to the Library Board: Laura Briskin-Limehouse, Janice Levine, Grace Manubay, Vikram Pant, Brandon Rippeon, Suzette Spencer.

This item was removed from the consent calendar and will be considered at a future date.

- I. Adopted **Resolution 19-1014**, confirming the County Executive's appointment to the Washington Suburban Transit Commission: Tom Hucker.
- J. Adopted **Resolution 19-1015**, confirming the County Executive's appointment to the White Flint Downtown Advisory Committee: Peter Fosselman.

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- **K.** Adopted **Resolution 19-1016**, confirming the County Executive's appointment to the Workforce Development Board: Barbara Ebel.
- L. Adopted **Resolution 19-1017**, resolution to approve Categorical Transfers for MCPS' FY21 Operating Budget and FY21 Grant.
- M. **Approved** the appointment of Sarah Von Der Lippe to represent Montgomery County in connection with the County's Minority Female Disabled Owned Business Program.
- N. Adopted **Resolution 19-1018**, confirming the County Executive's appointment to the Bethesda Urban Partnership, Inc. Board of Directors: Peter Fosselman.
- (5.5) **WORKSESSION/ACTION** <u>Amendments to the Comprehensive Water Supply</u> and Sewerage Systems Plan: Water and Sewer Category Change requests

Senior Legislative Analyst Levchenko reviewed the recommendations of the T&E Committee, as contained in the staff report.

Supported without objection the T&E Committee's recommendation to defer action on the requests from Transquest LLC for S-3 and W-6 -multiuse, and from Travilah Oak LLC for S-3 pending consideration of a special service policy in the Water and Sewer Plan to address public service for commercial uses outside the planned public Water/Sewer service areas.

Supported without objection the recommendation of the T&E Committee to deny the request from TDR Properties LLC for public sewer (S-6 to S-3) to serve a proposed single-family home and accessory dwelling unit.

Adopted **Resolution 19-1019**, approving the Comprehensive Water Supply and Sewerage Systems Plan, as amended.

The Council recessed at 12:20 P.M. and reconvened at 1:32 P.M.

(6) **SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT** of the Montgomery County Planning Board

Received a semi-annual summary of the Planning Commission's recent achievements, including an update on the new Wheaton headquarters retail and childcare space. Participating in the discussion were Maryland National Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC) Planning Board Chairman Anderson and Planning Department Director Wright. Ms. Dunn, Senior Legislative Analyst, noted after the review of the FY22 Master Plan and Major Projects Schedule that the Silver Spring Downtown and Adjacent Communities Sector Plan should be

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moved up several months to enable the Council to finish deliberations during its current term.

Discussed development activity throughout the County, especially in the biotech area; increased engagement with members of the public who do not normally participate in the planning process; the equity agenda for planning; enhancements to Thrive Montgomery 2050 General Plan Update; Mixed Use Development: Current Status and Future Trends; Attainable Housing Strategies Initiative; White Oak planning initiatives; creative ideas to repurpose available office space to housing and school facilities, as well as the need for zoning changes to allow this.

Mr. Hucker requested that the Planning Board continue to provide Councilmembers with reports and information related to community engagement efforts related to the White Oak corridor.

Mr. Riemer highlighted the need for Zoning Text Amendments to help support accessible housing in the Silver Spring Master Plan. He also proposed a partnership with MCDOT to evaluate the proposed Upcounty Transit Line, with approved funding from the State, before a plan is adopted.

Mr. Albornoz requested that work and collaboration be done around developing a collaborative website that provides information on the Planning Board's actions, along with all other County programs, that is accessible to all residents.

Mr. Katz also requested that all concerns and suggestions regarding Thrive Montgomery that are made by members of the public be acknowledged. He noted the importance of being receptive to input to allow the planning process to be open and transparent.

Mr. Rice and Mr. Hucker both voiced support for new accessible housing as it aligns with efforts to home survivors of trafficking.

Received update from Mr. Riley, Director, Department of Parks on Montgomery Park's achievements and programs, including new successful youth programs, events in September at the Josiah Henson Museum and Park for the national Underground Railroad month, acquisitions of a new Park parcel in Silver Spring, the positive impact of the economical Parks Mini Refresher program, a new covered arena at the Meadowbrook Stables, construction of the new Gene Lynch Urban Park, grant applications for alternative revenue sources, progress report on the Roots to Rocks community engagement program, trails expansions, the new White Oak Recreation Center field, the MCPS field renovation and maintenance program, Parks safety update, deer management, Parks disability accessibility and safety measures, Enterprise Facility updates, Parks special events, camps and numerous awards earned by Montgomery Parks.

Mr. Rice challenged the Parks Department, in partnership with the Montgomery County Recreation Department, to develop an equity-based program to teach

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children how to swim, similar to the successful Roots to Rocks Youth Mountain Bike Ride program.

Mr. Albornoz noted he would follow-up with Parks staff on the challenges that weather and unpermitted use impact the field maintenance program.

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND IN LEGISLATIVE SESSION - Day #27

(7) **Introduction of Bills:**

A. <u>Bill 35-21</u>, Prevailing Wage Requirements - Construction Contracts - Amendments

Introduced **Bill 35-21**, sponsored by Councilmembers Hucker and Jawando. A public hearing is scheduled for November 2, 2021, at 1:30 P.M.

Councilmembers Glass, Rice, Albornoz, Katz, and Riemer requested to be added as co-sponsors.

The meeting adjourned at 3:06 P.M.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq.

Clerk of the Council