



## Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB)

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

<b>Call to Order:</b>	Francisco Romero, Chair	<b>Respectfully Submitted by:</b> Oriole Saah, Secretary	
<b>Date/Time:</b>	February 20, 2018; 7:00 PM ET		
<b>Attendees:</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adjogah, Mensah	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reed, Patrick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shoenberg, Robert <small>(Parliamentarian)</small>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lynda Brooks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Romero, Francisco (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solomon, Jobe
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank, Ron (Vice Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rowden, David	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tankersley, Judy
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gelman, Michael	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Saah, Oriole (Secretary)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wright, Ursula
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mozzano, Louis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sapper, Masha	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partap Verma
<b>Staff:</b>	Luisa Montero, Director, Mid-County Regional Services Center		
<b>Guests:</b>	Chief Goldstein, Montgomery County Fire & Rescue Service Bertha Flores, Office of Nancy Navarro Steve Morrison Charlotte Crutchfield Patricia Khona John "Jay" Kinney, Chief, Office of Aging and Disability Services Odile Brunetto, Director, Area Agency on Aging		

**Call to Order:** 7:06 PM by Francisco Romero, Chair

**Introductions & Welcome to New Board Members**

**Agenda** – Approved unanimously

**Minutes** – Approved as amended

**Council Report** – Bertha Flores, Office of Nancy Navarro shared that the operating budget hearings will be held at 1:30 and 7:00 PM on April 10, 11, and 12. Navarro’s office received WUDAC’s letter regarding the support for the Arts & Entertainment District.

**Community Concerns** – Steve Morrison expressed concern that anyone who was not pre-scheduled to testify on the prepayment of real estate taxes was excluded from providing testimony.

**Guest Speakers**

Chief Scott Goldstein:

Noted the impact on traffic of an accident at Georgia and Hathaway.

Q: Is Station 21 still a focus of ongoing concerns?

A: Has not been an issue for 10 years.



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Q: Will the Georgia & Randolph intersection be closed this weekend?

A: The planned shift was completed during the previous weekend, in spite of weather, so it will not close for the coming weekend.

John Kinney, Office, Aging and Disability Services

Odile Brunetto, Director, Area Agency on Aging

Presented information on services for county residents. Described the role and activities of the Commission on Aging. Provided brief information about the formation of Villages around the county. Materials made available to attendees.

For assistance with aging service to inquire about assistance for a vulnerable adult please call 240-777-3000

Q: Please explain Villages movement as networks of neighbors.

A: Neighbors to neighbors decide to create a network. The office assists with the creation of a nonprofit agency within a defined area. They choose from a variety of fee structures ranging from free to paid memberships. Encouraging people to start new Villages. Currently starting one in Leisure World.

Q: How does the office support the Village?

A: One full time staff person assists the Villages. There are currently 29 existing and six in progress. The office can help survey residents on their needs. Surveys are done at the Village level and county wide. One was done in 2015 and there is a plan to repeat it every five years.

Q: What are the services available for free vs. a fee based Village?

A: Organizations with free services recruit volunteers to meet the seniors needs. Fees are paid per year (rate set by the Village) for infrastructure. Grants are available to reduce fees for those who need assistance.

Q: How is it verified that fees and services are administered equitably?

A: Each Village is managed by a board of directors which sets fees and administers services. (Note: it appears that there is currently no oversight to ensure equity)

Q: What is needed to expand services to meet increasing needs?

A: The Commission on Aging is working with the State Legislature. They are concerned about the quality of care in assisted living facilities, which are not subject to the same rules as nursing homes.

Q: Is transportation limited to residents? Or could elderly visitors or residents use it as well?

A: All services are designed for residents.

Q: Often elderly residents experience home foreclosure, either by the bank or for failure to pay taxes. Assistance is needed for financial counseling and the courts should notify Office on Aging and staff should get involved in these cases.

A: The County Tax Office does notify the Office on Aging when taxes are not being paid. Social workers contact families. Used to contract with a volunteer agency that provided



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financial counseling but the service was discontinued by the vendor due to the cost of liability insurance. The Social Security Administration also helps elderly residents.

Q: Is there a way to identify folks who are without a functional support system? What do you do when you find them?

A: Anyone can call with a concern for an individual. The office does outreach to groups. Ask for a presentation.

Q: Is there a resource to help residents identify modifications needed to age in place, recommend reliable contractors, and finance enhancements?

A: Yes, case managers training in providing this type of help are available for a fee. Other groups such as Rebuilding Together, Christmas in April, and Habitat for Humanity can help, as well.

### **Director Report**

- Reddie Drive building in demolition stage. Very slow and not obvious as material will be reused.
- See the list showing where former Reddie tenants have moved. Many are in South Tower Westfield.
- Coffee with a Cop: March 1 at 8:00 AM.
- GOCA provided a list of their activities this year. Luisa will circulate via email.
- Olney Town Hall March 5 – candidate forum for County Executive.
- The County is updating radio communication and placing six new towers, two in Mid County. They will fill gaps. Brookville and land along the ICC near Georgia Avenue. Due to residential concerns, they are looking for an alternative to the Brookville site but there are physical limitations.

### **Committee Reports**

**Land Use, Transpiration, & Zoning and Quality of Life** presented Arts & Entertainment letter in support of WUDAC. Discussed the goal of the letter and potential changes. Letter approved unanimously with three amendments.

Nancy Navarro is confirmed to meet with MCCAB at the March Board meeting.

Next focus:

- FY 19 Budget feedback
- WUDAC budget cuts (more severe than other urban districts because of lack of significant parking district income)
- Subcommittee meeting is March 1, budget will be released March 15. Hearings are April 10 through 12. Next Board meeting is March 20. Is April board meeting too late to



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finalize budget input? Please come to the Committee meeting ready to work on our budget response. Luisa will send last year's response to use as a template.

### **Liaison Reports**

**Permitting Services** – no meeting

**Olney Town Center Advisory Committee** – received finalized feasibility report. Francisco will send it to everyone. No specific location identified.

**WUDAC** – In addition to the letter to CE and Council, received a presentation from Bike Share and dockless bikes in the county.

**Old Business:** none.

### **New Business:**

- MCCAB awards – Luisa handed out the form and requested that board members spread the word.
- Masha announced her resignation due to the approaching due date of the birth of her child.

### **Announcement:**

Aspen Hill Friends of the Library and Aspen Hill Civic Association will host a County Council Candidate Forum on March 14.

*Adjournment: Motion to adjourn meeting approved at 8:51 pm.*