

## **Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee**

2400 Arcola Ave 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Wheaton MD 20902

Meeting Minutes, Tuesday June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**Members Present:** Leah Haygood, Chair; William Moore, Chelsea Johnson, Dan Thompson, William Jelen, Omar Lazo, Mirza Donegan, Ron Franks

**Staff Present:** Luisa Montero-Diaz, Director Mid-County Regional Center

**Guests:** Sean Corbett, Keith Compton, MCDOT; Jim Epstein, Justin Stone, SBAP; Kristy Daphnis, PBTSAC; Luis Ortiz, Sheldon Fishman, Erin Antognoli, Michael Ibrony

**Call to Order:** 6:35pm by Chair Haygood. Meeting Minute discussion tabled due to lack of quorum

**Construction Revitalization Project:** Keith Compton, MCDOT, reported on the progress of the Lot 13 development project. It is 35% complete, 12 months into a 34 ½ month project. They are now working on the bottom levels of the parking garage. The geothermal is complete and into the manifold room. Tomorrow is the first major concrete pour. September/October timeline for electric utility overhead wires to come down. Verizon will follow. Still having parking issues. Current contractors are allowed two hours on the lot. Parking enforcement is scanning tags to enforce two hour limit.

The utility work is mostly disrupting Grandview and Reedy now. Some cracking issues in buildings have now mostly abated. 16 pumps are keeping water out of the foundation and a waterproofing system is being installed. Keith will give a presentation of the waterproofing system at a later date. He then took questions from members and guests

Justin Stone, Manager of the SBAP, Dept. of Finance, updated WUDAC on the progress of the program. They have had 22 applications with 17 disbursements to 12 businesses. The total \$ amount is \$250,000, \$50,000 over budget for FY18. The rest came out of the economic development budget. Plans are in the works to prepare businesses for extra sales now that workers are emerging out of the hole. LEDC has been working with merchants on promotions to maximize those sales.

**Minutes Review:** with quorum having been reached, the May meeting minutes draft was reviewed. A motion was made and passed to approve those minutes with a minor change.

**Community Concerns:** Kristy Daphnis, Chair of the Pedestrian, Bicycle and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee, reported on a meeting between local and state officials and community representatives with SHA and MCDOT concerning issues related to incorporating bicycle and pedestrian safety into our area revitalization and also to improve communication between the SHA and MCDOT when it comes to area projects including the revitalization and the Veirs Mill Corridor Plan.

**What's Next For Wheaton:** William Jelen led a Powerpoint presentation on the ongoing process of developing community input into the agenda for our forum on the future of Wheaton to be held on July 18<sup>th</sup>. The process started with a survey of community stakeholders and then a Community Input meeting and on to the Decision Makers Forum. Areas of interest for the Forum include Administration and Accountability; Connectivity, Physical and Institutional; and Creating Civic Spaces in the Urban Center. Some attendees of the forum were identified, including Councilmember Nancy Navarro,

Honorary Host; David Petr, President and CEO Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation; Gwen Marcus Wight, Planning Director, Montgomery County Planning Department; James Agliata, VP of Development Westfield LLC. Discussion followed with members and guests.

**Business and Action Item Updates:**

Community Forum Logistics: Discussion centered around the location of the forum. Possible sites were Ana Mendez University or the Crossways Community Center. Ana Mendez was considered more centrally located and easier to find.

A final note was made for members to think about candidates for WUDAC officers for the next term.

**Adjourn:** 8:30pm