

## **Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee**

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

Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, June 11, 2019

**Members Present:** Chelsea Johnson, Vice Chair; Mariela Garcia-Colberg, Acting Secretary; Mirza Donegan, Jim Epstein, Leah Haygood, Omar Lazo

**Staff Present:** Luisa Montero-Diaz, Mid-County RSC Director; Kevin Jackson, Aide

**Guests:** John Meyers (Del. Al Carr), Robert Parker, Rob Fox, Margaret Rifkins, Kim Pershad, Pete Wilson, Dan Thompson (Wheaton Arts Parade), Janine Adrian

**Call To Order:** 6:30pm by Chair Johnson

**Review:** After a quorum was reached, a motion was made and passed to approve the Meeting Agenda without changes. Another motion was made and passed to approve the May Minutes without changes.

### **Community Concerns:**

1. Kimberly Persuad expressed concerns about the pedestrian barriers going up on Georgia Avenue. She does not feel these barriers are attractive or artistic. She does not feel that they will help Wheaton be the community we want.
  - a. Luisa suggested that this topic be included when Michael Paylor, Chief of Traffic Engineering, MCDOT comes back to present.
2. The vegetation between Reddie and metro is looking sad. Can something be done about it? Luisa will check with the Wheaton Urban District.
3. Dan Thompson suggested that WUDAC ask about the disrepair of the streets where gas lines have been replaced in Wheaton Hills.
4. Jim Epstein announced that the Wheaton North Consortium would be having an event Sat form 1-5 Beautification project.
5. Chelsea Johnson asked about where people go once the interim library closes. Luisa responded that people will have to use other near-by libraries (Aspen Hill, Silver Spring, Twinbrook, etc). until the new library opens at the end of this summer.

### **Reports:**

- **County Council:** None.
- **Chamber of Commerce:** Mirza Donegan, on behalf of the Wheaton & Kensington Chamber of Commerce, updated WUDAC on Chamber recruitment and upcoming events, including Jerome

Fletcher's presentation at the next Chamber meeting. There will be a chamber mixer with the Wheaton Arts Parade at the Wheaton Mall Gallery.

- **Mid-County RSC/Wheaton Urban District:** RSC Director Luisa Montero-Diaz reported to WUDAC on the 2020 Census Campaign launch: there is a Mid-County Complete Count Committee that Luisa will co-chair. At the June MCCAB Meeting, Andrew Kline, Chief Administrative Officer, will be presenting. There will be a meeting with WMATA, Westfield, Police, Wheaton Urban District and MCDOT to discuss security and safety. Maier Warner has been engaged by HOC to begin a community engagement process. They are doing pop ups in the parking lot.

#### **Wheaton Revitalization Project Update on Marian Fryer Town Plaza**

- a. Stonebridge Carras Presentation by Jane Mahaffie
  - Completion date continues to be May 31, 2020. They are not in charge of grand Opening Celebration
  - Reddie Street closure issue was also discussed
  - Stage - updates were done. Art has been moved to another better place so people can see stage. There will be free WIFI in TS. Also, blue security light.
  - The different vegetation and plants were discussed.
- b. Public Art Presentation by Norie Sato
  - The proposed design of the art structure was presented with design drawings. Two triangle stainless steel structures that you can walk into and through cast bronze objects that you can touch. Looking for ideas for objects.

#### **Old Business & Action Item Updates**

- **Wheaton Safety Audit Walk Debrief:** A description of Safety walk and its successes was given. The results will be presented at the June PBTSAC meeting.
- **Pop-up Event Update:** We need a conversation about how WUDAC does events: who pays, who does what. We will have it another time. For Sunday Funday: a discussion of who would be doing what. Green Plate, Beer, Volunteers are needed.

#### **New Business**

- **Recruitment for new members:** A new Chamber Small BUSINESS IS NEEDED. Ron Franks will no longer be Mid-County liaison. MCCAB selected Crystal Myers to be the WUDAC liaison.
- Committee of 2-3 people needed to interview candidates. Leah and Omar agreed to volunteer.

**Adjourn:** Meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.