

## **Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee**

Mid-County Regional Services Center, 2424 Reddie drive, Wheaton MD 20902

Meeting Minutes, Monday November 07, 2016

**Members Present:** Leah Haygood, Chair; Ali Oliver-Krueger, Vice Chair; William Moore, Derry Goberdhansingh, Dan Thompson, Megan Remo, Tami Axelrod, Devala Janardan, Mirza Donegan

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

**Guests:** Emily Brophy, Manager Westfield Wheaton; Bobby Kearse, UMB

**Call to Order:** 6:37pm by Chair Haygood, followed by member and guest introductions. A motion was made and passed to approve the October Meeting Minutes without changes

**Community Concerns:** Bobby Kearse stated he was sitting in on our meeting as part of his research on a project he is working on at UMB.

### **Reports:**

**A. Westfield Wheaton-**Emily Brophy, General Manager of Westfield Wheaton met with WUDAC. She started with background information on herself and then updated members on developments at Westfield. The AMC theater opened Oct. 11 and Bar Louie in July. They are trying to make the South Annex into a destination and are in talks with other companies on possibly locating there.

Discussion then turned to Mall security. Cameras are being installed and they are working with police on issues. They will be expanding outreach to various community groups. Members commented on various security concerns about Westfield Wheaton.

**B. Chamber of Commerce:** William Moore reported on a well-attended Chamber mixer at The George apartments highlighted by an informational talk on the proposed Wheaton Arts Parade by WUDAC member Dan Thompson. The Chamber will be working with Dan to get the word out. William noted an upcoming breakfast mixer concerning energy November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Hollywood East restaurant. He also mentioned a couple of recent successful fundraising events for MUM, sponsor of the Wheaton Food Bank.

**C. Wheaton Urban District:** Director Montero-Diaz updated WUDAC on progress of Redevelopment Project. They recently met with LEDC and partners about the Small Business Assistance Program that is helping affected businesses on the Triangle. They will be expanding the circle to include other nearby businesses. Construction is still scheduled to begin in mid-January. The Regional Center building will not be torn down right away because the construction company may use it for offices.

Nori Sato has a design ready for her public art project and will share with Park and Planning first and then there will be a Public review.

There is a mosaic ready to be installed on the Wheaton Clock Tower.

Luisa also updated WUDAC on County Council actions concerning commercial signage and stated she would check on the status of a proposed residential apartment building project on Lot 13.

**Business & Action Item Updates:**

**A. BRT/Veirs Mill Road Corridor:** Devala led a discussion of the BRT. He received and reviewed MCCAB's letter on the subject. Members viewed a handout summary of the plan and shared concerns, especially with a proposed end of line stop at Rt. 193 and the congestion between there and the bus bays.

Devala will draft a letter on our concerns to present at the next meeting.

**B. Wheaton Arts Parade:** No update at this time

**New Business:**

**A. Annual Retreat:** The Annual Retreat will be held on Saturday December 10, from 11am-2pm at the Westfield Wheaton North building

**B. Topics for next meeting:** The subcommittee meeting will be Nov. 28, 6-7pm.

Topics for next meeting include sign legislation, a draft letter from Dan Thompson and Evan Glass' video series to be incorporated into WUD digital campaign

**Adjourn:** 8:07pm