

**Approved on February 21, 2012**

## MINUTES

### MID-COUNTY CITIZEN'S ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

January 17, 2012

**Members present:** Gam Wijetunge, Richard Newman, Gregory Intoccia, Steve Morrison, Stefan Lawson, Ariel Winter, Brenita Young, Robert Shoenberg, Barbara Heuter, Theresa Bell, Eileen Cahill

**Members absent:** Kieran McHargue, Karla Fortunato

**Staff present:** Ana Lopez van Balen

**Call to order:** Chair Gam Wijetunge called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**Approval of minutes:** The minutes for December 2011 meeting were approved as read.

**Community concerns:** None

**Old Business:** There was a presentation about the measures used by CountyStat at the December meeting. Eileen Cahill provided more information about one of the EMS measures discussed during the presentation. This indicator tracks treatment time for patients who are suffering heart attacks. She spoke to the Fire Chief, who clarified that this measure tracks how long it takes EMS to get patients from their home to the hospital. Hospitals report a separate measure that tracks door-to-balloon time (how long it takes hospitals to perform angioplasty on heart attack patients after they arrive at the hospital) to the state.

**Director's Report:** Ana Lopez van Balen reported that the County Executive had introduced the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for 2013 to 2018 earlier that day. Most of the projects requested by MCCAB were included, including funds for Wheaton redevelopment, the Georgia/Randolph interchange project, renovations to the Wheaton Library and Olney Library, the Ross-Body Recreation Center, planning for bus rapid transit, and the Sandy Spring sidewalk project. The CIP included funds for Fire Station 18 but the Planning Board did not approve the plan. There will be a community meeting on January 18 to discuss a special exception request for Wal-Mart. There are concerns about aggressive towing in the Wheaton central business district. The County will hold a community meeting on the Glenmont Master Plan in February. Commander Demme has provided crime information requested by MCCAB members. A new logo for Wheaton is being developed.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Budget & Capital Improvement Committee:** There was no report from the committee.

**Transportation and Land Use Committee:** Rick Newman, Chair, reported on the Bus Rapid Transit proposal. It has a new name: Rapid Vehicle. The Committee received a presentation from County staff on this plan at their last meeting. The plan would require about \$2.5 billion, but this amount was not included in the CIP proposal [ask Rick to confirm this]. Rick said that this plan may be too grandiose. The Committee is also monitoring issues relating to Wal-Mart and the proposed legislation to require community benefits agreements.

At 7:30, the meeting adjourned to attend the Operating Budget Forum.

At 9:15, the meeting reconvened.

**Quality of Life Committee:** Ariel Winter, Chair, reported that the Committee drafted a letter relating to the Fire and Emergency Services Commission (FESC). The FESC has the authority to approve and disapprove certain Fire and Rescue Service policies and regulations. Legislation was introduced to repeal this authority. The draft letter states that the MCCAB does not support this legislation because the FESC serves a valuable role in ensuring public input and oversight over the County Fire and Rescue Service. The Committee moved that the MCCAB approve the letter and send it to the County Executive. The motion was discussed and approved by a vote of 7 to 2, with 2 abstentions. The Committee also discussed the Latino Youth Committee report.

During the Committee discussion, a motion was made to table the discussion and adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved and the meeting adjourned at 9:30.