

SSCAB Meeting Summary – February 8, 2016- DRAFT v04

Attendance

■	Bernice North-Chair	X	Matthew Losak- Nbrhd	X	Sara Sheppard - TREE
■	Edward Levy –Vice-Chair	X	Abdurahman Mohammed	■	Jessica Simon
■	Mark Mendez -Secretary	■	Daniel Morales - SSUD	■	Monica Thammarath
■	Jonathan Bernstein - TREE	■	DeAndre Morrow -CED	■	Mary Ann Zimmerman
X	Stacey Brown - CED	■	Sigurd Neubauer		
X	Phillip Dittner	■	Uri Pasternak		
■	Jay Elvove	■	Abe Saffer		

Present: ■ Absent: X

1. *Welcome and Introductions:* Chair Bernice North called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
2. *Acceptance of last meeting summary:* January 11, 2016 meeting minutes approved with three corrections requested by members. Mark Mendez will send corrected version for posting.
3. *Public Safety Report- Police:* Ian Clark 3rd District Police reported on activity of the past month within the larger Silver Spring area represented by the board
 - High percentage of arrests from good, proactive police work
 - Thefts from autos are a recurring problem. GPS, cell phones, laptops, loose change.
 - Watch for ‘Visible Valuable’ social media campaign in cooperation with Jane Redicker of the Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce.
4. *Public Safety Report- Fire and Rescue:* Sean Kerrigan noted all four fire stations in the jurisdiction experienced an increase in calls in 2015. County wide the increase was about 4%. Downtown Silver Spring stations saw a rise 6%-10%. ‘More people, more calls’ is the rule.
 - The department is looking for other ways to get the message out. They are eager to present at events like church outings or to civic associations
 - Board member Jay Elvove complimented the Ride Along program.
5. Conversation with County Council President, Nancy Floreen.
 - Encouraged Board to weigh in on budget talks. Sending emails is convening way to weigh in.
 - County looking at new economy topic of Airbnb, which is technically not legal in Montgomery County right now. Legislation coming up in March will allow and regulate the practice.
 - Watching for choice of Purple Line concessionaire
 - Governor’s budget is ‘OK’ for county- receiving 5% more than last year, with full funding for the GCEI - geographic cost of education index. Gov. Hogan declined to fund that supplement last year. County still needs more money from Annapolis for school construction.
 - On topic of locating schools, residents are ‘not supportive of reopening closed MCPS properties with a benign presence in their neighborhood’. Sector plans suggest options to handle school capacity.
 - Met recently with new MCPS superintendent, Dr. Jack Smith. The former superintendent of Calvert County Public Schools was Maryland's interim state superintendent before joining MCPS.
 - Most liquor restrictions are state imposed. Believes a task force will be formed to consider privatization of county liquor sales. But council does not want to lose the revenue from alcohol sales. How do they replace \$30-35M?

- County council often needs ‘to educate residents on planning process in sector plans’. Silver Spring deals with and debates these issues all the time. Westbard portion of Bethesda has not had a new plan in 30 years. The area is large.
 - Watkins Mill interchange improvement is not going to happen soon. State pulled funding to request a study of the broader area. The work is at least a year away.
 - Do not use Facebook or Twitter for contacting council members. Not part of the input collection process for staff.
 - Four Corners resident asked that Ms. Floreen and council delay Airbnb legislation to allow for adequate community input.
 - On disposition of properties like old Silver Spring library, council does have a role- either approving the sale or funding request for construction to replace
6. Board discussion on the current draft letter with budget recommendations for County Executive.
- Look for ways to group priorities that had common themes
 - Agreed to support economic development for all business with language that noted special needs or importance of small business
 - Agreed to request funding for types of programs rather than naming specific organizations
 - Requested more specific language around social programs-supporting existing county HHS
 - Current draft approved with these modifications. Next draft will be considered final.
7. *Councilmember(s) Updates:* Dave Asche (Hucker) reported:
- County meeting to discuss snow response has been rescheduled due to pending storm
 - Encouraged all to submit input for budget process
 - Happy with Spring Street Bike path-consider other streets to broaden bike safety
 - Vacant property bill moving forward
8. *Councilmember(s) Updates:* Debbie Spielberg (Elrich) reported:
- Tenant legislation coming to PHED. Marc has found that proper and regular code enforcement is a key quality of life factor for renters. Bill also extends advance notice of rent increases if new rate is above county guidelines
9. *Committee Reports:*
- CED – January meeting postponed due to blizzard. Speakers for rescheduled event (2/22) are even stronger to address youth employment issues and youth services.
 - TREE – Community discussion on BRT through Four-Corners. This gathering is a follow-up to November SSCAB meeting that addressed multiple transportation topics.
 - Neighborhoods –No report
10. *Board Chair’s Report:* Bernice North commented on topics for March meeting:
- March meeting will held at Longbranch Community Ctr.
 - Councilman Tom Hucker will be featured guest.
 - Bylaws will be discussed. DeAndre Morrow is reviewing current bylaws
 - April meeting to feature up to 15 non-profits in format similar to 2015 meeting.
11. *Director’s Report:* Reemberto Rodriguez
- Asked board to promote workshop series for area’s small business owners, merchants, and entrepreneurs- begins Friday 2/26.
12. *Adjourn:* 9:00