

SSCAB Meeting Summary – December 10, 2018- v03

Attendance

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|---|----------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| ■ | Matthew Losak–Chair | X | Mulegeta Habteselassie- CED | ■ | Katherine McKay |
| X | Edward Levy –Vice-Chair | ■ | Uri Pasternak | ■ | John Seelke |
| ■ | Mark Mendez -Secretary | ■ | Jay Elvove | ■ | Don Slater |
| ■ | Stacey Brown | ■ | Patricia Germann | X | Daniel Morales - SSUDAC |
| ■ | Lysette House Parliamentarian | X | Barbara Darko | | |
| ■ | Abdurahman Mohammed- Nbrhd | X | Delia Aguilar | | |
| ■ | Michelle Foster- TREE | ■ | Melanie Fonder Kaye | | |

Present: ■ Absent: X Resigned: R

1. *7:05 Welcome and Introductions:* Chair **Matt Losak** led self-introductions of attendees and welcomed new board members asking them to share a little about their background and interests.
2. *Acceptance of Last Meeting Minutes:* November minutes were approved.
3. *Public Safety/Fire & Rescue:* No public safety report this month.
4. *Neighborhood Spotlight:* **Michelle Foster** provided an overview on the Montgomery Hills section of Silver Spring, noting the surrounding area is represented by several civic associations. A major topic for Montgomery Hills has been State Highway Administration’s (SHA) Georgia Avenue Improvement Plan. SHA offered several options in 2011, with ‘5B’ being the locally preferred alternative. SHA has yet to select an option or move forward with project.
5. *Conversation with State Delegations from Districts 18 & 20:* The Advisory board welcomed state teams for their annual community discussion on priorities and plans for our area. Attending representatives included: **Lorig Charkoudian** (D20), **Al Carr** (D18), **Jeff Waldstreicher** (D18), **Jared Solomon** (D18), **Emily Shetty** (D18) and **Jheanelle Wilkins** (D20). Conversation included a variety of topics and updates for local residents.
 - Delegations meet with SHA on a quarterly basis at key intersections to see how cars and pedestrians interact in actual environments.
 - ‘*Vision Zero - Montgomery County MD*’ promotes the challenge of no traffic deaths by 2030. D17 in Rockville is already participating.
 - 2017 Zoning Legislation to allow breweries in select areas of Montgomery County had support of council but died at the state level. Watch for slow but continued progress in coming years.
 - Delegations predicted gun safety and minimum wage as hot topics in coming session.
 - Watch for ‘Don’t Block the Box’ proposal as a way to improve traffic flow.
 - Plans to work with MCDOT to improve coordination between bus, subway, and rail to allow for more efficient connections.

- Plans to create transparency of prescription drug prices and obligate pharmacists to offer alternatives.
- Plans to acquire a bigger piece of state funds for schools rather than pit schools against each other.
- Other priorities centered on mental health funding for schools, training for police to recognize some incidents as behavioral health-based rather than criminal, preparation for the 2020 Census and issues concerning renters.
- 2018's Kirwan Commission provided the first-ever comprehensive ratings of Maryland's schools. Attendees were advised to look up the star grade for schools, noting that while the 'grading system is imperfect; the underlying data is enlightening and surprisingly helpful on where to direct efforts'.
- To follow the work in Annapolis, visit www.montgomerycountydelegation.com

6. *Committee Meetings Report: a look back and ahead*

- **Neighborhoods** held a conversation with school principals in November. Areas of need continue to include adequate Mental Health counselling support, summer-school programs, internet access and adequate space for growing enrollments. January meeting will be held in Takoma Park and address tenants' issues.
- **TREE** held a community meeting on SHA's plans to widen 495 and 270. January meeting will look at status and plans for SHA's Georgia Avenue Improvement plan.
- **CED** did not meet in November. January plans are centered on workforce issues especially preparation for youth.

7. *Chair Report: Matt Losak* noted that there would be no committee meetings in December and encouraged all board members to attend an informal gathering at **Astro Lab Brewing** (8216 Georgia Ave, Silver Spring, MD 20910) at 6 pm on Friday, December 14. New Board members confirmed their committee selections: **Katherine McKay** and **John Seelke** will join Neighborhoods. **Michelle Foster**, **Melanie Fonder Kaye** and **Don Slater** will support TREE.

8. *Regional Director's Report: Reemberto Rodriguez* reminded committee meeting planners to send notes the following day so that he can assist with planning and promotion. He told members to watch for news on the upcoming January Budget Forum with new county executive Marc Elrich. He is also planning to send an online questionnaire that will ask members to note the community and organization meetings they attend in an effort to increase networking and coordination.

9. *Adjourn: 8:50 PM*

Upcoming meetings: No Committee meetings in December. The next full board meeting will be held on Monday, January 14, 2019, with the first committee meetings of 2019 scheduled for Monday, January 28.