

SSCAB Meeting Summary – November 14, 2016- **DRAFT v02**

Attendance

■	DeAndre Morrow –Chair, CED	■	Matthew Losak- Nbrhd		
X	Edward Levy –Vice-Chair	■	Abdurahman Mohammed		
■	Mark Mendez -Secretary	X	Daniel Morales - SSUDAC		
■	Jonathan Bernstein - TREE	X	Uri Pasternak		
■	Stacey Brown - CED	■	Mary Ann Zimmerman		
■	Jay Elvove	X	Abe Saffer- Parliamentary		
■	Jessica Simon				

Present: ■ Absent: X Resigned: R

1. *Welcome and Introductions:* Meeting began at 7:05 with Chair DeAndre Morrow leading self-introductions of attendees.
2. *Previous Meeting Summary* – Minutes approved for October 9 meeting
3. *Public Safety Report:* No police or fire representatives present at meeting.
4. *Dialogue with Regional Area Public School Principals:* Matt Losak , Chair of the Neighborhoods Committee reminded meeting that half of county’s budget goes to MCPS and the important role schools play in neighborhoods and families. Matt introduced the panel of principals:
 - Karen Bryant –Silver Spring International Middle School (SSIMS)
 - Alicia Deery – Takoma Park Middle School (TPMS)
 - Casey Crouse – Eastern Middle School (EMS)
 - Bob Geiger – New Hampshire Estates Elementary School (NHEES)
 - Jeff Kline – Oak View Elementary School (OES)

Challenges noted for Silver Spring students include: families are often ‘English language learners’ so language skills lacking in the home, poverty means minimal resources in the home, Families are often transitory, children face excessive stress on performance to succeed, limited mental health resources in schools.

Mr Kline explained that ‘students need to be emotionally available to learning’. MCPS schools have one counselor per grade level- usually one per 250 students – plus one person assigned as supervisor for counseling staff. A school psychologist is on site one day a week, but has many administrative responsibilities surrounding testing requirements.

Principals described the ‘beautifully diverse’ student demographics and FARM (free and reduced meals) rates at their schools. FARM is an indicator of income/poverty within school families. 26% FARM rate at TPMS. 90% at NHEES

‘Linkages to Learning’ program discussed. ‘Linkages’ is a partnership between MCPS and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to support student learning and families. CBOS like Community Bridges and YMCA provide targeted assistance in the form of meals, clothing and mental health services while MCPS provides space at schools. ‘Linkages to Learning’ has some full-time staff, but low salaries result in high turnover.

Chair DeAndre Morrow asked what the board could advocate for. Consensus was that more onsite mental health resources would be extremely helpful for students and families. Professional training opportunities for teachers are also appreciated to build/enhance new skills.

Principals noted there are always opportunities to volunteer. Volunteers do not need training, but need to commit to regular participation. The consistency builds relationships that provide social and emotional support for students.

5. *Councilmember Updates:* Debbie Spielberg of Marc Elrich's staff provided an update.
 - Renter Protection Legislation has been approved by the PHED Committee and was going to full council on 11/29.
 - Greater Lyttonsville Sector Plan will be addressed by PHED in work sessions scheduled for 11/21 and 11/28. Could go to full council on 12/6 – first day for Roger Berliner as Council President. Members rotate each year in that role.
6. *Regional Area Director's Report:* No report as Reemberto Rodriguez was at meeting related to Flower Branch fire.
7. *Board Chair's Report:* DeAndre Morrow reminded attendees that the Silver Spring Thanksgiving Day Parade on Nov 19 will serve as the board's joint committee event.
8. *New Business:* Matt Losak reminded attendees of the Montgomery Renter's Alliance 'Building Community' event on 12/8. Former Gov. Martin O'Malley to attend. Jonathan Bernstein promoted a new online, local news source "The Source of the Spring" - created by Mike Diegel.
9. *Adjourn:* 8:45