

SSCAB Meeting Summary – April 11, 2017- DRAFT v02

Attendance

■	DeAndre Morrow –Chair	■	Matthew Losak- Nbrhd	■	Mary Anderson
■	Edward Levy –Vice-Chair	■	Abdurahman Mohammed	X	Mulegeta Habteselassie
■	Mark Mendez -Secretary	X	Daniel Morales - SSUDAC	■	Donald Coffey
X	Jonathan Bernstein - TREE	X	Uri Pasternak	■	Raynold Mendizabal
■	Stacey Brown - CED	■	Mary Ann Zimmerman		
■	Jay Elvove	■	Abe Saffer- Parliamentarian		
X	Jessica Simon	X	Vineda Myers		

Present: ■ Absent: X Resigned: R

1. *Welcome and Introductions:* Meeting began at 7:06 with Chair DeAndre Morrow leading self-introductions of attendees. Food provided by board member Raynold Mendizabal, chef and owner of Urban Butcher.
2. *Previous Meeting Summary* – Minutes approved for February 13 meeting. March meeting was cancelled due to weather.
3. *Public Safety Report:* Lt. Jennifer McNeil noted that theft from vehicles was the number one crime in Silver Spring and throughout Montgomery County.
4. *Dialogue with At-Large Council Member Nancy Floreen:* Nancy has been an at-large member of the county council for fifteen years and serves on the Planning, Housing, and Economic Development (PHED) Committee. Nancy served on the SSCAB in 1983. She provided an update a variety of topics:
 - This year “budget will be OK, but not exciting”.
 - Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) will run on the shoulder, which saves cost of acquiring right of way, rather than the gold standard of dedicated lanes. BRT may be seen as “fancy or extended bus service”.
 - Purple Line- Judge Leon’s decision delayed \$900M in Federal funding. PL “won’t happen soon, but hopefully in our lifetime”.
 - County Council has unusually broad powers to modify the budget, can raise taxes, etc.
 - County executive and the council are quite cautious and conservative with budgets and decisions on spending.
 - Governor Hogan has not attended when invited to events in Montgomery County.
5. *Officer Joy Patil, Community Services Officer, Montgomery County Police, 3rd. District:* Reported on Nextdoor.com, a residential list serve app the police are using to communicate with residents and facilitate virtual neighborhood watch.
 - Police can see info on a neighborhood’s crime/safety module and post there as well.
 - System does not reach businesses. Police looking into how to reach that community.
6. *Richard Bingham, Chief of Operations for Urban District:* supervises services to the Central Business District to ensure that downtown Silver Spring is maintained as a clean, safe and attractive environment. Notes that the 32 Red Shirts are ‘the eyes and ears of Downtown Silver Spring’.
 - Covers 391 acres and responsible for maintenance of all curbs, trees, crosswalks and turf.
 - Recycled 3 tons of material in 2014
 - Facing challenges with the impact of the newly located Progress Place.

7. *Eric Rasch- Operations manager of the Silver Spring Civic Building at Veteran's Plaza:* reported on the center's growth and policies.
 - Number of events has increased every year since opening in 2010.
 - Building has five partners including a gallery and Round House theater offices
 - Organizations that apply to and are approved by the Community Access Program (CAP) qualify for dramatically reduced rental fees.
 - Hopes to upgrade AV in the future with ceiling-mount projectors and latest flat screens, but low cost is their competitive advantage so it's important to limit expenditures.

8. *Committee Reports:*
 - CED- March meeting featured Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC). April meeting to feature Visit Montgomery, tourism arm for the county.
 - TREE – Met in light of fatality of pedestrian crossing Rt 29, and promoted 'Vision Zero' safety initiative. Noted that engineering adjustments will be made in and around Transit Center.
 - Neighborhoods – Marc Elrich led discussion at a well-attended March meeting on Bill 1915. April meeting will host Prezco or attend Parks and Planning meeting on 4/24 that offers an overview of development in the area

9. *Board Chair Report-* DeAndre Morrow thanked the committee chairs noting that March meetings were among the best attended meetings he has seen. Chair reported that county council president Roger Berliner will be featured guest at May board meeting

10. *Regional Director's Report:* Reemberto Rodriguez reminded attendees of the April 24 Parks and Planning meeting offering an overview of development in the Silver Spring area. Noted the passing of longtime resident, Art Miller who owned and operated the Copy Connection on Georgia Avenue with his wife, Anne.

11. *New Business:* No New business

12. *Adjourn:* 8:45