

SSUDAC Meeting Summary
April 16th, 2015

Members Present:

Members Absent:

Call to Order and Introductions:

- Mr. Don Hague, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.
- The committee unanimously voted to approve the March 2015 meeting minutes for the record.

Reports:

Police Briefing & Crime Report

Lt. Jennifer McNeal, Montgomery County Police 3rd Precinct

- Lt. McNeal reported that four suspects were apprehended in the parking garage located at 8700 Cameron St. They were charged with drug and weapon possession.
- There have been three attempted thefts from vehicles in the last month.
- An assault and robbery took place on April 13th at Juniper St.
- All Montgomery County police stations will be holding a prescription medication take back event on May 2nd, 2015.
- The latest graduating police academy class will include six new recruits for Silver Spring.

Dialogue with Melinda Peters

Melinda Peters, Administrator, State Highway Administration

- Ms. Peters and her staff gave an overview of State Highway work in the downtown Silver Spring area.
- Mr. Christopher Bishop, SHA Community Liaison, provided status updates on a range of SHA projects including:
 - ADA Ramps in Downtown Silver Spring - sidewalk and ramp work has been completed, with resurfacing work completed in the fall of 2014.
 - Colesville & East-West Highway - This area will see a major resurfacing, signage improvements and installation of pedestrian crosswalks. This project will begin in late spring.

- 16th St. Circle - There are no plans for work to begin in this area at this time.
- Montgomery Hills (Forest Glen to 16th St.) - A planning study to examine congestion issues and pedestrian safety is 55% complete.
- Georgia Ave. & 16th St. Intersection - Dead tree removal in this area was halted in the winter, and should resume in late spring. Next steps for this area include managing the homeless encampment and replanting of trees.

Dialogue with Parker Hamilton RE: Silver Spring Library

Parker Hamilton, Director, MCG Dep't of Libraries

- Ms. Hamilton and her staff gave an overview of the new Silver Spring library's features and its proposed opening timeline.
- The new library is scheduled to open in June of 2015.
- The nonprofit organization Friends of the Library raised over \$200,000 to support the new library.
- The new library will feature a to-be-determined nonprofit organization on the first floor, along with a branch of the Kefa Café coffee shop.
- The library will feature a diverse range of various community, educational and technological services. These include an accessibility center, free to the public meeting spaces, specialized children's programming and early literacy programming.

Silver Spring Urban District Report

Richard Bingham, Chief of Operations, Silver Spring Urban District

- Mr. Bingham discussed recent events in the community and within the Urban District organization.
- The Tennant Outdoor Road Show took place on March 27th, 2015, and provided a wide range of demonstrations of various street-sweeping machines.
- The Urban District's Red Shirt staff attended a number of trainings provided at the Urban District offices, including CPR & First Aid, Diversity & Cultural training and a presentation on career development from Montgomery College.
- Mr. Bingham arranged a meeting with the Department of Highway Services to broaden staff skills and share contact information.

Regional Area Director's Report

Reemberto Rodriguez, Director, Silver Spring Regional Center

- The Urban District and Regional Services Center recently launched an updated version of www.silverspringdowntown.com with a new design and event submission functionality.
- The Regional Area's page on the Montgomery County Government website now also features listings of community events and helpful contact numbers.
- Upcoming events for the downtown area include the annual launch of the Fenton St. farmer's market and the Taste the World in Fenton Village event.
- Mr. Rodriguez reminded the committee to transmit their letter regarding the Urban District budget to the County Executive & County Council.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.