

SSUDAC Meeting Summary
October 19th, 2017

Members Present: Mussie Betre, Diana Brown, Brian Abramson, Jay Elvove, Mel Tull

Members Absent: Amy Poisson, Carmen Camacho, Juanita Stewart, David Fogel

Call to Order and Introductions:

- The meeting was called to order at 3:42 p.m.
- The committee voted unanimously to appoint Diana Brown as committee chair and Mussie Betre as vice chair.

Police Briefing & Crime Report

Lt. Sheelor, Montgomery County Police, Third District

- Lt. Sheelor gave updated crime statistics for the previous month in the Urban District.
- Thefts from vehicles remain an issue in the downtown area garages, and the police are continuing their promotional campaign to inform drivers to move valuables in their car to their trunk or carry them on their person.
- Lt. Sheelor also discussed the opioid epidemic within the County and the surge in carfentanil, a dangerous fentanyl analogue.

HerbaFi Wellness Dispensary Update

Terry Saad, HerbaFi Wellness

- Mr. Saad gave a thorough overview of HerbaFi's business structure, staffing, location and expected timeline for opening the medical marijuana dispensary.
- HerbaFi has 6 full staff members including a doctor, and are looking to hire additional wellness advisors. All staff members will start at a \$15/hour minimum wage.
- The dispensary will have multiple forms of security, including a guard, panic buttons and video surveillance.
- Retail sales are expected to begin in December or January. Only a small number of growers have been approved at this time.

ZTA - Small Antenna Telecommunications Tower

Mitsuko R. Herrera, ultraMontgomery Program Director

- Ms. Herrera discussed the proposed zoning text amendment for small antenna telecommunications towers to be installed in various spots throughout the county.
- The FCC has stalled on completing an updated study on the health effects of radio frequency transmissions. This limits the County's ability to curtail the installation of antennas in residential areas, as they are federally required to only follow the FCC's guidelines when allowing cell services providers to install towers.
- A community meeting and public hearing regarding the towers took place on October 23rd and was televised.
- Members of the Advisory Committee requested Urban District involvement in the implementation and maintenance of any towers installed within UD boundaries.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.