

Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Committee
Meeting Summary
June 21, 2012

Call to Order and Introductions:

A monthly meeting of the Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Committee was held on June 21, 2012. The meeting convened at 3:50 p.m., Chairperson Julie Statland presiding.

Members Present:

Ernest Bland, Carmen Camacho, Jessica Evans, Don Hague, Jon Lourie, Julie Statland, Melvin Tull

Members Not in Attendance:

Tiffany Graham-Golden, Yuri Van Mierlo, Kay Weston

Motion:

Motion was made by Julie Statland and seconded by Melvin Tull to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2012 meeting. Motion carried by the majority of members present.

Motion:

Motion was made by Carman Camacho to nominate Mr. Ernest Bland as the new SSUDAC Chair. Motion passed, all in favor. Mr. Bland nominated Mr. Melvin Tull as the new Vice Chair, motion passed, all in favor.

Reports:

Lt. Robert Carter, Deputy Commander, MCPD 3rd District
Police Report:

- Lt. Carter reported that all officers have completed training. The police department is short five to eight officer's district wide. By next year there should be an increase of six to eight officers in Silver Spring.
- Lt. Carter reported that overall crime is down in the area.
- The loitering problem around the Galaxy Complex has been resolved. There have been no calls reporting a problem since March.
- The Safe City Program is going well. Lt. Carter is trying to get more businesses in downtown Silver Spring involved in this program.

Rogers D. Stanley, Senior Planning Specialist
Dept. Of Housing & Community Affairs:

- Mr. Stanley provided a brief overview of the Fenton Village Pedestrian Linkages Project. The DHCA project extends along the east side of Georgia Ave. from Selim Rd. to Wayne Ave. It includes installing new brick pavers and other streetscape elements including new bike racks, modifying sidewalk grades to meet American Disability (ADA) requirements and replacing many of the trees. The canopy of the new trees will not block store signage, although at some point, perhaps in 7 to 8 years they may block some signage.
- The project which has gone thru several review stages is a four phase project. Construction of phases III and IV will begin around July 25, 2012 starting at Selim Rd. The time frame for completion of this project will be from 6 to 8 months.

The Advisory committee has concerns over the curb drop off and suggested DHCA elevate part of the curb for safety reasons. The committee also advise that the DHCA oversee the work as it is being done. Carmen Camacho suggested that the committee write a letter in regards to the need for Mr. Stanley to be on site.

Mr. Bruce Goldensohn
CERB Review Board:

- Montgomery County is planning to cut some of the County's advisory groups due to budget issues. At present, the County spends \$1.4 million to manage these groups, and the County is required by law to review these groups annually. Although some advisory groups are mandated by law, the County is trying to avoid duplication of services.
- Mr. Goldensohn does not feel that the Silver Spring UD Advisory Committee will be affected.

Mr. Bland stated that without the SSUD Advisory Committee, which reports to the County Executive, the county would not be aware of the issues within the downtown Silver Spring area. He felt that it is costing him money and time to volunteer and does not cost the County anything.

Yvette Freeman, Chief of Operations, SSUD
Urban District Report:

- Ms. Freeman has a community meeting scheduled with SHA on June 28, 2012 to discuss issues with the ADA ramps in downtown Silver Spring.
- Ms. Freeman is in the process of placing an order for the recycling receptacles.

- Ms. Freeman reported that the new Red Shirts are doing well and that the SSUD is up-staffing on the weekends and for special events.

Reemberto Rodriguez, Director, SSRC
Regional Center Report:

- Mr. Rodriguez reported that Silver Spring Docs 10th anniversary is now taking place.
- State Highway's installation of the parking signage system should be completed within the next 18 months. This signage system will provide clear directions to drivers coming into downtown Silver Spring from all directions to the appropriate garages for the different major venues in the area.
- There is an effort underway whereby local faith based community groups are looking at working together to address the homeless issue. It was suggested that there be a forum with the organizations and the homeless to enhance understanding for addressing these issues.
- SHA will be reconstructing Georgia Ave. in Montgomery Hills from 16th street to the Beltway.
- There will be 21 Purple Line stations, nine will be in the greater Silver Spring area and two will be in the Silver Spring Urban District.
- The Silver Spring Weekender Program was recognized by the National Association of Counties (NACo).

The SSUDAC will plan to have their annual retreat in 3 to 4 weeks.

Mr. Melvin Tull made a motion for the meeting to be adjourned, which was seconded by Mr. Ernest Bland.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

SIGN-IN SHEET - PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

SILVER SPRING URBAN DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Date/Time:

June 21, 2012

3:30 p.m.

Please note that by signing this sheet, your name will become public information, recorded in the minutes of (today's/tonight's) Silver Spring Citizens Advisory meeting, which may be photocopied and disseminated to various groups, and may appear on the internet and become retrievable by internet search engines.

Name	E-Mail	Affiliation/ Association	Check here if you do not Want your email shared with other participants
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Yvette Freeman		SSUD	
BOB CARMEN		MCP	
Don HAGUE		Urban Dist	
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