



UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Summary March 19, 2018

The meeting was called to order by 2nd Vice-Chairperson Kraig Walsleben and introductions were done.

The meeting summaries from February 26, 2018 was approved by unanimous vote. (moved by K. Linck; seconded by D. Barnes) (On January 29, the Board hosted the Executive's Annual Operating Budget Forum – the full board meeting was not held that month.)

Update from the County Council – Council staff Dale Tibbitts (Councilmember Elrich) and Warren Hansen (Councilmember Berliner) updated the board on Council activities.

Update from the Regional Director – Regional Director Catherine Matthews reported that the Board's letter of Upcounty budget priorities for the operating budget had been sent to the County Executive. Those priorities will be shared with the Council at the public hearing. Ms. Matthews also reminded the board of Executive Leggett's upcoming live chat, his recommended operating budget for FY19 that was released on March 15, the board's guests scheduled for their April 23rd meeting, and the county's Renters Tax Credit program. She also informed them of the new appointment of former Mid-County Regional Director Ana van Balen as the District of Columbia's new Housing Preservation Officer.

Discussion – County Councilmember Nancy Floreen discussed her perspective on the county's future and certain legislation that will help the community and county move forward.

Police Report – Commander Anderson (1st District), Commander Plazinski (5th District), Commander Patil (6th District), and Lt. Amy Daum (5th District) provided an overview of police activities in the Upcounty region. The underlying message was that crime statistics were down from previous periods, however there is still a community perception that there hasn't been any change. They all discussed their efforts to make sure the community has accurate information.

Chair's Report – Mr. Walsleben asked the board for ideas for future meetings or tours. Suggestions included the Dickerson Facilities, the offices of Emergency management and Homeland Security, MCPS' Food Distribution Facility, and the MCPS' new Bus Depot.

With continuing concerns about the traffic congestion on I-270, Mr. Linck offered a motion for the board to send a letter to the County Executive and County Council encouraging them to do whatever is necessary to "fix I-270." Mr. Mark Firley seconded the motion. It was passed unanimously.

Committee/ Liaison Reports – Mr. Ian Weston announced that the Land Use Committee would discuss MCPS' school construction planning at their April meeting. Mr. Andrew Dibonge announced that the Quality of Life Committee will discuss school safety and security at their April meeting. Mr. Cheng Tu reported that the Shady Grove Implementation Advisory Committee was meeting soon and there has not been any new development or issues to report. That committee will meet every six months. Mr. Kevin Linck reported that the Pepco Community Advisory Group had not met in a long time and there is no new update. Mr. Kraig Walsleben reported that the Dickerson Facilities Implementation Group met quarterly and the group is still concerned about the facility's fire that occurred last year. Ms. Darlene Kerr reported that the Permitting Services Advisory Committee met quarterly and that Mr. Edmunds will take her place as this board's representative.

Community Concerns/Comments – Ms. Rosemary Arkoian encouraged everyone to vote in the primary and that election judges were needed.

The meeting was adjourned. (Firley moved; Kerr seconded)

Board Attendance: Dennis Barnes, Andrew DiBonge, Hassan Dixon, Mark Firley, Darlene Kerr, Kevin Linck, Florence Messi, David Rosenbaum, Cheng Tu, Kraig Walsleben, Ian Weston.

Visitors: (see sign in sheet).

Staff: Catherine Matthews, Linda Cooper