



## UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

**Meeting Summary  
September 19, 2016  
12900 Middlebrook Road**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Arthur Edmunds and introductions were done.

The meeting summary from July 18, 2016 was approved. (motion by M. Firley; seconded by T. Printz-Platnick).

**Update from the County Council-** Councilmember Hucker's Chief of Staff, Dave Kunes, explained two bills that will be introduced by Councilmember Hucker: Bill #38-16 Housing and Building Maintenance Standards - Foreclosed Property Registration Penalty; and Bill #39-16 Housing and Building Maintenance Standards - Registration of Vacant Property. Both are intended to improve the quality of life in communities. Deputy Chief of Staff to Councilmember Rice, Sharon St. Pierre, updated the board of other Council activities.

**Update from Upcounty Regional Director** – Regional Director Catherine Matthews briefed the board on the reason for the 911 outage on July 10. There was a problem with A/C system unit that caused the 911 system to go down as well. Ms. Matthews informed the board that the Fix270Now Coalition (Fix270Now.org) kicked off efforts this morning at press conference. The bi-county Coalition (Montgomery and Frederick) will focus on getting State funding to address traffic congestion on I-270. (see website [www.fix270now.org](http://www.fix270now.org), and handout)

### **Discussion: The Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation (MCEDC)**

*Guests:* Bob Buchanan, Chairman of the Board, MCEDC, and David Petr, President/CEO, MCEDC

Mr. Petr discussed his new role as President of the MCEDC and mentioned that new office space for MCEDC is in Wheaton. They are in the process of choosing new personnel to make up their team. He comes to Montgomery County from Florida with a background in marketing. More at <https://choosemontgomerycountymd.com>

**Chair's Report** – Mr. Edmunds announced that interviews for new board members were completed and comments forwarded to the County Executive's office. The Executive Committee has discussed topics for upcoming meetings with comments from the July retreat in mind.

**Committee / Liaison Reports** – Land Use Committee Chair Kraig Walsleben announced that plans for upcoming committee meetings include a briefing from the new Fix270Now Coalition and updates on state and county roads. Quality of Life Committee Chair Linda Moore announced that her committee will follow up on the economic development theme set in September with meetings on branding the county with specific focus on the Upcounty area, and how education will reflect the needs of the county's economic development initiatives. Board member Pat Seals announced that the Comprehensive Economic Strategy Community Advisory Group has completed their work and issued a draft report for the County Executive's review <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/ep/comprehensiveES.html>. Staff will provide the Executive Committee with a status report on the current list of groups that the board has a liaison assigned to.

### **Community Concerns/Comments**

The meeting was adjourned (motion by M. Firley and seconded by I. Weston).

*Board Attendance:* Dennis Barnes, Arthur Edmunds, Mark Firley, Scott Graham, Darlene Kerr, Kevin Linck, Linda Moore, Robert Nelson, Tobi Printz-Platnick, David Rosenbaum, Pat Seals, Kraig Walsleben, Ian Weston, Joel Yesley.

*Additional Guests:* Rosemary Arkoian, Janice Freeman, Yvette Freeman, Suzie Malagary, Rev. Mansfield Kaseman, Warren Hansen, Sharon St. Pierre, Brian Jones (Councilmember Katz), Joyce Furhmann, David Humpton, Dennis Kamber, Stephanie Lewis.

*Staff:* Catherine Matthews, Chyna Gerald and Chiffon Smith

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