



DPS | Montgomery County
Department of Permitting Services

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DPS Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 10, 2024

4:30 p.m. (Virtual) Microsoft Teams

DPSAC Members

Chair Dean Packard; Vice Chair Neil Blanc; Karem Carpio; Rexie Fernando; Arquilla Ridgell; Mark Rittenberg; Sharon Wilder; and Debra Wylie.

DPS Staff

Director Rabbiah Sabbakhan; Deputy Director Ehsan Motazedji; Land Development Division Chief Linda Kobylski; Customer Support & Outreach Division Chief Gail Lucas; and Senior Executive Administrative Aide Leah Ortiz.

Committee Evaluation Review Board (CERB) Member

Anthony Bak Buccitelli

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 p.m.

Approved draft minutes from the July 18 meeting.

CERB Questionnaire: The Chair discussed with the committee members how to best organize its responses to the CERB questionnaire. Members will receive a copy of the questionnaire, prepare individual responses, and discuss at a follow-up meeting scheduled for October 24, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

Recipe for Success Restaurant Permitting Guidance Document: Members are asked to review the draft document and provide feedback to the department by October 14, 2024. During the meeting, committee members noted that the link to restaurant permitting on the DPS website is not optimal, timeline delays, and having more than one inspector after a permit is issued are problematic for small restaurants.

Housing Metrics: The committee discussed the Office of Legislative Oversight report on housing units authorized for construction by permit and the inconsistencies between Montgomery County's data and the Census Bureau's data. DPS acknowledged its error and reminded the members that the data is now accurate with the Census, and the Council has been updated. The Council asked DPS to count permit data going back to 2018 manually.

Attainable Housing is gaining momentum in the county. DPS is in talks with Park & Planning on conversions of duplexes, triplexes and quads and looks forward to being a team player.

2021 Code Update: The 2021 ICC International Building Code and Fire Code Regulations were posted on the Montgomery County Register until September 30, 2024. DPS received comments from MBIA concerning energy and sprinkler amendments. The next step in the code adoption process is a public

hearing scheduled for November 26, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. The hearing details are on the county Register and the DPS website.

ePlans Update: Land Development is 100% online; there will be an announcement in the DPS newsletter, Constructive Comments.

Meeting adjourned at 5:39 p.m.

Next meeting will be held on November 21, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.