Meeting Minutes – Meeting Five
FINAL AS AMENDED
October 16, 2024

Executive Office Building, 101 Monroe Street – 9th Floor
Rockville, Maryland

And by virtually by Microsoft Teams

Members Present:

Clint Sobratti	Mary Ann Keeffe	Catherine Sindos
Jake Didinsky	Deeptaanshu Kumar	Jeffrey Slavin
Zanethia Eubanks	Sofya Orlosky	
Muriel Hairston-Cooper	Karl Pitt	

Members Absent
Anthont Buccitelli
Justin Carlson
Rodrigo Figueroa

County Staff Present:
Ken Hartman-Espada, Asst. Chief
Administrative Officer
Beth Gochrach, Office of the
County Executive

Guests
Natori Green
Richard Hoye

1. **Call to Order**
   Ken Hartman-Espada called the meeting to order at approximately 7:08 PM.

2. **Approval of Minutes**
   The minutes of the September 25, 2024, minutes were unanimously approved.

3. **Housekeeping**
   Members were reminded to complete the three required training and the risk management forms.

4. **BCCS for CERB Members to Visit**
   Ken Hartman-Espada mentioned that there were still seven boards, committees, and commission (BCCs) for which no members had signed up to visit. The following members then volunteered: Jake Didinsky - Committee Against Hate/Violence, the Commission on People with Disabilities and Commission on Veterans Affairs; Deeptaanshu Kumar - Criminal Justice Coordinating Commission; Karl Pitt - Commission on Aging and Commission on Child Care. The Taxicab Services Commission was left unassigned.

5. **BCC CERB Member Visit Summaries**
   Members provided updates and feedback about their visits to BCCs to date.

   Sofya Orlosky attended the Airpark Community Advisory Committee. The meeting was held in a hybrid format online and in person; she attended online. The meeting was well done. The community was engaged, and evidence-based data was presented about issues, particularly complaints about noise around the airpark.

   Deeptaanshu Kumar attended the Commission on Juvenile Justice. It was difficult to find meeting information and minutes because there were three websites, one old, one current and a third "hidden" page with the minutes making things disconnected. The co-chair led the meeting. There were two guest speakers, one of whom was from MCPS. The meeting moved along efficiently but there was only 10-15 minutes left for new business. There was a joint meeting with another advisory board. The public was given a chance to speak before the end of the meeting.

Jake Didinsky attended the Rustic Roads Advisory Committee virtually. Three friends attended. Two were able to connect, and one was not able to immediately connect via mobile device. The meeting was straightforward. Meeting preparation materials were provided by the staff liaison, including reports and terms of art. Jake found the meeting educational and learned a lot about Rustic Roads. All members participated. Minutes were reviewed and approved. It was one of the most well-run Montgomery County government meetings that Jake has attended.

Capt. Eubanks attended two meetings. The first was the Agricultural Advisory Committee meeting. She had to ask for materials, and then they were provided. A guest presented for 1 hour and 35 minutes. The meeting didn't follow the agenda. Someone at the meeting said they could do a better job. There was not much diversity on the Committee. There were multi-generational attendees. The minutes matched the agenda and content. Capt. Eubanks also attended meeting of the Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee.

Karl Pitt attended the Pedestrian, Bicycle and Traffic Safety Advisory Committee (PBTSAC) virtually. It was more like a focus group rather than a board meeting. Bicyclists are overrepresented on the Committee, and there are many vacant positions. There were no regional representatives. Police Dept. and Montgomery County Public School representatives were not present at the meeting. There were a number Dept. of Transportation staff present. He couldn't tell who the chair was. There were problems with the website, and the handbook is wrong regarding the selection of the chair. The County Executive is supposed to select the chair rather than the members electing the chair. It isn't clear whether the Committee has a role advocating for bicycles. The Committee followed the spirit but not the rules of Roberts Rules of Order.

There was discussion about history of the PBTSAC and about how government representatives are selected.

AMENDMENT as approved by the CERB at the 11/20/2024 meeting: Muriel Hairston-Cooper attended the County-wide Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and East County Citizens Advisory Board and reported on her visits to those groups at the October 16, 2024 meeting.

6. **Other Business and Discussion**
It was noted that minutes may not be public for months, so may be difficult to assess whether the agenda actually matched what was addressed in the meeting.

Sofya Orlosky discussed the upcoming workplan, and asked Beth Gochrach for guidance on how the previous CERB compiled information for their reports.

Jake Didinsky suggested that CERB draft a roadmap for the next three months.

The interim report should inform the County Executive and Council about the where the CERB is going.

Mary Anne Keefe asked what will happen if a BCC is found lacking. Should they get a second chance? Another visit? Karl Pitt suggested looking at the totality of data. The BCC's responses to questions should be matched with CERB member evaluations. The CERB should look at the BCC charter.

Action: There was discussion about the evaluation questions #4 and #9 and it was decided that they were redundant and one could be deleted.

7. **Public comment**: Richard Hoye, Montgomery County resident and former Fire and Rescue Commission member introduced himself and discussed the standards of review for BCCs and looking at the legislative history of each BCC.

8. **Next Meeting/Future Meeting Schedule**
The next meeting was scheduled for November 20, 2024, to be held virtually by Teams only.

9. **Adjournment**
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Gochrach