



Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB) Meeting Summary

Mid-County Regional Services Center, 2424 Reddie Drive, Wheaton, MD

Call to Order:	Greg Intoccia, Chair			Respectfully Submitted by: Oriole Saah, Secretary		
Date/ Time:	November 17, 2015; 7:00 PM ET					
Attendees:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Adjogah, Mensah	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mansori, Hasan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rowden, David
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bonilla, Luis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Neuringer, Jason	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Saah, Oriole (Secretary)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Intoccia, Gregory (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Newman, Rick	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shoenberg, Robert (Parliamentarian)
		Lahr, Patrick (Vice Chair)		Owusukoko, Kimberly		St. Gerard, Henriot
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lynch, Maisie		Romero, Francisco	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tankersley, Judy
Staff:	Luisa Montero, Director, Mid-County Regional Services Center					
Guests:	Cpt. Laura Lanham, Captain, MCPD District 4 Jim Smith, Chair, Olney Town Center Advisory Committee Dominic Quattrocchi, AICP, Department of Parks, Montgomery County Roger Manno, State Senator Rebecca Peele, Office of Al Carr, State Delegate					

APPROVED

Call to Order and Introductory Remarks: 7:00PM by Greg Intoccia

Introductions, Acceptance of Agenda and Minutes

Motion to accept agenda as amended was approved.

Motion to acceptance minutes as amended was approved.

Community Concerns: none raised

Old Business:

Sharing email:

- Chair confirmed permission to share email with all members so the contact information will be shared to all members
- Members should use email contact with discretion
- Email should be used for meeting preparation and not to make decisions or do Board business

Meeting in other venues– brief discussion of places where we’ve been and why we’ve traveled to other locations (a particular group with a particular issue to share drew us to their location). Members are encouraged to share ideas/opportunities to meet with the community



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Retreat— Board was receptive to potentially have a retreat sometime after the New Year, so Greg is looking into possible venues for having the retreat, tentatively on Thursday evening January 7 (in lieu of having January subcommittee meetings).

Guest Speaker – Cpt. Laura Lanham, 4th District with Officer Mark Yamada:

Police/Safety update – demonstrated the “parrot” style camera that sits on his shoulder. Used a Bluetooth app on his phone so we could see what the camera sees and would be recording. Cpt. Lanham pointed out that the highest cost involved with the pilot is data storage.

- Question: battery life:
 - Answer: lasts for the duration of his 12 hour shifts
- Question: Is the application availed to the public? Could someone else see as the camera is recording?
 - Answer: Application is Bluetooth and should not be available to other devices.
- Question: Can officers review the video?
 - Answer: Yes. It is used for training and for report writing. The video downloads while the devices are on chargers.
- Question: Who has access to the downloaded video?
 - Answer: an officer can only access their own videos. Officers cannot delete videos. Data administrators can access video and others have the responsibility of reviewing. All access to videos is logged.
- Question: How long is video kept?
 - Answer: There is a check list for deleting video. If there is no evidentiary value and no pending court activity, video will be deleted within 30 days. If there is possible evidentiary value, video will be kept for 120 days. If there is pending court action, it will be held until the court case is resolved. Stressed again that the highest cost of the program is that of data storage. The details of this checklist may be modified by lessons learned from the Pilot or by state law developed in Annapolis.
- Currently 84 cameras “on the road” – 25 with executive officers, 59 with Union members ... only one person likes the “parrot” style camera. The chest-worn wireless box style is more popular.
- Question: how long will the pilot continue?
 - Answer: Planning for implementation in July 2016 but it depends on laws passed in Annapolis.
- What is the capacity of the camera?



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- Answer: officers not sure but say it is quite a bit. Each officer gets two devices so one can be charged and downloaded while the other is in use.
- Question: Can a citizen refuse to be recorded?
 - Answer: Officers must obtain the consent of victims of sexual assault before recording. In other cases, it is at the discretion of the officer. If a citizen makes a request the officer must weigh the details of the situation. If the video is turned off the officer will be required to justify the decision.
- Question: Given recent events in Paris, how are Montgomery County police working with other agencies and jurisdictions to prevent an attack?
 - Answer: Cpt. Lanham referred to a unit called Vice & Intelligence Unit at the Maryland level. Police are always engaged and preparing, always sharing information with other agencies – between counties, between states. Attentive to higher attendance vents & places, as well as mass transit, big gatherings, and church events.
- Question: Takoma Park Police give detailed alerts. Is this something Montgomery County might start doing?
 - Answer: Cpt. Lanham recommended following the police on Facebook and Twitter.

Guest Speaker – Jim Smith, Chair, Olney Town Center Advisory Committee:

Group serves in an Advisory role to the Montgomery Planning Board. It resulted from a need for a town center in Olney. Purposes:

- Develop conceptual illustration of a town center
- Go before the Planning Board when development is proposed
- Develop a concept plan for a civic center/town commons

Possible options:

- Private/public partnership
- Land swap
- Public land procurement
- Note: land needs to be at least five acres or there isn't enough space for a significant public use

Olney Town Center Advisory Committee is requesting that MCCAB request that the County Executive include a feasibility study of an Olney Town Center in the next CIP.

Q&A

- Question: How many owners/tracts are included in Olney?
 - Answer: 90 acres, 50 to 60 owners (some own multiple properties)
- Question: What is the best option?
 - Answer: best option would be partnering with a developer during the redevelopment of a shopping center but the only property at an age where redevelopment might be considered is just less than five acres. Other options are an assemblage on North High Street or an abandoned hoe on Hill Crest



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- Question: Is there real community interest beyond the groups who have expressed a desire to use the space? Would the proposed uses duplicate amenities already available?
 - Answer: this is one thing a feasibility study should address. Yes, when people understand the concept they tend to be supportive. And GOCA (a major civic association) was a founding group of the Advisory Committee. GOCA is meeting soon and may include their support to Navarro's & MCCAB's. Full disclosure: Olney Theater is in the business of renting performance space and may be opposed to free performance space.
- Question: What is the end goal?
 - Answer: this depends on what a feasibility study determines. Private/public partnership would be idea. A civic center is their charge.

Guest Speaker – Dominic Quattrocchi, AICP, Department of Parks, Montgomery County:

Maryland Parks is revisiting the Wheaton Regional Park Master Plan. It was last updated in 1987. The goal is to modernize the park and accommodate public expectations for it.

Planning:

- Some acquisitions (no details provided)
- Open the Bank Barn to the public
- New entrance from Arcola to the athletic fields
- Add a soccer field, currently none
- Resolve many ADA issues and replace/rebuild many buildings
- Improve equestrian center
- Improve "way finding" (signs that guide visitors)
- Remove buildings that lack historical or social significance
- Add a shared camp site

The planners what to know: Who are the Park's customers? When do people use the park? Where do they go within the park?

Question: What can MCCAB do for Montgomery Parks regarding this project? Answer: outreach

Q&A

- More bike racks are needed
- What funding is needed & who will it be secured?
 - Funding is part of the master plan process. There could be some user and permit fees through CUPF.



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- A one pager talking about the project that could be shared at civic and community meetings to start a conversation would be helpful.
 - Parks is willing to meet with groups. Referred to website for information about the project.
- How will the list of needed upgrades and amenities to be added be prioritized?
 - Not known yet. They need more feedback from the community.

Council Reports – none available



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Director Report

- Information from Geoff Mason, Westfield Wheaton
 - Raised pedestrian walk has been approved
 - Construction on the AMC will begin second quarter of 2016
 - Safety boxes have been serviced
 - Plans to add a safety box near JC Penny's
 - Getting positive feedback on cart collection
- North Wheaton Visioning Report -- community generated recommendations to address challenges has been presented to the County; working on implementation
- Wheaton Redevelopment – selection of master artist underway

Committee Reports

Quality of Life

- Cart issue at Wheaton Plaza – they are collecting many carts, but not from all places. We will keep an eye on it.
- Alerts – Will request a speaker to share information about how information is gathered, how decisions about subjects of alerts are made, and the policy and technical issues involved.
- Arts & Entertainment District— area will be expanded to include the new Wheaton Regional Library & Recreation Center. Adam Fogel asked that MCCAB write in support of the Arts & Entertainment. Oriole will take a stab at a letter to be reviewed at the January meeting.
- Question about Aspen Hill Library – how will delay of construction of Wheaton Regional affect modest improvements planned at Aspen Hill Library? Will Aspen Hill be hurried or get short shrift or will both be closed at the same time?
- Began questioning the relocation of MCCAB during and after Lot 13 construction. Answers are not known yet.
- Board Replenishment – Bob Schoenberg presented a letter addressing our need for a streamlined nomination/approval process so the board is not handicapped by vacant seats and questions about the process and lack of communication around the decision not to re-confirm a sitting member. After lengthy debate the letter was returned to committee. Brevity was raised as a concern but it is important to fully address these issues.

Land Use, Zoning, & Transportation

- Olney Town Center – MCCAB request for feasibility study to be included in upcoming CIP budget. Draft letter approved without changes. Letter will be sent to Leggett with copy of Navarro's memo making the same request.
- Independent Transit Authority – currently tabled. But will keep an eye on it.

Liaison Reports

Department of Permitting – Hasan Mansori, new Liaison has not yet attended a meeting.

Olney Town Center Advisory Committee – covered elsewhere in the meeting.



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PEPCO Community Group – no news.

WUDAC – from Henriot St. Gerard – WUDAC is supporting “Small Business Saturday” after Thanksgiving, including a bingo activity with WUDAC members.

New Business

- Henriot St. Gerard – new baby
- Francisco Romero – new baby
- Pat Lahr, Vice Chair, officially resigned due to personal and work demands on his time. We will elect a new Vice Chair in December. Not sure how we will proceed with nominating a replacement on the Board.
- Will the police attend every month? It is not needed every month and places a strain on the agenda.
- Request made to invite Montgomery Parks to a Quality of Life meeting to further discuss the Wheaton Regional Park Master Plan revisions.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn meeting approved at 9:05 pm.