

Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee

Mid-County Regional Center, 2424 Reddie Drive, Wheaton MD 20902

Meeting Minutes, Tuesday May 14th, 2013

Approved

Members Present: Henriot St. Gerard(Chair), Devala Janardan(Vice Chair), Marian Fryer, Jim Onder, Tom Stanton, Dan Thompson, Jeannette Feldner, Luis Bonilla, Richard Kessler, William Moore

Members Absent: Nadia Sesay

Staff Present: Ana Lopez van Balen, Director Mid-County Regional Center

Guests: Al Roshdieh, Deputy Director, MC DOT. Rick Siebert, Chief of Parking Mgmt, MC DOT. Rob Klein, Manager, Planning and Development DGS. Adam Fogel, staff to Councilmember Navarro

Call to Order: 6:04pm by Chair Henriot St. Gerard

Motion to approve April Meeting minutes without corrections passed.

Chair Report: Henriot St. Gerard briefly touched on his meeting with the Coalition for Smart Growth on the planned Walking Tour of Wheaton. He also reminded everyone that June 9th is the date for Taste of Wheaton. He announced that the Nighttime Economy Task Force would hold their first meeting on May 20th at the Civic Building in Silver Spring and is open to the public. Meetings would be held the 3rd Monday of the month with the aim to finish its work within 6 months.

Introductions of Committee members and guests were then made and Henriot handed the floor to Al Roshdieh , Deputy Director, MCDOT for a redevelopment review.

Redevelopment Report: Mr. Roshdieh updated WUDAC on some of the current debate of the County Council regarding redevelopment of the CBD in light of Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett's recommendation not to include moving DEP and DPS to Wheaton. This was accompanied by a handout detailing a Split Project Option and a Developer Proposal Option. It was noted by Ana Lopez van Balen that Councilmember Navarro supported and the Council approved a Developer Proposal Option with timelines for performance to move redevelopment forward.

Mr. Roshdieh continued by identifying Lot 34, Lot 13, the Reddie Building, and Park and Planning building at 8787 Georgia Ave as sites for joint development. Proposals would have to address underground parking, an office building, and town square. Developers would have to identify Private development components of Lot 13. Goal is to advertise RFP by June 1st with timelines for submission and evaluation set forth in the RFP.

Rick Siebert stated that they have a track record with Public/Private development.

County Council Report: Adam Fogel, staff to Councilmember Navarro briefed WUDAC on a PDF advanced by Ms. Navarro that would include firm deadlines and benchmarks that would add certainty to the Developer Proposal Option. This was approved by the Council. He also stated that Councilmember Navarro would recommend to the PHED Committee of the County Council that they add the requests from the Wheaton Urban District to the FY2014 budget . A straw vote is scheduled for Thursday.

Directors Report: Ana Lopez van Balen announced that the Wheaton Urban District has worked with Green Wheaton and will assume responsibility for the recycling bins.

She also reported that they have found a low cost solution to make the Urban District's lights Night Sky compliant by adding caps. She briefly mentioned that the County presented designs for a new fire station in Glenmont and repeated the dates of June 1st for the walking tour and June 9th for Taste of Wheaton. She asked for feedback on a WUDAC booth for the Taste and it was decided to go forward with a booth. Ana noted that the Salvadorian Festival will return in August and reminded everyone that the Nighttime Economy Task Force will meet on Monday. There will also be two upcoming public meetings for the Library on June 5th and June 24th.

Subcommittee Reports:

Design: Dan Thompson reported that the meeting was spent preparing for the walking tour.

Economic: Devala Janardan reported on a meeting with Green Wheaton and on a marketing plan for WUDAC.

Other Business:

Henriot St. Gerard gave a visual presentation on the proposed route of the Walking Tour and suggested areas for talking points. A discussion followed. Dan Thompson handed out a draft for a media press release. After discussion, a motion was made and passed to give to Sidney Cooper for media release.

Adjourn: 7:28pm