

## **Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee**

11701 Georgia Avenue, Wheaton MD 20902

Meeting Minutes, Tuesday March 10, 2020

**Members Present:** Bill Jelen, Chair; Chelsea Johnson, Vice Chair; Crystal Myers, Leah Haygood, Mariela Garcia-Colberg. James Mensah, Chris Pyon, Jim Epstein, William Moore, Omar Lazo

**Staff Present:** Luisa Montero-Diaz, Mid-County RSC Director; Shawn Morris, Aide.

**Guests:** Keith Compton, MCDOT. Daniel Koroma, CEX.

**Call To Order:** 6:35pm by Chair Jelen

**Minutes Review:** The February Meeting Minutes Draft was reviewed. A motion was made and passed to approve the Minutes without changes

### **Reports:**

#### **a. Chamber of Commerce:**

Daniel Koroma was the guest speaker

Update provide on the Census. The census affects businesses. Will reach out to employees and try to have information of the census spread organically.

3/12- Census post cards will be mailed out. There will be a code on the post card where users can access the census online.

3/28- Census awareness events, elected officials will stop by. The event will have games and activities for children.

3/28- Census event combined with Health fair at Westfield Mall

4/1- door to door campaign will begin.

**b. Midcounty:** Enterprise Zone designation- Wheaton is not eligible and doesn't qualify due to increased income levels over the last 10 years.

3/27 - Sip and Paint on FASMarketplace – A Civitan Club fundraiser with local artists and local food vendors

4/4 - Health Fair at Hughes Memorial Church

Wheaton Walks movement (2-3 miles) Every Wednesday morning starting at 9:30 am.

6/28 - Town Plaza first event!

#### **c. MCDOT:**

3/9 - Meeting recap. Mostly business owners, topics discussed were, parking fees/hours, there will be a deficit/negative budget for the next 3 years, looked at the possibility to extend parking hours from 6-10pm or start earlier at 7am, discussed options to have people park at the garage instead of taking business parking spots and have determined that we are 1.5 years away from parking rates changing.

**d. FY2020 Forum:** There could be a fall event where the public can ask questions and receive updates. This needs to be planned.

**e. SBAP:**

Spring is considered "slow time" because of tax season.

58 Disbursements in the past 3 years.

23 Businesses have received disbursements.

1 Business has received a disbursement and has left.

LEDC - trying to market new businesses.

"County Economic development specialist" position (shared position) has been made. 2 positions countywide, 1 position in Wheaton and 1 more position in Up County (Germantown)

**f. Presentation: Keith Compton (MCDOT), Construction for the County Building**

10 weeks left until completion of construction, it remains on time for target of 5/31/

Construction on Viers Mill, Grandview, and Reddie will be done late March or Early April.

Traffic leading into the LA Fitness and Wendys will be checked by Keith.

Early April- Triangle Lane will be restored.

June - Servers/IT will begin in the new building.

July - Departments will begin to move in.

No updates to the retail space on the bottom floor.

Lot 13 will have 35 spaces restored this weekend.

**Related Traffic Mitigation Plan:**

Will look into making an Ad hoc group, numbers needed from Michael Paylor (Luisa will get the numbers).

Jim will draft a letter with the main points. (Stuart will help)

**g. COVID-19**

Placed out a flyer- Check the CDC website and Montgomery County website for information.

Not cancelling or closing public facilities yet.

Not announced yet, but 5th case of covid-19.

Children haven't been affected yet.

Spring Popup tentative - Mid May

**h. WUDAC Awards**

3/31 - Nominations due.

4/13 - day to vote

**Adjourn:** 8:45pm