

**Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board meeting
December 12, 2022
Minutes**

Attendees:

1. SSCAB members:
 - a. Katherine Lucas McKay, Chair
 - b. Melanie Fonder Kaye, Vice Chair
 - c. Don Slater, Secretary
 - d. Debra Wiley, Parliamentarian
 - e. Jay Elvove
 - f. Michelle Foster
 - g. Patricia Germann
 - h. Lysette House
 - i. Kenneth Lemberg
 - j. Vanessa Pinto
 - k. John Seelke
 - l. Lene Tsegaye
 - m. Not present: Sofia Bushen
 - n. Not present: Daniel Moijueh

2. RSC staff:
 - a. Shawn Morris, Silver Spring Regional Services Center
 - b. Jacob Newman, Silver Spring Regional Services Center

3. Speakers:
 - a. Lieutenant David Reed, MCPD
 - b. Councilmember Kristin Mink
 - c. Councilmember Kate Stewart

4. Additional attendees:
 - a. Kathleen Bender
 - b. Jonathan Bernstein
 - c. Jennifer Bolick
 - d. Pamela Lockett
 - e. Juan Arango Millan
 - f. Mary Ellen O'Brien
 - g. DB Smith
 - h. Cecily Thorne
 - i. Chris Wilhelm

Agenda:

1. Introductions
 - a. Katherine opened meeting at 7:02 pm
 - b. Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) members introduced selves
 - c. Attendees introduced selves in the comments

2. Minutes from previous meeting
 - a. November minutes were approved

3. Public Safety Report (Lieutenant Reed)
 - a. Commander McBain sends his apologies as he is attending another meeting
 - b. Commended team members on rapid arrest (< 12 hrs) in Dash In homicide
 - c. Indicated that numerous recent arrests have brought about a decrease in thefts from autos (parts and contents) and outdoor sheds.
 - d. Talked about strong partnership with DC and PG police working along the borders.
 - e. In DTSS, high visibility enforcement efforts are paying off, allowing for deployment of “purposeful policing.”
 - f. High visibility enforcement is also bringing about a decrease in carjackings.
 - g. County gun recovery program doing well. In 2022, 1100 guns recovered countywide, 170+ in 3rd district.
 - h. DUI task force (10 officers plus support from Sheriff’s office and Rockville and Gaithersburg) has made over 1200 traffic stops resulting in 140+ arrests.
 - i. Jay mentioned the regular conflict with the MoCo Civic Federation meeting on the 2nd Monday and likely why Commander McBain has a conflict.
 - j. Michelle expressed appreciation for the public safety reports.
 - k. John posed a question about resolving the info from the public safety reports against that which reads on the local listservs. Lt Reed suggested caution, being observant, but not putting yourself in harm’s way.
 - l. Jonathan asked if thefts of catalytic convertors were up or down in our neighborhood. Lt. Reed replied that they are down. Kate Stewart spoke of an auto shop in Takoma Park that will engrave your name on the catalytic convertor n your car.

4. Topic One: New County Councilmember from District 5 (Councilmember Kristin Mink)
 - a. Greeting to SSCAB
 - b. Grew up in Woodmoor, Blair graduate, taught in MCPS, mother of two.
 - c. Went into community advocacy
 - d. Member of the Education and Culture Committee, interested in better retention of teachers, equitable distribution of resources
 - e. Member of Public Safety Committee, looking at policing, mental health resources
 - f. Also concerned with transportation issues, the US 29 BRT runs through her district.

- g. Made reference to Thrive 2050 and concerns with how it is implemented.
- h. Katherine asked about CM Mink's plans for Vision Zero and rent stabilization....CM Mink's responses for VZ included more support from both the state and the county as well as setting goals to ensure accountability. For rent stabilization, she talked about multiple areas of effort and increasing housing stocks, noted that big rent increases are happening now.

5. Topic Two: New County Councilmember from District 4 (Councilmember Kate Stewart)

- a. Greeting to SSCAB
- b. Introduction of staff members
- c. Chair of Government Operations Committee
- d. Member of Transportation and Environment (T&E) Committee, looking at pedestrian and bicyclist safety
- e. Also concerned with housing supply and housing equity issues, from TP which has rent stabilization now,
- f. John asked about open campus schools and problem with nearby merchants and MCPS claiming not their issue....CM Mink responded about experience as a MBHS student and a Starbucks employee...CM Stewart stressed the need for communications between the parties....
- g. Ken asked about affordable housing strategies and if there might be some common ground with the CE...CM Stewart responded about looking at rent stabilization and dealing with potential Purple Line displacement....also mentioned the value of fixed mortgage payments versus rent...improved ownership opportunities through down payment assistance....spoke of tenant right to purchase and an example in TP....CM Mink mentioned the Hillandale Gateway Project...CM Stewart spoke of the Housing Production Fund, help to fund MHP, and low income housing tax credits.
- h. Vanessa asked about getting resources to lower income residents....CM Mink responded suggesting better coordination of government and NGOs who are already embedded with community and have the needed cultural competence.
- i. Several people asked in the chat about beltway widening, both CM's expressed opposition to beltway widening.

6. Councilmembers' Reports (Pam Luckett, Office of Council President Evan Glass)

- a. Introduced herself as deputy chief of staff to the Council President
- b. Noted the new councilmembers
- c. Stated that she expected to regularly attend SSCAB meeting
- d. Expanding on Council President Glass:
 - i. Chair of T&E Committee
 - ii. Member of Economic Development Committee
 - iii. Housing will be a priority
 - iv. Transportation will be a priority
 - v. HHS and Mental Health will be a priority

7. Committee meeting updates:
 - a. November committee meetings
 - i. No meetings due to Thanksgiving
 - b. December committee meetings
 - i. No meetings due to the holidays
8. Delegates' reports
 - a. None tonight
9. Regional Area Director's report:
 - a. Met with MCDOT to discuss improvements to Flower Ave.
 - b. Mentioned rally on 12/17 at plaza on Long Branch library to bring attention to underutilized space
 - c. PLCC Celebration on Wednesday (12/14) evening
 - d. Expects to see construction of the Library PL stop to start soon
 - e. Shout out to Vanessa, who is working on a program of visioning for the Long Branch community. She is working with the county, the community, and NGOs to improve the community in a variety of ways.
10. Urban District Report
 - a. Moving focus from leaves to snow
 - b. Successful Thanksgiving Day parade and zombie walk
 - c. Seeing an uptick in graffiti
11. New Business
 - a. End of year / holiday celebration on 12/19 (Mon) at either Silver Branch or Zinnia
 - b. Next SSCAB meeting to cover Vision Zero
 - c. Upcoming meetings:
 - i. February: Black History Month
 - ii. March: Purple Line
 - iii. April (Meeting 4th Monday): CAO Budget Round 2
 - iv. May: Legislative Review
 - v. June: Police Report
 - d. Budget Letter Bullet Points needed:
 - i. Transit
 - ii. Housing
 - iii. Small Business
 - iv. Urban District
 - v. MCPS Services
 - vi. RSC Resources
12. Adjourn:
 - a. Meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm