

**Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board**  
**Monday, March 11, 2024**  
**Minutes**

7:02 p.m. – Katherine – Called to order, welcome, and intros

Evan	Stephan Babitch	Caroline student reporter
Don	Nahom	Source of the Spring
Shawn	Kate Stewart office	Carson Henry
Sofia	Tonya Layden , DTSS	Capt David Reed
Lene	Caroline, DTSS	Deb R
Debra	Daniel, former Board	Christopher
Jacob	member	Michelle Foster
Source of the Spring	David Lorenzo, Evan	Sara Hoffmann
Ken	Glass	Tanima Sinha
Taneshia Bailey		

7:07 p.m. – Councilmember Evan Glass – 2024 Legislative Priorities + Q&A

- Public Safety
  - Working on capital budget, in the budget there is money for security cameras for our garages and that is on top of money appropriated to jumpstart this work
  - 286 cameras throughout the central biz district – that is the first installment
  - Recap of funding for rebate for security cameras – up to \$250 per household – E Glass wrote to CE to expand the program
  - Nightlife legislation intro'd w Stewart and Alborno – cited personnel challenges, want to make sure the places they are going to the places of the most need, had public hearing, committee hearing is this Thursday – expects it to be approved by full Committee and move to full Council and hope to start implementing by summer
- Energy & Environment
  - Building energy performance standards – in MoCo 52 percent of carbon emissions comes from our bldgs, need to make our buildings greener – esp old and aging buildings – need to incentivize retrofitting, making sure we're having in depth convos with hospitals, affordable housing providers, life sciences companies (third largest life sciences hub in country)
- Budget
  - County Executive budget comes out Thursday – reach out with any comments/questions about \$7b budget – all budget, all the time the next two and a half months

7:22 p.m.

- Q&A
  - Sofia – rebate for security cameras, does that include rental residents (yes)

- DTSS resident – downtown safety bill – are hours going to be synced up? (bill would sync up all the business hours, 2am weeknights, 3am weekends)
- Lene – how soon will the public safety bill be implemented (going to make it an expedited bill so that once it's signed it goes into effect)
- Daniel – camera bill – does that include businesses? (yes, five cameras, rebate about \$1250)
  - Sign up for information/Glass Gazette: [Resources - Evan Glass - Montgomery County Councilmember \(montgomerycountymd.gov\)](#)
- Starbucks closing – for safety reasons – is that trickling in with other businesses? How are we spinning this for businesses to stay and new businesses to come? (There remain questions about why it's closings, there are other new businesses opening up, labor relations note)
- Jeff – Purple line delays – if we are going to keep having delays are we doing economic impact studies – (Expect more delays ... but county is not on the hook for any of the additional costs; it's a state project, encouraged Wiedefeld to look at it through an equity lens)
- Other projects zeroed out in CE budget - Capital Crescent Trail connection
- Subsidies for residents affected to? (Notes Wilkins small grants for the businesses along the Purple line – property values also suffering)
- Michelle – building performance standards – state has passed their own, but can you talk about the coordination between the state and county because they're each a little bit different – affordability (apply to buildings larger than 25K feet, plus other benchmarks about energy consumption)

#### 7:45 p.m. – Local Media Coverage of Silver Spring

- [Montgomery Community Media](#) — Danielle Ricks
  - Only independent nonprofit org providing news to 1m residents; two locations – Rockville and Silver Spring Media Table, Ch 19 and Ch 21, just crossed the 5M mark on YouTube
  - We look for stories with a different angle
  - Teach people how to do media – PSAs, podcasts, edit, videos, etc. Focus on small business and nonprofits where you might need coverage, social media, how do you contact the media, etc.
- [Source of the Spring](#) – David Lay (and wife Jenny)
  - Launched in 2015 (ish) – spare time
  - Limited resources
- Q&A
  - Katherine – what do you hear from residents about what they want to hear?
    - Danielle – focus on MoCo, but pivoting to SS and businesses and nonprofits, asking brown bag luncheon about what it is they need
    - Impact of pandemic – shutdown – have since had two floods and just starting to get back on feet – Alexandria House

- David – people are homing in on crime
  - Ken – the Gazette – covered a lot of political coverage (MCM does candidate statements, working with LWV to do first-time voter activation)
  - Cuts to local coverage – Wash Post, DCist shutdown
- Katherine – what can we as a community to assist?
  - Local business, advertise – look to smaller pubs because we have the reach hardly anyone else has
  - Danielle – become a member (\$50, gives discounts for classes, and space), looking for content, looking for creators, we are struggling to get great content, Ch 21 is premier channel, need to do more longform content, looking at businesses etc – need crews
- Daniel – who would own the content a business creates?
  - Business owns, but MCM distributes the content

8:10 p.m. – Public Safety Update – Capt. Reed

- Some initiatives are trending in the right direction – compared Jan/Feb 23-24, tactical and traffic assets downtown for the month of March
- Q: partnership set up with clubs – is it still in place? Cited Society (The ones that wanted to partner with us we've had great partnerships with them. Once we started the late night bill we said it was never about the businesses – we simply needed a reinforcement as law enforcement)

– Other – Kate Stewart report

- Late night bill – committee work session tomorrow at 1:30 on County YouTube
- ZTA – assisting and building more affordable housing in the county
- Tenant protection and notification bill (increased communication with residents from landlords)

8:32 p.m. – Acceptance of Feb 2024 minutes

- Jacob moves to support, Debra second, vote unanimous to accept

– Committee Reports

- We will not have a committee meeting this month – Spring Break
- Econ development – office vacancies, particularly commercial (Ken)(PPT?0
- Upcoming – TREE – Lead transportation planner – April; RIDE ON GM in May
- Upcoming – Neighborhoods and CDE – affordable housing

8:36 p.m. – Regional Director's Report – Jacob

- Ramadan
- Newsletter
- SSCAB leaders will be in touch with new members about Committees

8:38 p.m. – Motion to adjourn

- Ken motion to adjourn, Debra second, vote unanimous to adjourn