

SSCAB Meeting Summary – April 8, 2019- v02

Attendance

■	Matthew Losak–Chair	■	Mulegeta Habteselassie- CED	X	Katherine McKay
■	Edward Levy –Vice-Chair	■	Uri Pasternak	■	John Seelke
■	Mark Mendez -Secretary	■	Jay Elvove	X	Daniel Morales - SSUDAC
X	Stacey Brown	■	Patricia Germann		
■	Lysette House Parliamentarian	X	Delia Aguilar		
■	Abdurahman Mohammed- Nbrhd	■	Don Slater		
■	Michelle Foster- TREE	■	Melanie Fonder Kaye		

Present: ■ Absent: X Resigned: R

1. *7:00 Acceptance of previous meeting summary:* March minutes were approved.
2. *7:05 Welcome and Introductions:* Chair **Matt Losak** led self-introductions of attendees.
3. *Public Safety/Fire & Rescue:* **John Kinsley**, Chief of Operations for MCFRS, provided a report of the 3-alarm, high-rise fire on University Boulevard in Kensington. The fire originated on the 9th floor with 15 condos in the 12-floor building suffering fire/water damage estimated at \$2M. Chief Kinsley noted that ladder trucks can only reach the 8th floor with a maximum reach of 110-120 feet.
4. *Neighborhood Highlight:* **Scott Baumgartner** gave a brief presentation on the Oakview neighborhood located between Takoma Park and Hillandale. The 700 homes have felt a loss in their sense of community recently with the closure of the local swimming pool which had opened in the 1950s. The Oakview civic was reborn in 2015. It has been working with councilmember **Tom Hucker**, walking through the neighborhood to see problems firsthand, including incomplete sidewalks, poor lighting, pedestrian safety on New Hampshire Ave (MD 650) and some poorly maintained properties.
5. *Developing Dog parks in the county with Suzanne Paul of MNCPPC's Park and Trail Planning Team*
 - The Parks department is undertaking a study to respond to the growing demand with online public comments accepted through 5/31 <https://www.montgomeryparks.org/about/rules-and-regulations/dog-parks/>
 - Ms. Paul provided a review of the methodology for identifying need and selecting sites.
 - 6 sites are currently under review as candidates
 - The recent Ellsworth park cost approx. \$250-300K to build
 - Guidelines require dog parks to be no closer than 65 feet to playgrounds and 200 feet from residences.

6. *Conversation with community serving and locally controlled non-profit organization: A Wider Circle, Community Bridge, CHEER, Cornerstone Montgomery, Ethiopian Community Center, Friends of the Library and Montgomery County Renters Alliance*
 - A Wider Circle is well known for its furniture program but also provides back-to-work job training skills. AWC is located on Brookville Road in Lyttonsville but also has an office in DC's Shaw neighborhood.
 - Community Bridges offers programs for girls and families as well as mentoring, and college and career programming. They see particular needs for girls and undocumented families.
 - CHEER identifies community needs/goals, and provides information and resources to give them a voice in redevelopment plans.
 - Cornerstone is the county's largest provider of behavioral health services- delivering treatment, housing and employment programs. They have 88 housing properties and manage 65. a year with provides underrepresented communities with a voice in
 - Friends of the Library, Montgomery County supports the county's twenty-one public library branches. It also operates two used bookstores in Rockville and in Silver Spring at the 'old library' on Colesville Road. The latter location will move back to Wheaton in the fall.
 - The Ethiopian Community Center provides community services to all Ethiopians in Maryland promoting self-sufficiency and cultural enrichment.
 - Montgomery County Renters Alliance has the mission to advance renters' rights and security through advocacy, education and support.
7. *Committee Meetings Report: No committee meetings on 4/22. Regional Centers have been asked to host Capital Improvements Program (CIP) Budget Forums that day. No committee meetings on May 27 due to Memorial Day Holiday.*
 - **Neighborhoods** –**Pat Germann** gave a detailed report on March arts meeting, noting the successes and challenges for arts groups in the county, and the importance of supporting these communities. Pat will draft a letter for the board's consideration.
 - **TREE** -The March meeting highlighted financing programs through Montgomery County Green Bank for clean energy projects
 - **CED** - plans to feature the Small Business Administration in June
8. *Chair Report: **Matt Losak** reported that the board will weigh in on the 495 and 270 lane widening options as a 'bad idea'. Watch for guidance letter on CIP based on info from 4/22 meeting. Matt announced a repeat of last year's popular Regional Area Bus Tour, planned for mid-July. The annual SSCAB retreat will be held on two dates in August to plan for next year's topics. **Melanie Fonder Kaye** has encouraged the board to plan a listening session with Montgomery College. She will reach out to MC to gauge their availability.*
9. *Councilmember Reports: **Pete Tomao** of Evan Glass's office gave an update on council matters. Council is reviewing County Executive Elrich's budget. Councilmember Glass presented a proclamation recognizing the International Transgender Day of Visibility. He has also promoted an initiative that would allow free public transportation for school-aged children.*
10. *Regional Director's Report: **Reemberto Rodriguez** alerted meeting participants that Pepco's work in Fenton Village, Georgia Ave and in nearby DC is causing a major impact for residents and businesses in the area. The board should watch for updates on that issue. May 5 is A Wider Circle's 'Walk to End*

Poverty'. Taste the World in Fenton Village (aka TTWFFV) the annual restaurant crawl that showcases the diverse flavors in our backyard will be Sunday May 19.

11. No New Business

12. *Adjourn:* 9 PM

Upcoming meetings: The next full board meeting will be held on Monday, May 13, 2019. No committee meetings in April or May.