

**Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board meeting**  
**October 11, 2021**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:**

1. SSCAB members:
  - a. Lysette House, Chair of Board
  - b. Sofia Bushen, Vice Chair
  - c. Katherine Lucas McKay, Secretary
  - d. Melanie Fonder Kaye, Parliamentarian
  - e. Jay Elvove
  - f. Michelle Foster
  - g. Patricia Germann
  - h. Ken Lemberg
  - i. Ed Levy
  - j. Daniel Moijueh
  - k. Vanessa Pinto
  - l. John Seelke
  - m. Don Slater
  - n. Lene Tsegaye
2. RSC staff:
  - a. Jacob Newman, Silver Spring Regional Service Center
  - b. Shawn Morris, Silver Spring Regional Service Center
3. Speakers:
  - a. Daniel Koroma (Office of the CE)
  - b. Matt Losak (Renters Alliance)
  - c. Jane Redicker (Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce)
  - d. Kelly Umaña (CHEER)
  - e. Rodrigue Vital (MoCo Community Engagement Cluster)
4. Additional attendees:
  - a. Upneet Atwal (Office of CM Hucker)
  - b. Sean Emerson (Office of CM Glass)
  - c. Shawn Ellis
  - d. Jenifer Alvarez
  - e. Karla Castro
  - f. Dolores Badillo
  - g. Eric Feldman
  - h. Harriet Shangarai
  - i. Anthea Levy
  - j. Lisa Martin
  - k. Muguleta Habtesalassie

## Agenda:

1. Introductions
  - a. Lysette opened meeting
  - b. Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) members introduced selves and the evening's speakers
  - c. Attendees introduced selves in the comments
2. This meeting is recorded (the chat is saved)
3. Minutes from previous meeting
  - a. Minutes from SSCAB meeting in **SEPTEMBER** were accepted
4. Public Safety Report (Commander David McBain did not RSVP)
  - a. Who can we invite to our advocacy walk on Saturday? Ans - email him and send the request, he has some lieutenants who could possibly attend
5. Topic 1: COVID-19 updates (Panel discussion)
  - a. Jane Redicker (Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce)
    - i. Pivoted in 2020 to COVID support
      1. All their activities around helping navigate policy stuff, moving to remote work, etc.
    - ii. Some of their members succeeded
    - iii. Others failed
      1. With restaurants it depended a lot on how easily and well they pivoted to curbside
    - iv. Office space issues. Landlords now struggling. People are not returning and few new leases getting signed.
    - v. Vax mandates. Some of their members (Fillmore) have vax mandates. Others do not. Their unofficial/informal polling says the vast majority of small businesses' employees are vaxxed
  - b. Kelly Umaña (CHEER)
    - i. Community Health Programs Manager
    - ii. Back in May 2020 their Long Branch Community members were interested in having vax locations at flexible times in Long Branch in trusted institutions (laundromats were big, along with schools and community centers)
    - iii. Did 8 vaccine clinics between May 20, 2021 and October 2
    - iv. Other health challenges related to pandemic: School Based Health Centers closed so many kids just got no healthcare. Many recent immigrants did not get help enrolling kids in school. Reduced immunizations.
    - v. They did outreach targeted in 2 zipcodes to get kids seen by a pediatrician, vaccinate for other things, vax covid for kids >12, get enrolled in WIC, SNAP, Care for Kids (what's this?)

- vi. Trying to source masks and PPE for kids in school. They have provided 600 reusable masks plus other PPE
- vii. Work to get parents to opt in to covid testing at school for their kids. Real need to explain what it meant and the benefits. Parents didn't get the info, didn't know how to complete it.
- viii. Building relationships with CM Glass and others, getting their resident families in front of CMs and other County decisionmakers
- c. Matt Losak (Renters Alliance)
  - i. 15,000 - 20,000 at risk of eviction
  - ii. About  $\frac{2}{3}$  of those who are eligible have not applied (per County Council)
  - iii. There are major problems with implementation of all this that they are working on
  - iv. Finally were able to get sheriff's office to share the prelim filings with DHHS, which means the County HHS is now able to prioritize
- d. Daniel Koroma (Office of CE)
  - i. Covid dashboard continues to be maintained
  - ii. Business outreach is primary focus
    - 1. Did town halls with CE's staff to answer questions and connect people to resources
    - 2. Alcohol permit applications now given response in 24 hours
    - 3. New program called Elevate, SBA(?). Professional development series for all our business resource partners
  - iii. New partnership with PGC
- e. Rodrigue Vital
  - i. Shawn Ellis and Harriet Shangarai are his team
  - ii. COVID and the ERAP are his topics
  - iii. Various community groups have worked with them to organize COVID vax clinics
  - iv. We're #1 in the nation for vax percentages. We actually don't have terrible racial disparities? (Except the Other group, which is bad)
    - 1. Still doing clinics in areas with major racial disparities or low vax rates
    - 2. Still lots of fears among undocumented people
  - v. They've built the work around experiences with Census Complete Count committee, Covid Community Committee, and continue to build on those things
  - vi. They're also working with DHHS to help with rental assistance outreach

6. Discussion and questions from SSCAB members

- a. For Matt: How much of a problem is landlords refusing ERAP?
  - i. Not sure because it's not allowed in Maryland
- b. For Jane: Tell us more about commercial landlords

- i. Some looking at selling, some looking to diversify tenants, most just trying to hang on as best as possible
  - c. For Jane: can you discount memberships?
    - i. No. We have me plus 2 staff. We let restaurants and hotels not pay dues though. We have no gov \$\$\$. In some places the CoC has that role but we do not
  - d. For everyone relevant: how are we getting ready to implement vaccination of 5-11 year olds?
    - i. Shawn Ellis's office is working on partnering with MCPS on outreach and communications through schools
    - ii. There is a plan to require vaccinations for winter sports
    - iii. There will likely be either school sites or mass sites as a primary way to get shots in arms
      - 1. Kelly U their CHEER survey found desire to have them at Elementary Schools. How can they get Holy Cross on site there? Please consult parents and think about prepping for parents who don't want to vaccinate their kids

#### 7. Committee meeting updates:

- a. Last month we did a joint meeting of all subcommittees on the BID
- b. Next committee meetings will be Monday night 10/25
  - i. Neighborhoods:
    - 1. John and Patricia are hosting meeting on local immigrant populations. How to better support recent Afghan immigrants?
  - ii. TREE:
    - 1. Climate Action Plan from CE is topic of discussion
  - iii. CED:
    - 1. Daniel is running this one, featuring a guest with expertise on e-commerce
  - iv. SSUDAC:
    - 1. Next meeting is coming up. BID stuff is the only stuff really going on
  - v. Reopening Committee (CRAG)
    - 1. Has not met in months but recent email saying next meeting coming soon
  - vi. SS COVID-19 Community Committee:
    - 1. Most of our presenters tonight are involved in one way or another. John is continuing to be our lead on this

#### 8. Councilmembers' reports

- a. Glass (Sean Emerson)
  - i. Council is considering Ride On fares again. Evan is a champ of no fares
  - ii. 2 weeks ago Long Branch AIM and CHEER community walk

iii. Request from Jay to get update from MDSHA about

9. Chair's report

- a. Melanie's POD stolen PSA
- b. Thanks for your patience while I'm camping!

10. Regional Area Director's report:

- a. September was super busy and he's settling into the Director role
- b. Continuing to get to know SSCAB members (reach out to do coffee or a walk or something)

11. New Business

- a. n/a