

**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 23, 2024**  
**Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Committee**

<p><b>Board Members in Attendance:</b>  Michael Bond  Robert Breslaw  Diana Brown  Matt Harris  Juanita Stewart  Stephanie Helsing  Teika Haymon</p>	<p><b>Staff:</b>  Shawn Morris, SSUD  Carson Henry, SSUD  Jacob Newman, SSUD  Jeffrey Keane, SSUD  Catherine Rytkonen, SSUD</p>
<p><b>Public:</b>  Mel Tull (Lee Development Group)  Seth Yeazel (Resident)  Melaney Johnson (Tenant – American Nurses Association)</p>	<p><b>Guests:</b>  Captain David Reed (MCPD)</p>

**Meeting called to order at 3:34 p.m.**

**Roll Call and Introductions**

**MCPD Situational Update (Reed)**

- Captain Reed provided updates on foot patrols, introduction of new tavern owners at McGinty's on Ellsworth and efforts against reckless driving.
- Discussed ongoing crime reduction efforts, including proactive traffic enforcement and foot patrols in partnership with Maryland State Police.
- Highlighted successes with the DFR program and drone usage in catching individuals breaking into cars.
- Mentioned compliance checks for hookah bars and enforcement of new legislation for business closing times.
- Discussed preparations for the Metro Red Line summer shutdown and additional resources for traffic enforcement.
- Addressed community concerns regarding theft from businesses and efforts to engage with shop owners to reduce incidents.
- *Questions and Discussion*
  - Helsing inquired about metrics to measure the impact of Red Line shutdown on crime. Captain Reed explained ongoing efforts to gather and analyze data.
  - Discussion on the impact of foot patrols and proactive policing in maintaining safety and community engagement.

### **Downtown Silver Spring Marketing and Urban District Report (Rytkonen, Henry)**

- Katherine Rytkonen presented updates on social media growth and marketing campaigns, including highlights such as Java Nation opening and community events.
- Carson Henry provided an overview of interagency coordination efforts, landscaping projects, and updates on staffing and hiring.
- Jeff Keane shared details on landscaping interventions and upcoming plans for tree maintenance and plant relocations.
- Addressed community concerns about illegal signs, misuse of park facilities, and damage to public property.
- Discussed the increase in service requests and the urban district's efforts to address community needs promptly.

### **Committee Chair Transition**

- Juanita Stewart announced her term as chair would end on August 1 and invited committee members to consider taking on the role.
- Discussed the possibility of having co-chairs to share responsibilities and ensure continuity.

### **Open Discussion**

- Melanie Johnson inquired about places to donate office materials and equipment. Suggestions included local charities, wider circle, PDI office and Habitat for Humanity's Restore.
- Maurice's status on the board application was discussed, with a request for an update on approval status.

**Meeting concluded at 5:33 p.m.**

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