

#### UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

# Full UCAB Meeting MINUTES October 20, 2025

#### **HYBRID MEETING**

In Person: UpCounty Regional Services Center 12900 Middlebrook Rd, Germantown, MD 20874 Online Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86090967789

Meeting ID: 860 9096 7789 **By phone:** 301 715 8592

7:05 p.m. Call to Order/Roll Call (Minutes from July 2025 (with changes mentioned by Paul Lauria) and September 2025 Full Board Meetings approved—Melane Hoffmann moved; Mary Keane seconded)

7:10 p.m. **Police Report;** Commander Dillman (D#6, Gaithersburg/MontgVllg): fatal collisions on the rise—plan to place officers at key intersections to enforce speed and distracted driving laws; firearms offenses up—noted District Community Action Teams—officers not controlled by radios who can identify suspicious activity—has led to arrests for drug dealing and recovered firearms.

Commander Picerno (D#5, Germantown): Commander Picerno, who began his tenure late this summer, introduced himself. Crime statistics—most categories down, except commercial burglaries.

Commander Satinksky (D#1,Rockville): 4 violent crimes in past week, including 2 juvenile on juvenile robberies. Noted theft from automobiles on the rise, especially theft of air bags from cars parked in places where left unattended for long periods; Darnestown house parties—potential criminal charges considered

General discussion about police recruiting and whether morale has improved. Consensus that things are getting better but will take time. Recruiting classes still low as pool of applicants nationally is low.

Discussed speeding on Snowden Farm Parkway and Brink Road—photo enforced signs but cameras not present—noted that a new company has been contracted to replace the cameras. Suggested to have police also talk about positive interactions.

## 7:35 p.m. County Council Report

**Balcombe:** thanked those involved in Clarksburg Gateway Master Plan process; encouraged continued feedback about No Turn on Red signs. Contradictory signage regarding legality of turn on red at Wisteria Dr. and Father Hurley Blvd. noted.

Luedtke: Highlighted recent public safety townhalls. Planning one in Damascus.

Sayles: Farm to Table Event moved to Blackrock

Glass: noted Council vacancy for at-large seat being vacated by Councilmember Albornoz.

7:45 p.m. Review of Montgomery Workforce with Anthony Featherstone, Executive Director, Worksource Montgomery

Worksource Montgomery is a 501(c)(3), transitioning from a model where it is 100 percent government funded to one that can take donations. Still about 90 percent government funded. They have improved programs in recent years to attract donors.

Noted services are general available at all 9 locations and in Mobile Job Center. All locations ADA compliant.

Worksource Montgomery was described as the County's best-kept secret. Key is to publicize services to businesses and job seekers. They track about 61,000 businesses, and work with about 1,500 each year.

Highlighted recent Career and Resource Fair for Federal Workers and Jobseekers and opening of Federal Workforce Career Center in Wheaton.

Noted programs and resources for small businesses, young adult training program, classes available to those mid-career, youth career education programs in Grades 6-9 in public schools.

The Board expressed concerns about changing economic landscape in County, with future reliance on Federal Government as major employer uncertain. It was suggested that we invite the Montgomery County Economic Development Corporation.

The Board also asked about volunteer opportunities. There was no structured volunteer program at this time.

## 8:30 p.m. **Community Concerns:** none

8:31 p.m. **Regional Director's Report:** review of recent events—Ocktoberfest in Germantown—6,500 people attended; October 1st—Representative Delaney led a Congressional delegation to the Upcounty Services Center; Blackrock Colores exhibit celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month; 10/27—County Executive Spanish Language Community Conversation on the Budget at Gaithersburg High School

## 8:37 p.m. **Board Housekeeping:**

Planning to hold January and February 2026 meetings on the fourth Monday of those months to avoid conflicts with the holidays.

Noted some desire for follow-up with our letters, seeking to get a response from the County Executive or Council.

Quality of Life Meeting Report: October meeting on services for Senior Citizens—identifying challenges for Seniors (disability, income, transportation, mobility); resources such as Villages (one of which exists in West Upper Montgomery County); identified resources for social engagement, volunteering.

Land Use Meeting Report: October meeting on Clarksburg Gateway Master Plan: focus on next steps—Planning Board work sessions, transmittal and consideration by Council. Learned Exit 17 may still be included in final Master Plan. Discussed issues like the last mile

problem with public transportation, challenged assumptions in modelling on transportation and schools. Noted that this would be an opportunity to write a letter.

Dickerson Area Facilities Implementation Group: (Melane Hoffman representative) quarterly meetings—concerns about closing the incinerator and what to do with the land after the closure. Community push back on data center, traffic flow to incinerator site on rural roads.

DPS Permitting committee—(Paul Lauria representative) has not met yet.

8:59 p.m. Adjourn: Paul Klee moved, Andrew Saundry seconded.



# **UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD 2024-2025 Board Members and Committees**

Name	Area	Committee
Vacant		
Andrew Saundry (P)	Germantown	Land Use
Vacant		
Paul Klee (P)	Darnestown	Land Use
Christel Bivens (P)	Germantown	Land Use
Vacant		
Wayne Jacas (termed)	Boyds	Land Use
Steve Robinson (resigned)	Damascus	Land Use
Kraig Walsleben (termed)	Damascus	Land Use
Lynn Arndt (A/EA)	Boyds	Quality of Life
Michelle Ashafa (P)	Clarksburg	Quality of Life
Jason George (P)	Germantown	Land Use
Melane Hoffmann (P)	Clarksburg	Land Use
Mary Keane (P)	North Potomac	Quality of Life
Paul Lauria (P)	Gaithersburg	Land Use
Dana Pauley (A/EA)	Boyds	Quality of Life
Marc Robles (A/EA)	Montgomery Village	Quality of Life
Sarah Stevens (P)	Damascus	Quality of Life
Teresa Watkins (P)	Clarksburg	Land Use
Matthew Woorman (P)	Germantown	Quality of Life

Effective July 2024