



UPCOUNTY CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Summary December 17, 2012

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Kevin Linck and introductions were made. Meeting summaries will be presented for approval at a future meeting.

Update from the Upcounty Regional Director

Catherine Matthews shared the following information.

- Rev. Mansfield “Kasey” Kaseman is the County’s new liaison to the faith community and will have his office at the Upcounty Regional Services Center.
- County Executive Leggett has launched the OpenMontgomery Initiative, a program that offers residents several ways to get records, documents and more county information as well as to offer their opinions on community issues.
- The County has announced a pilot program for nonprofits that are interested in using the Civic Building and Veterans Plaza in Silver Spring. A discounted fee structure will be made available to nonprofits serving the Montgomery County community.
- The upcoming conference, “Farming at Metro’s Edge: Sustaining Agriculture in Montgomery and Frederick Counties” will be held on January 11 and 12 at the Universities at Shady Grove. Program details and registration information is available on that website: www.farmingatmetrosedge.com.
- Womens’ professional soccer has returned to the SoccerPlex in Germantown with the team called the Washington Spirit.

Update from the County Council – Comments were made during the main discussion.

Guest Discussion – “Dialogue with County Legislators on the County Budget” – Jennifer Hughes, Director of the Office of management and Budget, presented an overview of the county’s current fiscal condition and expected impacts to the budget. County Councilmembers Phil Andrews, Nancy Floreen, March Elrich, and Craig Rice responded to the information given and offered their thoughts on issues that will affect budget decisions in the spring.

Chairperson’s Report

- Chairperson Kevin Linck congratulated Councilmembers Nancy Navarro and Craig Rice in being elected as the new Council President and Vice President, respectively.
- UCAB welcomes three new members: Mark Firley (Montgomery Village); Daisha New (Poolesville); and David Rosenbaum (Germantown). There will be one more appointment made to fill the remaining vacancy on the board.
- UCAB will host the County Executive’s budget forum on Thursday, January 24 at 7:00pm. It will be held at the BlackRock Center for the Arts.
- There will be a public meeting on the Frederick Road Bike Path project on December 20 beginning at 7pm at the Clarksburg High School. County Transportation Department staff will update the community on the CIP project which is an enhanced bike path that will be built along MD Route 355 from the Milestone neighborhood in Germantown to Stringtown Road in Clarksburg.

Committee Reports

- Land Use Committee Chair Bob Nelson announced that the committee had a good discussion on November 26 with Planning Board Commissioner Casey Anderson.

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- Juan Cardenas reported that the Airpark Liaison Committee met in November and that the East Village Homes Corporation will ask the FCC to conduct a noise study since the last one was done when fewer homes and businesses were in the area of the Airpark. Data indicates that the number of accidents at the site is down with two noted.
- Cherian Eapen reported that he will no longer be able to serve as the liaison to the Upcounty Regional Recreation Advisory Board and that a new liaison is needed. Daisha New offered to serve.

Other General Board Discussion

Bob Nelson reminded board members that the Homestead Tax Credit Program expires on December 31, 2012. Information about applying for an exemption is available on the State's website.

Community Concerns - None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm. (Aviles moved, Wallace seconded).

Attendance: Andres Aviles, Juan Cardenas, Beth Daly, Cherian Eapen, Natalia Farrar, Mark Firley, James King, Kevin Linck, Robert Nelson, Daisha New, Doug Noble, David Rosenbaum, Pat Seals, Ruyan Teng, James Wallace.

Additional Guests: Juan Jovel (Councilmember Leventhal's office), Steve Goldstein (Councilmember Rice's office), Bruce Goldensohn, Michael Jones, Mansfield Kaseman.

Staff: Catherine Matthews