



Howard County Citizens Association

Since 1961...

The voice of the people of Howard County

Minutes of the November 18th, 2014 HCCA Board Meeting

Attendees: Stu Kohn, Brian England, Howard Johnson, Rosalyn Williams, Jacquie Sentell

Guests: Lisa Markovitz

1. The meeting started at 7:08PM.
2. The minutes of the October 20th Board Meeting were approved.
3. The Treasurer's report was approved.
4. Lisa Markovitz came to report on a meeting Alan Schneider hosted bringing the community groups of Highland, Woodbine, Dayton, Rt. 1/Savage, Clarksville, and the Sierra Club together to aid Alan Kittleman who has expressed concern that the monetary voice behind projects is louder than the peoples' voice. Several attendees expressed interest in being a part of The Peoples' Voice (TPV). TPV's main goal is communicating with and reaching people impacted by issues in local communities. Some key TPV initiatives include: identifying HOA's in geographic areas and bringing them onboard, setting up a blog w/guest bloggers covering key topics, forming units to cover the Planning Board, County Council, Board of Ed and Board of Appeals.
5. The Peoples' Voice Collaboration with HCCA – The HCCA Board by 5 to 0 agreed to approve the collaboration of the two organizations. Paul Verchinski and JD Smith were not in attendance. Lisa will draft an e-mail that will go out to the listserv formally announcing a partnership with the civic arm of the organization (not the political PAC) based on the synergistic goals of the two organizations. The e-mail will be forwarded to the HCCA board for review prior to issuing. There was an agreement to have Stu attend TPV board meetings and have Lisa attend HCCA board meetings.
6. Newtown – Brian & JD are working to try and simplify the whole issue to an elevator speech – a one pager – to help summarize the issues and increase their ability to get people to understand what needs to happen & to influence them. Work continues.
7. We have not as of yet received a response from Kittleman re: invitation to do a Town Hall. This may be overtaken by events since Stu Kohn has been invited to be part of the DPZ/Licensing committee of Kittleman's transition team. The committee will go out to DPZ employees and ask questions using a SWOT analysis. Stu would like to get citizens involved also, similar to what was done when he was a member of the Ulman transition.
8. Citizen Survey – This should focus on the main topics the HCCA has been dealing with. No firm decision on this.
9. HCCA Testimony for Downtown Columbia Multi-use Pathway (SDP-13-020) and Downtown Columbia, Warfield, Par C-1 & C-2 TSP | SDP-14-024 – Stu highlighted that this would bring about 2000 additional vehicles, however the County's position is that it wouldn't impact traffic. By design, the intent is to increase the density in downtown, so an increase in traffic is expected. There was a request that Paul testify on behalf of HCCA. Separately, on the issue of Symphony Woods, addressed earlier this month, one of Stu's major concerns was the Planning Board did

not give what we think should be the two-week period for citizens to review the Technical Staff Report.

10. Membership & Reminder notices – Current plan is to go out with membership notices in January.
11. APFO Expansion Paper – Stu will bring up the report in the DPZ transition committee meeting & will go out to the list serv again. It was sent to candidates before the election. We heard back from Jon Weinstein. He wrote back & said this is great – looking forward to hearing from you. Ros will highlight the APFO paper on the front page of the HCCA website & post to the Facebook page again.
12. Redline – Chris Alleva is going to provide HCCA with the information that was requested and Stu plans to use with the transition team.
13. Possible Coalition Paper – This has been overtaken by events.
14. Task force on Ag Preservation & Farm Use per Resolution CR-74 – A report will be issued in mid-December / January– probably a majority/minority report as there has been no agreement between the two sides re: using the land for mulching while getting paid for ag preserve.
15. Stu will update the “What is HCCA?” section. Board members will review the mission statement and provide input at the next meeting.
16. Ros to draft an e-mail newsletter [Mailchimp] to the membership, and JD will talk with Russ re: membership.
17. The next board meeting is planned for January 7th.
18. The meeting was adjourned ~ 9:40PM.