

HCCA Meeting May 4, 2015

Attendees: Stu Kohn, Lisa Markovitz, Brian England, Paul Verchinski, JD Smith, Ros Williams, Jacquie Sentell, Howard Johnson, Alan Schneider

- I. Approval of minutes of April 7, 2015 HCCA Board. – approved.
- II. Treasurer’s Report – JD Smith, Treasurer provided and will place on-line for access to members announced at Annual Meeting. JD will discuss how HCCA money is spent on meeting expenses, community support and the website.
- III. Membership Drive – Annual Meeting

Allan Kittleman is speaking there. We will invite Council. We will create a slate of board members, and have one opening, if there is interest expressed from Amran Pasha to join. If there are nominations from the floor, we will need ballots. Lisa will draft ballots and bring copies and a ballot box. Lisa will draft a sign-up sheet for questions for Kittleman. Jacquie suggested prioritizing HCCA member questions if there are too many to handle. Her suggestion was adopted.

Stu will speak, and hold election, then introduce HCCA’s speakers Brian England (New Town Zoning) Paul Verchinski (Aging in Place) and Lisa Markovitz for The People’s Voice.

The People’s Voice will have a table in the back for membership and information. HCCA will have membership brochures and sign-up sheets available at the front door area. Brian will check on microphone and computer needs. Russ Swatek will bring membership documents.

Stu is going to introduce Susan Garber as a Planning Board nominee at the annual meeting.
- IV. Stu introduced guest Susan Garber who was recently nominated by County Executive Allan Kittleman to the Howard County Planning Board. The HCCA Board discussed the appointment and voted to support Susan Garber's appointment to the Planning Board.
- V. Chief of Staff for Allan Kittleman, Diane Wilson meeting with HCCA – to occur quarterly. Stu said it went well, and Brian made a great presentation about FDP issues with New Town, and inappropriate favoritism in signage. We all expressed concern about keeping Marsha McLaughlin on in any capacity with the County as a NT zoning consult.

- VI. Meeting with Kittleman on Royal Farms – Brian and JD – Frustration was expressed regarding the amount of time and money having to be spent simply to even get a standing decision made. The County clearly is granting the right to have a gas station inappropriately. More meetings and hearings are scheduled.
- VII. MDOG – MD Government Meeting – Alan Schneider – will attend next meeting and report back.
- VIII. Fueling Task Force report – 8 villages on task force support, CA has not taken a position. Brian and Stu discussed the April 16 hearing on Exxon station near Little Patuxent and Broken Land, signage issues, and support of task force report and Independent Business Association.
- IX. CEF Chapelgate status – Stu updated the Board about the Planning Board not enforcing rules of CEF regarding community input and the DAP. It is frustrating that the Planning Board is not looking at the DAP recommendations as required, and seems to feel that Engelke’s position is a conflict of interest as he is also a member of the Planning Board as well as the DAP makes. This caused the Planning Board to not even review the DAP findings. They initially simply trusted a member to bring them “important” issues without them having to review the DAP findings, when they are supposed to do so. Stu will continue to attend the Chapelgate hearings and try to make the Planning Board follow the rules.
- X. Scott Shearer continues to be targeted by the County on a commercial parcel violation which does not seem accurate. Kittleman has been informed and Shearer is coming to the annual meeting to ask him to help.
- XI. Ros – website status was discussed and how to make changes. Lisa will be given the administrator password and her husband Paul will help manage the site. The About Us section will be updated.