

## HCCA Board Meeting Minutes: 5 November 2015

Attendees: Stu Kohn, Brian England, Lisa Markovitz, Paul Verchinski, Amran Pasha, JD Smith, Jacquie Sentell, and Alan Schneider.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM.
2. The October social networking event was well attended. Minutes were not taken.
3. The Treasurer's report was approved.
4. The November 3 meeting with DPZ and the Office of Law was reviewed. Helpful information was exchanged. HCCA attendees explained the concerns from citizen groups. The meeting continued beyond available time, and was to be continued. Questions were presented for consideration and later response. HCCA is looking forward to continuing conversations and discussions with DPZ.  
Paul Verchinski raised concerns regarding compliance with Final Development Plans, and process clarification. Brian England commented on the need for more predictability, and conformity to regulations. Lisa Markovitz discussed needed updates to the zoning code, including addressing the legal problems with CEF which will cause problems for developers. Changes have previously been made with unintended consequences. We are encouraged that changes will be considered. Communities need to be more involved at earlier steps in the zoning process.
5. The Planning Board decision on the Royal Farms proposal was reviewed and applauded.
6. The Proposed Development at Savage Mill was reviewed. The Design Advisory Board did not approve the plan, and recommended that the proposal be resubmitted after consultations and addressing the concerns of the community.
7. The Chapelgate proposed CEF development was discussed. A rescheduled Zoning Board hearing will be rescheduled at a time to be determined later.
8. The APFO Task Force was discussed. Concerns were raised regarding the time allocated for careful and comprehensive discussion to consider how to resolve long standing community concerns. One question is why would MDE not honor its commitment to come to talk to "everyone", which should definitely include this important task force?
9. The meeting with Steven C. Snelgrove, President of Howard County General Hospital, was discussed. One concern is the effect of the closure of the Laurel General Hospital on existing services. What is the plan and the financial resources to handle the planned population growth for this area? What is the plan for resolving the existing unacceptable hospital waiting times?
10. The nearby Laurel Regional Hospital announced that it is transitioning from a full service hospital to an outpatient facility. The hospital is staffed by 600 providing services including emergency room, Labor & Delivery, Intensive Care and Psychiatric, Critical care, Cardiopulmonary (Echo, EKG, Stress tests, EEG, PFT), Cardiac catheterization lab, pacemaker insertions, diabetes treatment, Laboratory and pathology testing, surgical services, physical rehabilitation (the only hospital-based CARF accredited rehab unit in PG County), and Pulmonary rehabilitation program. The HCCA Board voted to sign a letter to elected officials in coalition with the United Healthcare Workers for a continuation of needed hospital services. Others may sign in support at [WeCareForLaurel.org](http://WeCareForLaurel.org).
11. Paul Verchinski presented a report on the 20 Year Aging Plan. Howard County needs to do more to

plan for the percentage growth of its older community. Not much has been done in the last 3 years. More needs to be done. A forum in the spring was approved. A forum could involve coordination with others including the Commission on Aging (Angie Boyter), and the Howard County Department of Citizen Services - Office of Aging. Paul will proceed with planning a spring forum.

12. Stu Kohn announced that Howard County's Local Health Improvement Coalition (LHIC) will hold a forum on March 24<sup>th</sup>. The Coalition is updating its 2012-14 Local Health Improvement Action Plan to include a fourth priority "healthy aging", to its other three priorities which are "increased access to care", healthy eating, and reduction of behavioral health emergencies. More information can be found at [www.hclhic.org](http://www.hclhic.org).

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM.