

HCCA Board Meeting Minutes: 1 March 2016

Attendees: Stu Kohn, Brian England, Lisa Markovitz, Paul Verchinski, Jacquie Sentell, Howard Johnson and Alan Schneider. **Guests:** John Garber, Susan Garber, John McMahon and Russ Swatek,

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.
2. The treasurer's report was approved.
3. The minutes of the February meeting were approved.
4. Chapelgate CEF zoning. Questions continue to be raised regarding the proposed CEF to the Zoning Board that the proposal does not comply with the criteria. One of the major questions is what constitutes enhancements. The Director of Planning and Zoning was asked for clarification.
5. The Howard County Delegation meeting on February 11th was discussed. Russ Swatek reviewed the data he had presented to the Delegation. Current measuring devices and standards are insufficient. Excessive noise causes hearing loss. Noise measurement devices and standards need to be understood and improved. HCCA sent a six page letter to the Delegates. Legislation is needed to amend existing state legislation.
6. A meeting will be held with the Columbia Association Board (CAB) on March 28th. We will discuss how we can work together in advocacy for a better Howard County. Citizens need to be more aware and involved in the proposed changes, and to monitor the changes which have been adopted. The Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) Task Force, Affordable Housing, Open Space, and the Watershed Advisory committees were discussed. It was moved, seconded and passed that identified issues of concern would be brought to the attention of CAB. We look forward to communications with CAB representatives on matters of common concern.
7. The history and current zoning compliance in Columbia and New Town was discussed. The role of Howard Hughes Corporation and covenant enforcement was reviewed. The Board agreed that it is important to keep Columbia as a Planned Community until a long range plan for the next 50 years is decided after incorporating meaningful community input into the plan affecting each community.
8. Mold in Howard County Schools was discussed, including a discussion of the proposed bill. The proposed bill provides for inspection by the School Board. HCCA supported and advocated an amendment requiring an independent inspection.
9. Appreciation was expressed for the Department of Planning and Zoning in agreeing to meet with HCCA to discuss general issues of concern to reach better understanding and a better working relationship between citizens and DPZ going forward. Answers to questions raised would be very helpful for citizen understanding and planning. HCCA input has been accepted regarding errors in the code, inconsistencies, and compliance with zoning procedures.
10. Paul Verchinski provided an update on the Longevity Forum, titled, "Getting Older is Not Optional, How you Deal with it is" event scheduled for April 16, including thoughts about participation of other organizations, and the need for an action plan going forward.

Board meetings are regularly scheduled on the first Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for April 1, 2016.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.