

**Howard County Citizens Association**  
**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the HCCA Board**  
December 12, 2018

**Location of Meeting:**

BA Auto Care  
9577 Berger Rd  
Columbia, Maryland 21046

**Present at Meeting:**

Board Members. Stu Kohn, Lisa Markovitz, Hiruy Hadgu, JD Smith, Paul Verchinski, Howard Johnson, Jervis Dorton, Brian England, and Alan Schneider

Others Present: Tom Flynn, Neal Vanderlipp, Leila Mahlin, and Ginny Thomas

**Agenda.**

The agenda for the meeting was distributed.

**Review of Minutes of Previous Meeting.**

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved with edits.

**Treasurer's Report.**

The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved. Discussion was initiated regarding budget planning to achieve HCCA's goals for 2019.

**Jordan Overlook Conditional Use.** Serious concerns were raised in a Petition to the Howard County Government to deny the proposed Jordan Overlook C05 Conditional Use. Unresolved issues are traffic safety, watershed flooding, school overcrowding, parking, adjacent property, forest conservation, and adherence to previous agreements regarding land use. Neal Vanderlipp presented the details on issues. Ginny Thomas provided additional information. Jervis Dorton supported Neal's presentation with additional information regarding the history of development in the area.

The Board unanimously agreed to support the concerns raised. A letter in support of the issues would be drafted for review by the Board and submission to Howard County Government.

**Lawyers Hill Proposed Development.** Testimony was postponed. Unresolved citizen concerns include the adverse impact on neighboring communities, the type of buildings currently in the historic district, and the size of the lots for the proposed 28 homes.

**Other Unresolved land use issues.** Board members discussed other unresolved land use issues including insufficient standards for approving the location of 55+ communities. Problems include the need for better long term planning for roads, the transforming impact on neighboring communities, the adequacy of transportation for residents, affordability considering the average income of aging residents on fixed incomes, and the need for nearby adequate low cost housing for the many low paid service employees.

**Impact Fees.** Revenues are insufficient to meet proposed school budgets, hospital, police, fire stations, and other services needed as a result of population growth. The problem is recognized by County Executive Calvin Ball and other officials. Revenues are declining. Additional taxes will increase the movement of residents on limited incomes to other jurisdictions where taxes are lower. **Delegate Vanessa Atterbeary** was recognized for responding to input regarding citizen needs by proposing to the Howard

County Delegation a bill that would help enable Howard County to raise impact fees. Concerns were raised regarding amendments to her initial proposal. Senator Guy Guzzone will schedule a work session on the bill to hear citizen concerns. We recommend the Working Session be held in Howard County.

**New Business.**

**Congratulations were extended to Calvin Ball, County Executive and the five new County Council Member.** HCCA looks forward to working with all to provide input to resolve existing issues and avoid future problems.

**Airplane Noise.** The Board discussed and agreed to reaffirm its confirmation of CB8-2017. The proposed changes do not include the expected increases in altitude over Howard County on departure from BWI. The noise increases made by the FAA changing departure patterns after 2012 have not been resolved.

**Downtown Columbia Design Guidelines.** Discussion noted the variances from previously agreed standards.

**Erickson Development.** The Board unanimously agreed to submit testimony on the proposed development.

**Proposed Amendments to the Howard County Zoning Code.** The status of the work on the zoning code revisions, and scheduled timing of the revisions was discussed. Review and consideration of Plan Howard should come before zoning revisions. Comprehensive rezoning is too large to do all at once, and would be better if separated, for example into the five Howard County districts.

Other notes

Upcoming Meeting. On January 12 there will be a State Work Planning Session. Representative Board members will attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM. The next meeting is January 10 at 7 PM at the same location.  
9:25 PM