

Howard County Citizens Association

Minutes of the Board of Directors

September 12, 2019

Location: BA AUTOCARE, 9577 Berger Road, Columbia, Maryland 21046

Board Attendees: Stu Kohn, President, Lisa Markovitz, Vice President, Alan Schneider, Secretary, Brian England, Susan Garber, Jervis Dorton, Paul Verchinski, Hiruy Hadgu, and Howard Johnson. Absent: JD Smith

Treasurer's Report and the minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Lawyers Hill Planning Board Meeting. HCCA Board Members and Lisa Markovitz testified in support of issues raised by community members and other organizations. Patapsco Heritage Greenway, Inc., President, Treasurer, and others presented compelling testimony against the proposed development. Among other issues the proposal is an affront to Howard County's General Plan which prioritizes preservation of historic communities.

The Planning Board and the Department of Planning and Zoning have not been resolving issues raised by HCCA, citizens and other organizations.

The Lawyers Hill proposal will be continued into the Planning Board's 5th session on this issue.

Partnership with Other Organizations. Discussions with other groups are continuing. Other groups are interested in working together for success in achieving common goals. Lisa Markovitz reported that HCCA was an invited guest to a Howard County entity which is a part of Preservation Maryland for Smarter Growth.

Tracking Executive and County Council Votes. Board Member Hiruy Hadgu's tracking of votes on legislation on Howard County legislation has received acclaim by many who read his report. This report identifies to voters whether our newly elected representatives are following through on representations made in their winning campaigns, and will be very helpful to voters in the next election.

Status of HCCA Recommendations for Planning Board Improvements. HCCA's recommendations continue to be voiced to promote the improved decision making.

HCCA Testimony at the Next Howard County Legislative hearing. After discussion a motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed for HCCA Board Members to testify on several bills and resolutions as discussed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM

The next Board Meeting tentatively scheduled for October 10, may be rescheduled.

Alan Schneider
Secretary