

Howard County Citizens Association

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

February 13, 2025

Location: zoom.

Board Attendees: Stu Kohn, President (by telephone conference call), Lisa Markovitz, Vice President, Kristy Mumma, Treasurer, Alan Schneider, Secretary, Brian England, Howard Johnson, Paul Verchinski. Lisa Markovitz presided. Member Angie Boyter attended.

1. Treasurer – Kristy Mumma sent report via email. \$6,233.88 current account balance. Members use Paypal a lot. Transition from JD Smith handled well.
2. Minutes. November minutes need to be resent. January approved via email. Website will be updated.
3. HCCA public meeting Stu is awaiting minutes Karina Fisher took. Elkridge issues were mentioned. An advocate, Viviana who attended wanted to partner with HCCA to get more public input into County civic affairs. HCCA will consider hosting an outreach event. Brian will follow up.
4. APFO Review Committee – Lisa discussed some current debates. Lisa was asked to make a presentation regarding the last task force. Stu sent some input, and got the County to publish the documents from 2016's task force. Lisa is presenting lessons learned on 2/19 to the committee.
5. MD HB44-25 Chao Wu sponsored to allow non-partisan Judge elections. HCCA testified in favor, mentioned the large number of independents.
6. Invitation to CA President to meet with HCCA Board. No response.
7. County hearing on local bills, Feb. 19. HCCA will testify on CB11. Stu is going in person. Expected to be very crowded.
8. Cap on MIHU Fee-in-lieu and building excise tax rates – Deb Jung asked to meet with Lisa on this. Lisa will keep Board posted.
9. MD HB960-25 – Board voted to have Paul Verchinski provide draft testimony to support removal of lobbying costs from electric company expense/rate calculations. MD HB 1035-24 – HCCA Board authorized Paul Verchinski to draft testimony that facilitating financing nuclear projects should entail more review and pilot projects.

10. HCCA Archives – Paul V. and Brian met with Historical Society located in Miller Library. They agreed to house physical archives. HCCA Board voted to give donation in the amount of \$250. Brian will follow up.

11. Possible new Board candidate – Stu will speak to Ryan Powers to explore.

Next Meeting Tues, March 4, in person at BA Auto Care, weather permitting.