

Community Advisory Group Notes

Thursday, January 19, 2017 from 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm

Community Advisory Group Members

Present

Tammy Beideman
Kevin Bloom
Andy Hall
Lori Lilly
Gary Maule
Ken McNaughton
Senator James N. Robey
Ron Peters
Angela Tersiguel
Beth Woodruff
Frank Durantaye
Debbie Slack Katz

Not Present

Simon Cortes
Mark Hemmis
Debbie Slack Katz
Timothy Kendzierski
Reverend Joan King
Bruno Reich
Don Reuwer

County Staff

Maria Bernadzikowski
Mark Thompson
Beth Burgess
Mark Miller
Jessie Keller
Joseph Herr
Phil Nichols
Karitsa Norman
Catherine Bedolla
Amber Harris

Discussion Topics

Welcome – Chairman, Senator Jim Robey

- Welcome from Senator Jim Robey.

Approval of Meeting Minutes – Chairman, Senator Jim Robey

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- Meeting minutes from 1/5/17 were approved.

Announcements – Senator Jim Robey

- Phil informed the CAG that FEMA will be sending out a letter in regards to flood rate changes.

Sub-group Breakouts – CAG Members

- CAG members broke out into their subgroups for a final time to finalize project rankings.

Sub-group Presentations – Subgroups (Rebuilding, Preservation, Environment, Economy, and Other)

presented out on their project rankings to the entirety of the CAG.

➤ **Other**

- The Other group reviewed their project prioritizations and explained that they divided their projects into two sub-categories: Safety and Policy.
- As a result of this discussion Senator Robey asked the CAG if they felt there is adequate lighting in town at night.
 - The CAG responded they don't feel there's enough lighting and are concerned about lighting in case of emergencies.
 - Joe Herr informed CAG members that all the Emergency Vehicles have generators that provide lighting in the event of an emergency.
- CAG member suggested that BGE conduct a lighting survey on Main Street.

➤ **Preservation**

- The Preservation subgroup explained that they did not define timelines for projects as there were too many variables to take into account.
- Some projects included:
 - Celebrating the history of Ellicott City and incorporate a positive narrative.
 - Enforcing design standards.
 - Undergrounding wires.
 - Capitalizing on the reuse of the Courthouse.
 - Creating access to the river.
 - Creating bike paths.
 - Exploring options to incorporate partnership.

➤ **Rebuilding**

- The Rebuilding group had the largest set of ideas and consolidated it down to 73 unique ideas.
- The divided the ideas into walls, parking, sidewalks, and road improvements.

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- Some projects included:
 - Determining the type of materials that need to be used during the rebuilding process.
 - Updating signage entering into the West End and on the Railroad Bridge.
 - ✚ Joe Herr is working with CSX to get the railroad sign repainted.
 - ✚ Joe Herr hopes to have the railroad sign completed by Spring 2017.
 - Having an ongoing trolley on Main Street.
- The Rebuilding subgroup also noted that the majority of their projects were long-term, Master Plan projects.

➤ **Environment**

- The Environment group noted that most of their project ideas are short-term projects (can be completed in less than 5 years).
- Some projects may start as short-term projects and continue into long-term projects.
- Some project included:
 - Obtaining easements for channels.
 - Removing debris from channels.
 - Removing structures in flood plains.
- The CAG suggested that volunteer groups assist with the clean-up.
- The CAG also suggested creating watershed groups.

➤ **Economy**

- The Economy subgroup explained that they rated bringing parking back and getting rid of parking the same because they want the County to make a decision either way, make it public, and enforce it.
- Other projects included:
 - Working on bridging the gap between Baltimore County and Howard County.
 - Exploring the option of purchasing the Flour Mill.
 - Expanding sidewalks on Main Street.
 - Creating a private partnership for the Flour Mill.
 - Focusing on tax grant programs.
 - Having a reminder that One EC Recovery Project is still fundraising.
 - Addressing safety issues by bringing in OEM into the community.
 - Assisting with Marketing and Promoting Efforts.
- The CAG felt that Millworks will be a great benefit to Ellicott City and Main Street.

Review of CAG Deliverable – Chair, Senator James N. Robey

- The CAG commented that the deliverable is clear, concise, and understandable 10 years down the road.

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- Suggested 2-3 pages in length with an Appendix of projects, rankings, follow-up items, etc.
- Maria and Phil will work on consolidating the CAG's feedback this weekend into the Deliverable and send out a copy Monday (1/23) to the CAG for review.
 - The draft Deliverable will be reviewed at 1/26's meeting.
 - Maria reminded the CAG to submit all edits, comments, etc. no later than Monday, January 30th by close of business.

Closing – Chairman, Senator Jim Robey

- Senator Robey thanked the CAG group members for their dedication.
- Phil Nichols and Maria Bernadzikowski thanked everyone for their hard work on the prioritization