

MCKENNEY HILLS-CARROLL KNOLLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION

September 23, 2020 7:00 p.m.

ZOOM Conference Call

Approved Minutes (December 16, 2020)

Civic Association President Josh Montgomery presided; quorum present on Zoom call.

Guest Speaker – Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Executive (Highlights of presentation included at the end of these minutes.)

Other guests in attendance: Debbie Spielberg, County Executive Special Assistant; Brian Nadorri, Glenwood Recreation Club, Treasurer; Daniel Koyné, Glenwood Recreation Club, Secretary

Meeting started with County Executive Elrich's presentation, then we moved to the Civic Association business (committee updates, minutes approval)

Civic Association Business:

Committee reports:

Election committee (Kathryn Toffenetti & Yaneth Galino): Nominees for Board positions were presented.

President: Joshua Montgomery (incumbent)

Vice President: Larry Margasak (incumbent)

Treasurer: Kerry Murray (New)

Secretary: Maggie Flowers (New)

The four officers were elected unanimously.

Election committee needed to nominate a nomination committee for next year's elections. Martha Randall, Kathryn Toffenetti, and Pam Ficca were nominated. The three nominees were elected unanimously.

Communications committee: The Civic Association is still looking for volunteers for the Communications committee. We need individuals to focus on updating the website as well as working on the electronic newsletter. Maggie Flowers created a Facebook site for us. There was a discussion on the possibility of budgeting some money for hiring an individual for the website update. We need to create a committee to develop a detailed plan for the electronic newsletter delivery.

Treasurer's Report (Joshua on behalf of Ed Wilhelm) - Current checking account balance: \$5002.87. There are 69 paying civic association members.

Events (Kerry Murray): Several events were cancelled or postponed due to Covid-19 (National Night Out, September Block Party). An event is scheduled for October 4 – Carmine's Italian Ice & Custard. A subcommittee for Halloween will meet and develop recommendations for safe trick & treating.

Previous meeting minutes were approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.

Presentation – ***Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Executive*** Mr. Elrich provided his background and history in Montgomery County (he has ties to our neighborhood). He also provided an update on County efforts and statistics on the Covid-19 situation and ballot initiatives. Josh Montgomery recorded the Zoom meeting so residents can review the entire meeting from the link Josh will send (has sent).

Highlights:

- County received \$183M in direct grants from federal government for Covid activities. He doesn't expect drastic budget cuts due to County's financial reserves.
- BRT plan is moving forward.
- Mr. Elrich is against Beltway widening. Suggested what is needed is a 2nd bridge that includes BRT capability
- Discussed commercial property tax and the two initiatives on the November ballot.
- Questions from the audience included an update on the Georgia Ave. exit from the Beltway. Elrich noted that Gov. Hogan cut \$2B cut from Maryland's transportation budget. Mr. Elrich should have more information in December about what transportation projects will go forward.
- Joshua Montgomery asked about upcoming school year schedule. Elrich indicated school year opening will depend on case counts.
- Voting situation: residents are encouraged to vote by mail-in ballot. Recommended that we don't use internet voting option.
- Storm water drain issue at Hildarose & Gardiner: What steps can we take to improve drainage because homes around location are being affected? County is dealing with infrastructure that was built in the 50s, 60s, and 70s. Elrich wants to hire a hydrologist to look at plan to improve storm services. County took this item out of the budget but Mr. Elrich wants to emphasize the important this project.
- County is still working on a plan for trick and treating (as of date of Civic Association meeting).
- What is the county doing to address racial tensions & policing? County is bringing in an outside consulting firm to work on police reforms. Want to focus on training

officers. Residents can view initiatives the County's Reimaging Public Safety program at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rps.

- Discussed lifting of mask requirements for soccer and how they are different from school mask requirements. Elrich said that schools are enclosed environment. Originally soccer was banned (high risk sport) but then was changed to medium risk sport.
- Question about modern/solar windows in buildings: Elrich indicated solar windows also generate electricity.