

Senior Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes Thursday, September 20, 2018  
2:30 pm, CA Headquarters Boardroom

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm.

**Members/Liaisons Present**

Sharonlee Vogel, Michelle Miller (CA), Patty Dugan (CA), Genie Wessel, Roger Chang, John Eberhard, Elizabeth Johnson, George Laniado, Jean Salkeld, Mary McGraw, Pearl Atkinson-Stewart, Arleen Tate.

**Excused:** Paul Verchinski, Bernice Kish

**Absent/Not Present:**

**Introduction of Guests:** John McCoy, CA Watershed Manager; David Zeiter, Hickory Ridge Community Association, new member.

**Approval of Agenda:** A motion was made and seconded to discuss revising meeting schedule: monthly versus bi-monthly. Decision made to discuss under Chairperson's report.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes from May 2018 as submitted. Note: SAC meeting was not held in June or July 2018 because lack of quorum. No meeting scheduled for August 2018.

**Presentation: John McCoy, Columbia Association Watershed Manager**

John McCoy leads CA's effort to implement Watershed Management Plan. Columbia was well designed; however, it has a problem with stormwater. There are immense amounts of untreated stream water after rainstorms. CA has numerous projects to address the issue. Current projects underway include:

- Stream restoration project: bioretention, bank stabilization
- Rain Garden Cost Share Program
- Lake sediment management plan
- Open space tree replacement program
- Open space deer population control

**Sharonlee Vogel, Chair's Report:**

- Greg Schwind is the CA Board member liaison to SAC.
- Howard County Accessible Transportation Forum will be held on Saturday, September 29, 10am-12pm at East Columbia Library. Attend it to learn about options, ask questions, share concerns about accessible transportation.

- SAC meeting schedule discussion will be placed on agenda for the October meeting. Proposed meeting schedule options: monthly meetings, bi-monthly meetings, or quarterly meetings; adjust time frame. Sharonlee will pull together possible dates for 2019.
- Genie and Pearl attended meeting to discuss plans for the new East Columbia 50+ Center. Existing center will remain plus a free-standing two-story building will be constructed adjacent to East Columbia Library. Genie distributed a summary of the discussion.

**New Business:** CA FY 20 budget requests discussion. CA budget planning for fiscal year 2020 is underway, and currently soliciting requests from advisory committees.

- SAC suggested CA increase funding to The Village in Howard to \$50,000.
- Pickleball increased hours requested. Issue is lack of court time and limited hours. Sharonlee will address Pickleball issue with Long Reach Community Association board of directors.

**Old Business:** Revisited proposal to change SAC meeting schedule. Discussion will be placed on agenda for the October meeting. Proposed meeting schedule options: monthly meetings, bi-monthly meetings, or quarterly meetings; adjust time frame. Sharonlee will pull together possible dates for 2019.

### **Liaison Reports:**

#### **Michelle Miller, Columbia Association:**

- CA is now enforcing illegal use of CA open space. Encroachments--structures or landscaping that cross-property boundaries without permission--are not allowed on credited open space. CA is working with all ten villages to prevent encroachment from occurring. Should homeowners encroach on CA open space, they should be aware that CA will retake the property.
- CA has a fifth sister city: Liyang, China. The formal agreement was signed by delegations from Liyang and CA on September 11. Liyang is located in southern China, 150 miles west of Shanghai.
- BikeAbout will held on Saturday, September 29 at 9:30am starting in Oakland Mills Village Center.
- Newly renovated Columbia Swim Center re-opened on September 17. Improvements include a new roof over the main pool and new slides for SplashDown.
- Columbia Athletic Club indoor tennis courts are now open. Construction will be finished by late November 2018.
- CA's School Age Services is hiring for before and after care programs in the public schools.

**Office on Aging and Independence:** No report. Effective October 2018, Barb Scher will replace Courtney Barkley as Howard County Office on Aging and Independence (OAI) representative at SAC meetings. Barb is the director of OAI's 50+ Center Division.

**Mary McGraw, The Village in Howard (TVIH):** TVIH has 162 members. It is holding a fundraising event on October 27 that will feature a 1960s theme, singing, dancing and an online fundraiser.

**Member Sharing:**

**Sharonlee Vogel:** Repair Cafe and SkillShare Fair "Connect with the Sharing Economy" event will be held on Saturday, October 13, 1-4pm at the East Columbia 50+ Center. Co-presented by Transition Howard County and the Columbia Community Exchange time bank, and held in collaboration with Howard County Commission on Aging and Howard County Office on Aging and Independence.

**Pearl Atkinson-Stewart:** Attended meeting to discuss plans for the new East Columbia 50+ Center. Existing center will remain plus a free-standing two-story building will be constructed adjacent to East Columbia Library.

**Arleen Tate:** Howard County Zoning Board postponed meeting for a new community center on Owen Brown Road.

**Roger Chang:** Attended the volunteer dinner at Kings Contrivance Community Association (KCCA). He participates in weekly meetings at KCCA as part of his duties as SAC representative.

**Jean Salkeld:** East Columbia Library offers movies nights with refreshments on a monthly basis. 50+ EXPO will be held on October 19 at Wilde Lake High School.

**Mary McGraw:** League of Women Voters is holding a candidates forum at Howard Community College on September 21 at 7pm.

**Elizabeth Johnson:** Nothing to share.

**George Laniado:** Clarified his role SAC role with Town Center Community Association.

**Genie Wessel:** Genie writes a monthly update column about SAC news for Wilde Lake Community Association. She will happily share her update on a monthly basis with fellow SAC members. She also created a contact list for Howard County Public Works.

John Eberhard: Expressed his concern that some seniors do not know about transportation options for seniors in Howard County, such as the Senior Events Shuttle and Neighbor Ride. John still organizes trips for TVIH.

**Adjournment**: At 4pm a motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded.