

Joppa/Joppatowne Community Advisory Board

Meeting Number 33 (09-18)

September 10, 2018

Joppa/Joppatowne Community Advisory Board meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Meetings are held at the Harford County Sheriff's Office Southern Precinct, 1305 Pulaski Highway, Edgewood, MD 21040.

Meeting Number 33 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Citizen Advisory Board member Dion Guthrie followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for lost comrades and Fred Mullis who's battling cancer. Minutes of Meeting Number 32 were motioned for approval by J.J. McQueen and seconded by Fran Salbeck. CAB members present were Dion Guthrie, Doris G. Carey, Fran Salbeck and J.J. McQueen. Members absent were Paula Mullis, Gloria Moon, Ron Sollod and James B. Lyons, III.

Special guests included many candidates for elected offices for the November 2018 elections; candidates were given the opportunity to briefly introduce themselves. Other special guests and presenters included Captain Peter Georgiades of the Sheriff's Office; Joe Ryan, representing Sylvia Bryant, Deputy Director of the Department of Community Services; Jansen Robinson of the Board of Education; Donna Blasdell, Legislative Aide to Councilman Mike Perrone, Jr; Dianna Guthrie, Committee Chair of the Edgewood/Joppatowne Carnival and Independence Day Parade; and Adam Shellenbarger of Joppatowne Christian Church.

Guests running for elected office were given the opportunity to introduce themselves:

Delegate Glen Glass, running for 3rd term for District 34A

Donna Blasdell, running for County Council for District A

Judge Lawrence F. Kreis, Jr, running for Circuit Court Judge

Al Peisinger, running for States Attorney

Andre' Johnson, County Council District A

Jansen Robinson, running for Board of Education District A

Maryann Connagham Forgan, running for County Executive

Sheriff's Office/Community Policing Report by Captain Peter Georgiades

Captain Georgiades began by repeating some familiar advice: In order to prevent a theft, community members must lock their cars, safeguard their keys, never leave valuables in sight, and don't be a victim. He also shared the Joppa/Joppatowne community crime report, comparing statistics for the period of August to September of 2018 to the same period in 2017. The top three calls in 2018 were alarm calls, suspicious incidents and animal complaints. All calls for service were slightly higher in 2018. All part One crimes were down in 2018. He also shared total Narcan use by law enforcement, total fatal and total non-fatal. Total

overdoses for the county was 309. Captain Georgiades passed out a Harford County Sheriff's Office Community Policing Bulletin which included residential security tips. He reminded the community to keep calling the Sheriff's Office and report suspicious incidents. The police will always come to the community to check out any incidents.

Presentation – Dianna Guthrie – Independence Day Parade Awards

CAB member Dion Guthrie introduced Dianna Guthrie and shared the work that she and her committee have done to make sure that there is an annual carnival, parade and concert in the Joppa/Joppatowne-Edgewood communities. The committee does a lot of hard work to plan and execute the carnival and parade, requiring many meetings, soliciting volunteers and soliciting donations. Along with Dianna's hard working committee, Dion Guthrie was instrumental in securing grants and other assistance to help cover expenses for the carnival, parade and concert. It was stressed that the committee members do not get paid; all are volunteers. Planning for next year's carnival and parade is already underway. Parade participants who were judged as winners were recognized and presented with trophies as well as monetary awards. Honorees included persons who served as judges, persons who cleaned up after the parade as well as members of Joppatowne Christian Church with Preacher Adam Shellenbarger who passed out water to parade participants and others. Dianna and Joyce thanked representatives of participating parade units and presented awards:

APG Senior Mission Command, represented by CSM Frank Gutierrez and SSG Hector Vegas

Harford County Sheriff's Office, represented by Captain Peter Georgiades

Joppa/Magnolia Fire Company

Ciara Kolb, young lady who sang the National Anthem

C. Milton Wright H.S. Marching Band

Aberdeen H.S. Marching Band

Joppatowne H.S. Marching Band

Edgewood H.S. Marching Band

Girl Scouts Service Unit #678

Alpha Phi Alpha, Iota Alpha Lambda Chapter

84 Lumber

Harford County Public Library

The Epicenter

Edgewood Community Baptist Church

Sapore De Mare, Italian Restaurant

Joppatowne Marina

Glenn Glass

Adam Shellenbarger, Joppatowne Christian Church, provided water and cleaned up Joppatowne Arena

Jansen Robinson – Board of Education Update

Jansen Robinson gave a brief update on his meeting with the new Superintendent, Dr. Sean W. Bulson, and he said the meeting was very positive. Jansen stated that Superintendent Bulson has scheduled “Listen and Learn Tours” throughout the County to give the superintendent insights that will be used to determine the future of HCPS. The superintendent will come to Magnolia Middle on October 1, 2018. This will be a great opportunity for the community to let the superintendent know we care about our schools and how we expect our school system to support our educational needs. It is urgent that the community turns out in large numbers.

County Update – Joe Ryan for Sylvia Bryant

Joe Ryan gave a report for Ms. Sylvia Bryant of the Department of Community Services, who had another meeting to attend. He gave an overview of the work that is being done in the department. He mentioned that 23 grants were given in District A to various organizations. He stated that the department conducted a successful program for school children on August 27th at the Epicenter, providing haircuts and school supplies. Joe highlighted the functions of the department and stated that he heads the office of drug control policy. He reported that he is a member of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council which recently approved 23 grants, seven of which went to District A in the amount of \$35, 250. He stated that he can update the community at a later date on the heroin epidemic in the County.

County Council Update- Donna Blasdell for Councilman Mike Perrone, Jr.

Donna Blasdell, Legislative Aide to Councilman Mike Perrone, Jr. mentioned upcoming bills and hearings that are of interest to the community. A hearing is scheduled on October 2, 2018 on a bill that would allow property owners within the Magnolia Neighborhood Overlay District to opt out of the MNOD. The hearing is scheduled for 6 pm. Also, she stated that a Zoning Appeals Hearing on the Tire Pyrolysis Plant will take place on September 18, 2018 at 7 pm at the County Council Chambers in Bel Air. It is very important that many people turn out for the hearing.

Community Update from Community Council Members

Dion Guthrie stated that the community must get out to vote or nothing will change. He shared information about the recent dredging operation on the Gunpowder River near Mariner Point Park in

Joppatowne. He accompanied the River keeper on a tour on the river to check out the operation to see if the work was completed. He shared the results along with charts of the completed dredging. Additional information will be provided at the next CAB meeting. He shared information from the Office of Human Relations & Mediation. The First Annual Harford County Second Chance Job and Resource Fair will be held on Thursday, October 4, 2018 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Epicenter.

J. J. McQueen said that his fraternity is trying to get students registered to vote. He said that our schools have students with lots of needs. He challenged community members to get involved with their schools and help the students with those needs.

Doris Carey stated that we need to hold our politicians accountable for the needs we have in our area. It would be helpful if we had a committee to address how we contact our political leaders. Many citizens do not use Facebook. We need to know what we need to say when we speak to our elected officials about issues that concern us in our area.

Fran Salbeck said that politicians are not reaching the community to address our needs. We as community members must reach out to share what our interests are and what support is needed.

Adam Shellenbarger stated that he is trying to get a student representative on the CAB. He stated that the Joppatowne H.S. PTSA is in dire straits. If community members do not step up the PTSA may not continue to exist. We need to take responsibility for our school. Community members can become members of the PTSA. The Homecoming Parade will take place September 21, beginning at 5:30 pm; the football game begins at 7 pm. Members of the community are encouraged to come out and support the school. Adam also reported that the Joppa Development and Heritage Corporation fall meeting will be on Wednesday, September 12 at the Joppatowne Christian Church. The community is encouraged to come and be a part of the group.

Doris G. Carey, Secretary