

Joppa/Joppatowne Community Advisory Board

Meeting Number 36 (01-19)

January 7, 2019

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 36 was called to order at 7:07p.m. by Chairperson Paula Mullis, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of Meeting Number 35 were motioned for approval by James B. Lyons, III and seconded by J.J. McQueen. CAB members present were Paula Mullis, Gloria Moon, Doris G. Carey, J.J. McQueen, Ron Sollod and James B. Lyons, III. Absent from the meeting was Fran Salbeck.

Special guests and community members who gave presentations or shared information were David Pryor, Branch Director of the Edgewood Boys and Girls Club; CPT Peter Georgiades of the Harford County Sheriff's Office; Adam Shellenbarger, preacher at Joppatowne Christian Church; Sylvia W. Bryant, Deputy Director of the Department of Community Services; Councilman Andre Johnson and his Legislative Aide, Rachel Pedersen; and Samantha K. Harris, Legislative Aide to Council President Patrick S. Vincenti.

Sheriff's Office/Community Policing Report

CPT Georgiades briefed on the Joppa/Joppatowne Community Crime Report statistics for December 5, 2018 –January 4, 2019, comparing them to the same period last year.

Top (3) Calls for Service

2017/2018

		<u>2017</u>		<u>2018</u>
#1	Suspicious Incidents	44	#1	Suspicious Incidents 38
#2	Alarm Calls	31	#2	Alarm Calls 32
#3	Animal Complaint	23	#3	Animal Complaint 16

Total Calls for Service in 2017 were 1030 compared to 766 in 2018, a drop of -26%. Total crashes reported in 2017 were 9 compared to 5 in 2018, a drop of -44%.

Part One Crimes for 2017 / 2018

	2017	2018	% Change
Homicide	0	0	0%
Rape	0	0	0%
Robbery	1	0	-100

Assault	2	0	-100%
Burglary	3	2	-33%
Theft	14	8	-43%
Auto Theft	1	0	-100%

CPT Georgiades also shared total Narcan that had to be used by Law Enforcement. He indicated that he was encouraged that community members are doing a better job of locking their cars. Car thefts have declined substantially. He can be contacted at the Southern Precinct Office by calling the following telephone number: 410-612-1717.

David Pryor – Boys and Girls Club in Edgewood

Mr. David Pryor, Branch Director of the Boys and Girls Club mentioned that the schools in the area with the exception of Joppatowne and Riverside Elementary schools participate in an excellent program. The Boys and Girls club is a safe place for all students who attend for four hours a day, offering a variety of programs including a time for homework. The cost per student is \$20 per month. Students are offered a hot meal 4 days a week and a cold meal on the fifth day. Adult staff members try to teach core values, are very serious with homework and offer a safe place for the students. Community members are invited to visit the Boys and Girls Club and receive a tour of the facility.

Adam Shellenbarger of the Joppatowne Christian Church shared that his church is sponsoring the homeless shelter this week. Meals and activities are being done to insure the participants feel welcome. If anyone would like to participate in the program, let Adam know about it. Adam shared that homeless people from other counties are beginning to participate in the shelter program in this county. He thanked the community for its support. Adam said that many good things are happening at Joppatowne H.S., to include expanding the homeland security program, as well as celebrating students who have chosen colleges and other career tracks. There is a million dollar pledge in scholarships to Joppatowne H.S. college-bound students.

Sylvia Bryant, Deputy Director of the Department of Community Services

Ms. Bryant thanked the board members for their continued volunteer support to the County. She continues to share the many activities that are happening throughout the County. She mentioned that Harford Transit now allows customers to pay their fare quickly and easily with their smartphone using the Token Transit app. Riders may purchase passes to use immediately or store them for future rides. Bus routes and extended hours have been added. She also shared information about “SibShop” for Siblings of Children with Special

Needs in Harford County; the event will be for siblings from ages 6 – 9, on Saturday, January 26, 2019, from 9 am – 12 pm at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church in Bel Air. She reminded community members of the County Executive Newsletter. She shared information that Project Homeless Connect is coming to Harford County to help hundreds of families and individuals experiencing homelessness obtain resources and services to help them back on the path to a stable life. The event takes place January 24, 2019 at APGFCU Arena at Harford Community College. For further information on any of the activities, contact Sylvia at the Department of Community Services, 410-638-3150.

County Council Update by Councilman Andre Johnson

Councilman Johnson introduced Rachael Pedersen, his Legislative Aide. He talked about Resolution 017-18 (Magnolia Road Petition Annual Assessment) regarding the construction of public sewer mains in the 600 block of Magnolia Road area and the creation of an annual assessment in the amount of no more than \$1,698 per property owner. The assessment is to pay for the 1,800 foot 8-inch gravity sewer line. Property owners will have to pay approximately \$15,000 to connect to the system as well as the cost to abandon their existing septic system within a year and connect to the public sewer system at their homes. Each property owner is expected to receive a \$20,000 grant from MDE. The estimated cost of the project is \$532,000, to be paid with a low-interest 30-year loan through MDE. The health department concluded it cannot approve any building permits; therefore, public sewer is the best option. Councilman Johnson also reported that District A is included in one of two Harford County Enterprise Zones. The County encourages development in its two enterprise zones by providing tax credits to businesses that invest in the area. Andre stated that he will keep the community updated on these issues. For more information, contact him or Rachel at 410-638-3521, or email ajohnson@harfordcountycouncil.com.

Community Updates from CAB Members and Local Community Members

Samatha Harris distributed highlights from County Council meeting for December 4, 2018. She briefly pointed out some of the highlights, including resolutions concerning Magnolia Road Petitions, Enterprise Zones and various executive department appointments.

Barbara Risacher stated that clean up at Mariner Point Park will take place Saturday, 9 am to 11 am. Cleanup is still ongoing along Shore Drive.

Ron Sollod distributed fire prevention handouts. He reminded all that have fresh Christmas trees to get rid of them now. Regarding disposing of household batteries, Ron mentioned that batteries could be taken to Tollgate landfill. Also, MOM's in Whitmarsh will accept old batteries. Ron discussed fire safety tips, including the following:

- Proper fire screens for fireplaces
- Working smoke alarms with 10-year batteries; test alarms monthly
- Keep space heaters at least 3 feet from combustible materials
- In case of fire call 911
- Hanging a sheet from the window is the universal sign that someone is inside

Ron reminded the community that all county fire companies are run by volunteers. Volunteers are needed.

J.J. McQueen stated that as a person who works in the media business, he thinks it is a good idea to approach local representatives first before taking an issue to the outside media. This approach could help to avoid a lot of misunderstanding and allow problems to be resolved more effectively. J.J. stated that he is involved in supporting the Boys and Girls club and encouraged others to do the same.

Paula Mullis stated that she had no idea of the kind of things the Boys and Girls club was doing for the community. She mentioned the revitalization of Harford Bank and said she misses the old bank that seemed more community friendly. Paula said she and J.J. will meet with Rev. Donte Hickman at her home in the near future to discuss prospective plans for the community.

Gloria Moon mentioned that her contacts with Planning and Zoning have not helped much. However, Gloria is well aware of what is happening and is willing to help. She is very knowledgeable of the zoning process.

James B. Lyons III shared that the fire company finished 2018 with 1,800 EMS runs. The fire company has been extremely busy. He mentioned how the firehouse renovation on Hanson Road is moving along. A grant for \$485,000 has been procured to replace a needed breathing apparatus. It is hoped that the firehouse will be enhanced to be helpful for volunteer crews.

Debbie and John Tripp talked about the serious well water problems they are having at their home on Old Mountain Rd Central. Several weeks ago their well went dry requiring them to spend \$10K to dig deeper. The water returned murky and with contaminates. The Tripps believe something is sucking the water out of the well and causing the water to be contaminated. They have been working with MDE to address the issue.

The meeting adjourned 8:52 pm.

Doris G. Carey, Secretary