

Joppa/Joppatowne Community Advisory Board

Meeting Number 38 (03-19)

March 4, 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 38 was called to order at 7:04p.m. by Chairperson Paula Mullis, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for a fallen hero. Minutes of the February meeting were approved by the board after accepting a correction identified by Ron Sollod. The correction changes the amount of fire firefighter breathing apparatus from \$450 to \$485,000, as stated on page 4 by James B. Lyons, III. The CAB members present were Paula Mullis, Fran Salbeck, Doris G. Carey, J.J. McQueen, Ron Sollod and James B. Lyons, III. Absent from the meeting was Gloria Moon.

Special guests and community members who gave presentations or shared information were CPT Peter Georgiades of the Harford County Sheriff's Office; Judy M. Mackert, Director of the Bureau of Environmental Health; Patrick S. Vincenti, Harford County Council President; Sylvia W. Bryant, Deputy Director of the Department of Community Services; Adam Shellenbarger, preacher at Joppatowne Christian Church; Mike Aherns, Vice President of the Edgewood Development Corporation; Jansen Robinson, Harford County Board of Education; Judy Rose; Councilman Andre Johnson and his Legislative Aide, Rachel Pedersen; Sheriff Jeff Gahler; 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 February 1, 2019 – March 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	45	#1	Suspicious Incidents 39
#2	Alarm Calls	42	#2	Alarm Calls 37
#3	Animal Complaint	41	#3	Animal Complaint 25

Total Calls for Service in 2018 were 1143 compared to 909 in 2019, a change of -20%. Total crashes reported in 2018 were 4 compared to 7 in 2019, a change of 75%.

Part One Crimes for 2018 / 2019

	2018	2019	% Change
Homicide	0	0	0%
Rape	0	0	0%
Robbery	1	0	-100
Assault	0	0	0%
Burglary	2	2	0%
Theft	12	15	-25%
Auto Theft	0	1	0%

CPT Georgiades also shared statistics on heroin use and emphasized that marijuana is a gateway drug. He can be contacted at the Southern Precinct Office by calling the following telephone number: 410-612-1717.

Julie M. Mackert, Director of the Bureau of Environmental Health

Julie Mackert stated that she came to the meeting to listen to the concerns of the community members and then take those concerns back to the health department. Community members mentioned several concerns and offered suggestions. A major concern is that there have been occasions when the waters used for recreation in the Joppatowne area have been unsafe but the community was not notified. Community members, particularly Rumsey Island residents, would like for the health department to identify the public bathing areas around Joppatowne: evaluate samples of water from the bathing beaches; and report if there are contaminants that will affect the health of the users. Julie emphasized that water at bathing beaches can only be sampled where testers can walk out in knee-deep water. Ms. Mackert plans to take the community members' concerns back to the health department and return to share the results at a future date.

Sylvia Bryant, Deputy Director of the Department of Community Services

Ms. Bryant continued to share the many activities that are happening throughout the County. She talked about the play, *Addicted*, which will be performed at North Harford High School and Mr. Zion Church; the 5K walk/run, benefiting the Special Olympics; Youth and Family Resource Festival; as well as Healthy Streams. Sylvia was thanked for keeping the community aware of what's happening in the County.

Adam Shellenbarger – Joppatowne Christian Church

Congratulations to Adam Shellenbarger on receiving the Citizen of the Year Award from the Joppatowne Lions Club. It is well deserved. A special thanks to Adam for keeping the community updated on what is happening at the Joppatowne High School, the needs of the school such as volunteering and the work being done in the community. Adam mentioned that Joppatowne H.S. seniors have so far received over \$2 million in scholarship money. A special thanks to Adam for his great leadership.

Michael Ahern, Vice President of the Edgewood Development Corporation

Mr. Ahern shared a program on drones and their real world application. He is asking the CAB for their support in bringing the program into Joppatowne High School. He talked about the numerous applications for drones that could be taught as a part of the homeland security program. He talked about how students in all grade levels can benefit from learning about real world applications of drones. They are programmable and they teach logical thinking in science as well as geography. Mike Ahern can be contacted at elementis@aol.com to learn more information about the program.

Sheriff Jeff Gahler

Sheriff Gahler stated that there are many vacancies in the Harford County Sheriff's Office. The department is having a tough time finding career people for law enforcement jobs. There is also a great need for diversity in the department.

Jansen Robinson, Board of Education Member

Mr. Robinson shared that as a member of the Board, there was a hard fight to get an additional \$5 million added to the budget. He said that the school start date bill will probably be reversed. If the community is interested in the start date changing, send request to board member Jansen. The Joppa/Joppatowne and Edgewood CAB are interested in meeting our new superintendent. It is hoped that the meeting can happen at the April meeting. The April meeting will be a joint meeting of the 2 CABs. Attendees are asked to invite other members of the community to the April CAB meeting. Jansen mentioned that the Board is looking at a plan to put an Early College program at Joppatowne H.S.

County Council Update by Councilman Andre Johnson

Councilman Johnson updated the community on complaints received about speeding in the Haverhill area of Joppatowne. There will be another traffic study in May. There is a concern about poor lighting on

Joppa Farm Road. BGE will put additional new lighting in the area. No new discussion has been rescheduled about the Super 8 Motel. The Development Advisory Committee (DAC) is scheduled to meet on March 6.

County Council President, Patrick S. Vincenti

Mr. Vincenti stated that he was pleased to be able to visit the Joppa/Joppatowne CAB meeting and hopes he will be able to return in the future. He complimented the CAB and Councilman Johnson for the job he is doing. He invited members to feel free to contact him. He can best be reached through his aide, Samantha.

Judy Rose – Transportation Update

Judy Rose of the Joppa Development and Heritage Corporation (JDHC) shared transportation updates on the US 40 Bridge, I-95 Project and the JCHC test. Judy updated the status of SB 442 / HB 102, regarding Toll Roads, Highways, and Bridges - County Government Consent Requirement – Expansion. She shared that the I-95 project completion is projected for the fall of 2021.

Community Updates from CAB Members and Local Community Members

James B. Lyons, III shared that studies show that newer houses are burning faster than older houses. It is thought that the materials in newer houses are not as fireproof as older homes. He also mentioned that the fire company has been extremely busy. When local hospitals are full and can't take patients, the fire company must take the patients out of the county where there are openings.

Ron Sollod shared a fact sheet titled "Close Before You Doze." The fact sheet contains ten facts that are most important to fire safety. Ron also shared that there is a new 911 system in the works that can find you wherever you are.

J.J. McQueen thanked the community for their support.

Paula Mullis thanked all the participants for their reports.

The meeting adjourned at 9.13 p.m.

Doris G. Carey, Secretary