



THE FOREST HILL COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes

October 22, 2019

Advent Lutheran Church, 2230 Rock Spring Road, Forest Hill

Members & Representatives in Attendance

Bernie Schweigman – Chairperson

Thom Ellenbecker – Secretary

Nancy Reynolds – Board Member

Cathy Ohler – Board Member

Elena Skittle-Watson – Board Member

Daniel Sekowski – Board Member

Larry Richardson – Policy Director for Office of the County Executive Barry Glassman

Aurora Kahoe – Legislative Aide to County Councilman Chad Shrodes

Tracy Penman – Captain, Northern Precinct, Harford County Sheriff's Office

Jeffrey Gahler – Sheriff, Harford County Sheriff's Office

Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Bernie Schweigman at 7:05 pm.

Minutes read-in by Thom Ellenbecker and accepted after noted correction of board members in attendance.

A crime report for Forest Hill was presented by Captain Penman for the period of Sept 20 to Oct 20.

- Trends showed significant increase in suspicious person / conditions coinciding with recent overnight thefts out of unlocked vehicles. Subsequent investigations have resulted in arrests by canvassing nearby houses who had motion cameras.
- It was recommended that whenever you have a motion camera that shows suspicious activities, please make a point of reporting the event to the sheriff's office. Even if there was no damage or theft to your property, it might still help your neighbors.
- Citizens are advised to continue taking basic precautions like locking cars, homes and garages and to dropping outgoing mail in postal-service boxes to guard themselves.
- Property owners on Johnson Mill have given permission to the Northern Precinct to use their driveway for speed enforcement at all hours with all precinct shifts have been notified of the option to use this location for speed enforcement efforts in the area.

Sheriff Gahler shared the work that his office has been leading. Highlights included:

- Harford County appears to be on track for 2019 to have the lowest rate of crime ever reported to the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program.
- Harford County is better staffed than most surrounding counties but is in need of more cadets looking to begin a career in law enforcement. No residency requirements and a strong desire to increase diversity, but currently the challenge of recruiting applicants.

- Sheriff's office outreach on heroin overdose prevention efforts (HOPE) include teen behavioral safety training and the HOPE house trailer that gives examples to parents on signs to look for.
- Please like the Harford County Sheriff's Office facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/HarfordCountySheriffsOffice/>

The CAB board discussed plans for scheduling speakers and planning topics for future meetings.

Reports from Agencies and Officials included the following notes:

- The requested clear-out of overgrowth of trees and shrubs near the intersections of Hwy 23 and Hwy 24 is now complete.
- Harford County Executive Barry Glassman is continuing his work on identifying paths for funding the Kirwan Commission's recommendations which would avoid the establishment of funding gaps for local governments to fill.
- Harford County Emergency Services is hosting free emergency preparedness training classes Nov 6 through Dec 4.
- Harford County's Commission on Veterans Affairs is hosting a Veterans Resource Fair on November 9th.
- Harford County's Office on Community and Economic Development is hosting an Ask the Experts (Legal, Accounting, Banking & Insurance) seminar for small business owners on November 20th
- A proposed settlement with Transource is now documented for the Public Services Commission to review which will avoid the building of greenfield lines.

Upcoming Local Events:

- Advent Lutheran Church's Advent Christmas Market is scheduled for Friday Nov 22 12-7pm and Saturday Nov 23 at 9am-2pm featuring a bake table, craft items, fresh evergreen boughs, lunch café, regifting tables, silent auction, and more

Meeting adjourned by Chairperson Bernie Schweigman at 8:15PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 26, 2019, 7:00PM at Advent Lutheran Church, 2230 Rock Spring Road, Forest Hill

Respectfully Submitted, Thom Ellenbecker

The Forest Hill Community Advisory Board is a forum for the area residents to inform the Office of the County Executive on matters of interest and/or concern within the Forest Hill community. This Board will host regularly scheduled public meetings that educate attending residents on local government services, plans and initiatives, along with various state agencies and other organizations. All meetings are open to the public. Resident involvement is critical to the success of this community board!

Forest Hill Community Advisory Board Members:
Bernard Schweigman II - Chairperson

Thom Ellenbecker - Secretary
Catherine Ohler
Nancy Reynolds
Elena Skittle-Watson
Daniel Sekowski
Steven Davids

Please see our web page at: <https://www.harfordcountymd.gov/2710/Forest-Hill>

Please also like the Forest Hill Community Advisory Board on Facebook:
<https://www.facebook.com/TheForestHillCommunityAdvisoryBoard/>