



THE FOREST HILL COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD Meeting Minutes

June 28, 2022

Advent Lutheran Church 2230 Rock Spring Rd. Forest Hill, MD 21050

Members & Representatives in Attendance

Bernie Schweigman – Chair, Board Member

Cathy Ohler – Acting Secretary, Board Member

Elena Skittle-Watson, Board Member

Jerry Backof

Tom Miller – Board Member

Joyce Browning-

Capt. Robert Royster - Division Commander, Northern Precinct, Harford County Sheriff's Office

Aurora Kahoe – Legislative Aide to Council Member Chad Shrodes

Mike Castino

Jim Liescheidt

Verna Liescheidt

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

Daniel Sekowski- Board Member

Minutes

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

May minutes were read and accepted.

A crime report for Forest Hill was presented by Capt. Robert Royster for the past month and yearly comparison.

- Top three (3) types of calls – alarms, animals, suspicious incidents.
- So far in 2022, there have been 1,136 calls for service.
- Crashes have gone down. However, there was a fatal crash today.
- Part 2 crimes – auto theft. Keen Dodge had a theft of a Hellcat engine last night. It was a professional job. Recently, Thompson Automotive and Jones Automotive have experienced similar thefts with 3 and 2 thefts respectively.
- Due to staffing shortages, the Northern Precinct is down to 5 deputies/shift. In the summer, after 11pm, there are only 4 deputies/shift. That makes it tougher to be everywhere at once.
- Harford County Sheriff's Office participated in Badges for Baseball today. There were over 50 youth playing in Edgewood today.

Our guest speaker, Joyce Browning, Master Gardener, with the Maryland Extension Service, presented an overview of the services that are available to the public from the Maryland Extension Service.

- The MD Extension Service is a cooperative organization and works with the University of Maryland, other land grant universities and the agricultural community to include the 4H, and others.
- The office is funded through Federal, State, and County resources.
- The team at the Extension Service includes:
 - Joyce Browning, Home Gardens
 - Andy Ness – Farmers
 - Trisha Hoopes – Nutrient Management
 - Jennifer Dixon – Healthy Eating
 - Snap Education – which is a young person intern, who does outreach to Title I schools.
- She recommended that people get their soil tested every 3yrs – there is a nominal fee to test.
 - Univ. of Del - \$15
 - Penn State - \$9
 - The Mill, Bel Air - \$15
- Joyce recommended that anyone purchasing an older home to get it tested for lead paint.
- Joyce said that they also offer classes, which are open to the public. And they offer a Master Gardener certification. It is 50hrs of instruction on Wed nights, costs = \$50, and then the person will need to give another 40hr of service back to the community.
- She spoke about the infestation of the Spotted Lanternfly
- Joyce left several handouts for everyone to take.

Other updates from officials and upcoming events

Aurora Kahoe –

- Spoke about the ongoing concern for a traffic light/roundabout at Rt 23 and Grafton Shop Rd. and Chad Shrodes ongoing and continued efforts to work with MDDOT, MDSHA on these efforts.
- She said the County has a Consolidated Road Program that lists the priority of roads, bridges, and rail throughout the county. The intersection has been on the county's priority list for some time.

Larry Richardson –

- Also reminded people that even though there was another fatality at this intersection, that people writing letters to their elected representatives is important.
- Larry gave a handout to everyone on voting. He reminded people that Primary Election Day is July 19, 2022.
- He reminded people that after the 2020 Census there has been some redistricting in Maryland and parts of Harford County have new voting Districts. He said that some people may get new voters registration cards.

- Larry reminded people to come out to 4th Friday's at The Grove. He said there are 8 permanent vendors, other vendors, food trucks, and local wineries, breweries, and distilleries, as well as music.
- Larry reminded people about the parades around the area upcoming for Independence Day celebrations.
 - July 2 – Edgewood and Joppatowne
 - July 3 – Havre de Grace
 - July 4 – Bel Air

Other:

Dan Sekowski said that the Bel Air Farmers market wants to come speak at one of our meetings.

Dan also spoke about a Peony Farm in Darlington and that the owner might be a good speaker at a meeting.

Meeting adjourned by Chairperson Bernie Schweigman at 8:37pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 27, 2022, at 7:00pm.

Respectfully submitted, Cathy Ohler

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 – Acting Chairperson
Thom Ellenbecker – Secretary
Tom Miller
Catherine Ohler
Nancy Reynolds
Elena Skittle-Watson
Daniel Sekowski
Sherri Wiczorkowski

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

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