



**THE FOREST HILL COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Minutes**

November 26, 2019

Advent Lutheran Church, 2230 Rock Spring Road, Forest Hill

**Members & Representatives in Attendance**

Bernie Schweigman – Chairperson

Cathy Ohler – Board Member

Elena Skittle-Watson – Board Member

Susan Brown

David Hoover

Avery Northwood

Jim Liescheidt

Chad Shrodes – Council member for Northern District

Pat Vincenti – Council President

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

Brad Killian – Director, Dept. of Planning & Zoning

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

**Minutes**

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

Minutes read-in by Cathy Ohler 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 November 2018 to November 2019.

- 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. The best deterrent is to keep your vehicles free of items in the front and locked when you are not in them.
- 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.
- There has been an increase in calls for service. That is normal heading into the holiday season. It is also good because that means people are paying attention and calling for service.

- There has been an increase in calls from the IRS and Social Security. These are scam calls. They will never call you. Don't send them any money.
- The Department received a grant and they are hiring for 3 more school resource officers (SROs) for elementary schools.

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

Reports from Agencies and Officials included the following notes:

- Brad Killian, Director of Planning & Zoning
  - He spoke on the ways the department get requests
    - Through the County's Comprehensive Planning activity, which happens every 10 years.
      - The last one was in 2016, which created the Development Envelope throughout the county
    - Through comprehensive zoning, which happens every 8 years
      - The last one was in 2017 and the department reviewed the zoning for every parcel in the county
    - People can do what the zoning allows
  - Mr. Killian said schools are closed to new development in 3 areas
  - The dept is in charge of the Census efforts – which will begin in April 2020
  - Mr. Killian spoke about the Maps & Apps tracker which citizens can use to see what is going on county-wide and in what status each parcel of land is in.
  - The GIS system has interactive maps so that citizens can see what is going on with the development in the county
- Chad spoke about the accessory dwelling legislation
  - This will replace the cottage housing legislation
  - This would cover "in-law suites"
- Pat Vincenti spoke on the topic of the council's role in local government
  - He spoke of professionalism on the board
  - There was a meeting with the School Board
    - Enrollments are up in county schools
    - The projection is that school enrollments will increase over the next 5 yrs.
- Larry Richardson
  - Maryland General Assembly will be starting in January for 90 days. He will be spending a lot of time there.
    - The Kerwin Report – as it stands, it should benefit Harford County. He anticipates this to be a hot potato in the legislative session.
    - Funds for Roads & Repair were taken away in 2008 – those funds are slowly coming back to the county, but not a lot
    - The General Assembly & the Courts are looking at implied pre-emption – this relates to solar panels and certain zoning regulations

- What this means is if it is NOT in the law, then companies/people can do certain things
- Things around town:
  - Santa's Sensory Workshop
  - Webinar on Cyber bullying
  - Program on Prepare Because You Care
  - Interactive map of Roads and Bridges
  - Farm finder map – find your Christmas tree farms
  - A Refrigerator magnet about fraud
  - No shave November – county donations are going to the homeless
  - Women of Tomorrow – looking for candidates
  - Women's Commission – next meeting 1/26/20 – need volunteers
  - 12/1/19 – Bel Air Christmas parade
  - 12/7/19 Harford Vineyard – bazaar and wine tasting
  - 12/14/19 Wreaths Across America – Bel Air Memorial Gardens, 11:45am
  - 12/7/19 – Humane Society is having a pub crawl to benefits animals

Meeting adjourned by Chairperson Bernie Schweigman at 8:15PM

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, January 28, 2020 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/>

