



Commission Meeting
Open Session Minutes
January 17, 2024

The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission met in hybrid, in-person/videoconference, with the Chair initiating the meeting at the Wheaton Headquarters Auditorium in Wheaton, Maryland. The meeting was broadcast by the Montgomery Planning Department.

PRESENT

Prince George's County Commissioners

Peter A. Shapiro, Chair
Dorothy Bailey
William Doerner
Manuel Geraldo
A. Shuanise Washington

Montgomery County Commissioners

Artie Harris, Vice Chair
Shawn Bartley
James Hedrick
Josh Linden

NOT PRESENT

Mitra Pedoeem

Chair Shapiro called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

ITEM 1 APPROVAL OF COMMISSION AGENDA

ACTION: See item 2

ITEM 2 APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Open Session – 12/20/23

Motion by Vice Chair Harris to adopt the 1/17/24 Agenda and
12/20/23 Open Session Minutes

Seconded by Commissioner Hedrick

9 approved the 1/17/24 agenda

9 approved the 12/20/23 minutes

ITEM 3 GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) National Blood Donor Month

b) National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month

c) Upcoming M-NCPPC Black History Month Observances – February 2024

d) Financial Disclosure Filing Requirement April 30 (State and M-NCPPC Deadlines)

Chair Shapiro welcomed the new Prince George's Planning Department Director Lakisha Hull. Vice Chair Harris also welcomed Montgomery Parks Director Miti Figueredo and Montgomery Planning Director Jason Sartori.

ITEM 4 ACTION/PRESENTATION ITEMS

a) Amendments to Rules of Procedure for Rotation of Commission Chair (Shapiro/Harris)

Chair Shapiro introduced the amendments to the M-NCPPC Rules of Procedure, and introduced Mr. Beckham, who summarized the amendments, including changing the date of the rotation of the chairmanship move from the January to July Commission meeting.

Mr. Beckham noted that there were several minor amendments offered to the rules presented in the packet.

ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Geraldo to amend the Rules of Procedure as described

Seconded by Commissioner Washington

9 voted in favor

b) Amendments to Practice 2-24, Section I(G): Post-Employment Restrictions (Beckham)

Mr. Beckham submitted requested amendments/clarifications to the section on Post-Employment Restrictions in Practice 2-24, Ethics. He described the changes to the section of the Practice, as listed in the packet.

ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Geraldo to adopt the amendments to Practice 2-24

Seconded by Commissioner Washington

9 voted in favor

c) Resolution 24-01 Minor Amendment to the 2014 Approved Southern Green Line Station Area Sector Plan (Calomese)

No discussion

ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Geraldo to adopt Resolution 24-01

Seconded by Commissioner Hedrick

9 voted in favor

d) Resolution 24-02 Minor Amendment to the 2009 Approved Countywide Master Plan of Transportation and 2013 Approved Subregion 6 Master Plan (Hancock)

No discussion.

ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Geraldo to adopt Resolution 24-02

Seconded by Commissioner Bailey

9 voted in favor

e) Resolution 24-03 Approval of Fairland and Briggs Cheney Master Plan (Butler/Larson)

Montgomery County Upcounty Division Chief Patrick Butler and Master Planner Clark Larson presented on the Master Plan. Mr. Butler Described the emphasis on meeting the public in the field, both in general canvassing, and at pre-established government and civic events.

Commissioner Doerner asked about encouraging developers to place utilities underground in other urban plans. Mr. Butler said ideally the balance lies in focusing on utilities' increased resiliency (and reduced risk), and aesthetic advantages versus the greater cost. There is a recommendation in the master plan to analyze these needs against the density of the proposed development. Vice Chair Harris suggested Prince George's County might create a fund to offset developers' costs to encourage underground utilities.

Deputy Kronenberg said the design guidelines specifically for the Briggs Cheney Master Plan focused the need of underground utilities on the central business district's main thoroughfare, where design issues (e.g., tree cover, pedestrian walkways, stormwater management) encouraged the practice of keeping utilities underground.

ACTION:

Motion by Commissioner Geraldo to adopt Resolution 24-03

Seconded by Vice Chair Harris

9 voted in favor

f) Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023 (Cohen/SB&Co)

Secretary-Treasurer Cohen introduced Chris Lehman of auditors SB & Co. to report on the M-NCPPC's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. Mr. Lehman provided an unmodified/clean audit opinion of the financial statements, with no instance of fraud or material weaknesses in internal controls and found only one significant deficiency. The auditors received full cooperation from staff and management.

The one deficiency had to do in the Evaluation of Key Processes section in Fixed Asset accounts that had to do with capitalizing construction in progress to track depreciation.

Corporate Accounting Director Rodman presented highlights from the report itself. The Commission reports healthy fund balances and continued compliance with the fund balance policy.

g) 2024 Legislative Update (Borden)

General Counsel Borden provided a brief update on the General Assembly session. M-NCPPC Counsel Baucum-Colbert will be working on both local and statewide bills in Annapolis this session. General Counsel Borden added this year focuses heavily on affordable housing, as it is a major legislative objective for the governor, the speaker of the Senate and leader of the House. The Legal Department will monitor those bills for changes that include matters within the M-NCPPC's purview.

Other bills they are monitoring include the state's active approach toward zoning ordinances, which are usually addressed on a more local level. She will provide further reports to the individual planning boards. The Chairs offered their praise and support for the work that the General Counsel and Ms. Baucum-Colbert were doing in Annapolis.

Commissioner Bartley encouraged strong support for keeping control of the decisions for living and zoning at the local level. Centralized decision-making does not always work in the best interest for all communities to meet the needs of those different communities.

Commissioner Doerner asked Ms. Borden to engage with legislators about conflicts with Federal funding in regard to the definitions of Low Income/Very Low Income or Area Median Income and urged caution regarding setting those definitions. General Counsel Borden said the Legal Department is working with the Department of Housing and Community Development to assure those numbers and definitions work at the county, state and Federal level, to ensure Federal funding is available to provide more affordable housing for our residents.

ITEM 5

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

- a) Late Evaluation Report, October 2023 (For Information Only)
- b) MFD 1st Quarter Purchasing Statistics (For Information Only)
- c) CIO Quarterly Report (Chilet)

CIO Chilet presented to Commissioners highlights from his report, included with the packet, focusing on the M-NCPPC's Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) upgrade process and its history and upcoming project timeline. He reported that there has been remarkable stakeholder engagement.

Chair Shapiro asked for the reasoning behind such a long RFP development process. CIO Chilet replied it is to get the best responses from every qualified vendor to meet the needs expressed by M-NCPPC's cross-functional team, as conveyed to the IT Project Management team. Executive Director Chiang-Smith added the more time that is taken to plan the project and get input from departmental end users allows us to inform prospective vendors of our needs. The ERP Team will ensure they are delivering what is needed and expected.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report
No report scheduled

General Counsel's Report
d) Litigation Report (For information only)

Item 6. Closed Session

Pursuant to the Maryland General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, Section 3-305(b)(9) and (15), a closed session is proposed to (i) consider matters relating to collective bargaining negotiations with the Municipal and County Government Employees' Organization to preserve the Commission's negotiating position and (ii) to discuss cybersecurity matters that pose a risk to: 1. security assessments or deployments relating to information resources technology; 2. network security information; and 3. deployments or implementation of security personnel, critical infrastructure, or security devices, in order to protect public safety.

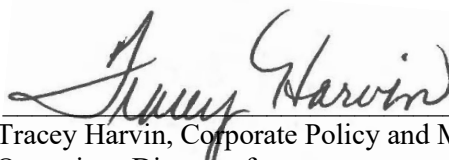
Commissioner Geraldo moved to enter closed session; Commissioner Bailey seconded at 11:29 a.m. All commissioners present supported the movement.

Open session resumed at 12:12 p.m.

With no other business to discuss, Chair Shapiro adjourned the meeting at 12:12 p.m.



James Adams, Senior Technical Writer



Tracey Harvin, Corporate Policy and Management
Operations Director, for
Asuntha Chiang-Smith, Executive Director