

## June 7 Community Advisory Committee Meeting

Attendees: Al Muller, Sheila Footer, Karin Liva, Michael Mezey, Jim Jones, David Rabin

Ex-officio: Melanie White, Mike Dorsey, Carolina Zumaran-Jones, David Lewis

- Old Business
  - Questionnaire: The Community Advisory Committee requested that Council send a questionnaire to the community to gather information to aid the review of strategic goals.
    - Committee is still interested in having this raised to the Council.
    - Al Muller requested that committee members consider what topics the questionnaire might include.
    - Melanie indicated that previous polls were sent. Michael requested that Melanie send out copies of the previous polls to the committee.
- New Business
  - Michael Mezey discussed the history of the strategic planning subcommittee and the development of the strategic goals adopted by the Council.
  - Trees in village: Pruning has been done in the neighborhood
  - Villages concept
    - The FHNN social activities were discussed, including whether they compete with village events.
    - Jim Jones indicated FHNN has no intention of competing with Village activities.
  - Strategic planning / Survey of residents
    - Discussion of petition presented to Council, including development at 5550 Friendship, closing of stores in the area, and the need for strategic planning in some fashion
    - Mike Dorsey emphasized that the Council is open to specific suggestions on improvements that the Council can act upon as well as any specific requests to forward to the Montgomery County Council.
    - Jim Jones pointed out that when drafting strategic planning surveys, it is very important to leave the survey open and avoid constraining the responses.
    - Michael Mezey discussed the importance of remaining involved in developments outside the strict boundaries of the village (as stated in the strategic goals).
    - Mike Dorsey: The first question on a survey of residents should ascertain their quality of life (e.g., a rating from 1-5).
    - Al summarized that all previous questionnaires from the Council and the Villages had been created by Village residents, not outside consultants.
  - Political involvement
    - Jim Jones suggested that the recent Council election turnouts were low and that it is important to communicate to residents that the Council is an elected body that can take actions with consequences for the neighborhood.
    - Carolina: We need greater outreach to the community so that residents know what is going on.
    - Michael Mezey: Low turnout often is indicative of either contentment or a feeling that their involvement will not be effective. We should consider that the low turnout might be due to contentment of the residents.
- Next Meeting
  - Council: 6/12, 7/10
  - CAC: 7/5 @ 5:30