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Ellicott City CDC Exploration Committee February 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm. The following members were in attendance:

Angie Tersiguel Bia Lewis Brooke Abercrombie Charles Kyler Chris Gallant Ed Lilley Gary Maule Kerri Li LaTonja Thompson - Belsches Leonardo McClarty, President and CEO Matt Fleming, Board President Mike Smith Nathaniel Alston Nick Redding, Executive Director Simon Cortes Tim Lattimer Tom Coale Shaina Hernandez, staff to the committee.

Chairman Mike Smith gave introductory remarks.

Committee members introduced themselves. The audience also introduced themselves.

Chairman Mike Smith provided an outline for the committee's work. The committee plans to cover the following topics over the next several weeks:

- Why is Ellicott City important?
- Unique Challenges of the Ellicott City Watershed Area
- Challenges of current oversight of Ellicott City Watershed
- Opportunities and resources in the Ellicott City Watershed Area
- What is a Community Development Corporation?
- What has been done elsewhere?
- What can a CDC do and how should it be organized/capitalized?
- Recommendation/Brief to County Executive

The committee discussed the timing of the meetings. It was suggested that meetings are moved to 7pm.

The committee decided to work without a subcommittee structure for now but may break into subcommittees during the public outreach phase.

A committee member provided an overview of the Ellicott City Master Plan. The committee engaged in a discussion about if there is an entity needed to oversee the master plan.

The committee engaged in a discussion about "Why is Ellicott City important?" Committee members talked about Ellicott City's history, people, and the need to preserve Ellicott City for future generations.

The committee engaged in a discussion about how to communicate to the rest of the county why Ellicott City is so important to Howard County.

The committee engaged in a discussion about what exactly the question is they were charged to address and the importance of sticking to the narrow nature of the charge.

A committee member suggested that the committee focus sooner on a what a CDC is and how it operates. Other committee members suggested that we need to better understand the challenges in Ellicott City before the committee can delve into what a CDC does.

The committee chair provided a brief overview of what a CDC is.

The committee asked to have CDC experts brought in to speak to the committee. A committee member also asked for previous reports to be sent around to the group.

Members of the audience were given an opportunity to speak.

The meeting adjourned at 7:29pm.