

**PTA Council of Howard County
General Meeting
Homewood School
June 4, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 7:38 pm by PTACHC President Vicky Cutroneo. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Minutes from May 7, 2018 General Meeting were accepted without changes.

Scholarship Committee Report – Matta Zeinali, VP Operations
Scholarship recipient's names were read, but they were not in attendance.

Treasurer's Report - Laurie Ramey, Treasurer

- Motion made to decrease the line item for Maryland PTA Convention from \$1400 to \$675 due to a decrease in convention fees. Motion was seconded. Motion passed.

Audit Committee Elected:

- Cathy Riddle
- Meg Ricks
- TBD

Legislative Report – Donna Sudbrook, Legislative Chair\

- Board of Education Candidates Forum was announced. To be held Sunday, June 10, 2018 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm at Long Reach High School auditorium.

Policy Report – Shell Pleasant, Policy Chair

- Need people to sign up for policy reviews

Question: Does it have to be PTACHC Delegate?

Answer: Yes and no: representative has to come to the meeting to get information.

Spending Affordability Advisory Committee Report - Steve Poynot, Committee Member; Steve Hunt, Committee Member; Joshua Tzaker, Committee Member

- Charge of the committee is:
 1. Review status and projections of revenues and expenditures for Howard County
 2. Evaluate future County revenue levels and consider the impact of economic indicators and other data that the Committee considers applicable.
 3. Evaluate expenditure levels with consideration of the long-term obligations facing the County, and the best way to pay for them.
- Committee presented a report to the County Council and County Executive in March 2018
- Committee recommends
 1. development of the FY2019 budget based on projected revenue of \$1.1 billion, an increase of 1.75% over the approved FY2019 budget
 2. limiting authorized new general obligation bonds in FY2019 to \$75 million
- preliminary multi-year revenue and expenditure model suggests that County General fund revenues will grow 3.4% - 3.6% in the out years through FY2024
- See handout of Report
- We have a faster aging population than the national average
- This population's income is usually tax free & not contributing to coffers; however, they are in need of more services
- 52% of homes sold in Howard County are trading up; 48% are coming in
- Highest level of need is the school system
- Need to look at levels of debt in the county and evaluate needs: new courthouse on Bendix Road, road work that needs to be funded, jail that is in danger of being shut down due to deterioration

Questions and Answers:

Q: What about the Health Fund deficit?

A: HCPSS since 2010 has been using this fund and not replenishing. We do not take sides or support APFO; we just need to know what the county will do about the tax base.

Q: Have you presented the study to the Board of Education Candidates?

A: No

Q: What are the financial ramifications of the effect of jiff tax?

A: We can model with a loss but trying for consistency

Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance (APFO) Report - Brent Loveless

- A. Look at the new APFO Open Closed School Chart
 1. Need to look at how it affects all schools
 2. Board voted and passed to Council
 3. Voted on/about July 4 dismissing the high school test
- B. Class sizes – significant victory
- C. Bill – talk about how money is moved, where it came from and where it is going to
 - Next Action Item - How to pay for the new schools

Board of Education – Christina Delmont-Small - Board of Education member

- The budget for \$861 million sent to Kittleman was balanced and passed
- County provided 5.6 million dollars to keep class size where they currently are. That money was put into a pool for the school system to use as a greatest need basis
- We still have a deficit of \$50 Million for the health and dental fund
- Bargaining units put 15% into Health fund
- 85% from HCPSS is going to other programs (i.e. pay raises)

Questions and Answers:

Q: How does this get changed?

A: A committee is reviewing what happened and whether the policy was followed.

Q: Are there any internal controls to stop this from happening again?

A: BOE has advocated fiduciary responsibility. There has to be a cultural shift to increase communication and have checks and balances in the system.

Q: Can it be discussed with new Board of Education candidates?

A: Forensic audit will be shared with the public.

HCEA - Coleen Morris

- Thank you for advocating to keep our current class size

Elections

- No nominations currently; all nominations taken from the Floor

President

Nominations:

1. Reg Avery
1st - 2nd John Wilson
2. Brent Loveless
1st Laurie Ramey - 2nd Ginger Sigalas

Brent Loveless elected by majority vote

Executive Vice President

- No nominations received

VP Operations

Nominations:

- Matta Zeinali
1st Andrew Lyons - 2nd Reg Avery

Matta Zeinali elected by majority vote

VP Issues

Nominations:

- Towanda Brown
1st Matta Zeinali – 2nd Reg Avery

Towanda Brown elected by majority vote

Secretary

Nominations:

- Brett Sovereign
1st Brett Sovereign - 2nd Lisa Soto

Brett Sovereign elected by majority vote

Treasurer

Nominations:

- Meg Ricks
1st Cathy Riddle – 2nd Matta Zeinali

Meg Ricks elected by majority vote

Meeting Adjourned at 9:33 pm.

Submitted by Amber Treat, Secretary