

GCCA Meeting on October 12, 2021

Attendees: Dan Wilhelm, Marguerite Raaen, Dave Michaels, Noel Gregos, Ed Weiler, Bob Peters, Pat Corey, Ray Rye, Jay Hagler, Heather Phelps, Peter Myo Khin

Approved Treasurers report

Approved Minutes of September meeting

Discussed update of the web page and working on a template due to difficulty with Google and Firefox having issues on an old web pages being displayed.

Because of fatal accident on New Hampshire and East Shaw and the southern New Hampshire Welcome sign being damaged to speeding a discussion on speed cameras was discussed. Temporary speed cameras and radar were possible solutions, but we were informed that the 3rd District was short on police due to the pandemic, police officers resigning and retiring, as well as lack of police applicants.

It was also reported that crime was up as well as priority calls. And, the drag racing issues in Burtonsville was still somewhat of an issue which involves racing on Rte. 29, which affects all surrounding areas.

East County is to receive a Federal and State funding of \$46 (M) (B)? illion for affordable housing.

Redistricting involving State Senator Will Smith was brought up with a short discussion of some of the work he is sponsoring and has involvement with including juvenile sentencing, early voting, financial support for child care, and policing issues being some of them. And a short discussion took place on lack of expected revenue from sports betting.

The proposed residential zoning change for housing change to allow duplex and triplex of R90 and R200 properties was opposed by all present as a very poor way to create more affordable housing. Not only would it have a negative effect on property values, but it will most likely increase traffic congestion.

There was little to report on the BRT except the US29 work was rejected.

A short discussion on County Executive Marc Elrich's response to being publically criticized for his lack of support for Viva White Oak and lack of support for the East County pointed out that his support was lukewarm at best.

Under new business the maps for redistricting of Montgomery County are to be released soon and how having East County being one separate district could be beneficial.