

Report to Dorsey's Search Village Board – December 2022

- There is only one Board meeting scheduled in December due to the holiday season, and it was held on the 8th. The meeting was delayed by a two-hour long Resident Speakout largely consisting of a parade of individuals singing the praises of our President CEO (whom the Board has made no moves to fire). As a result, the regular meeting ran past 11:30pm and led the Board to have to table several important agenda items.
- The Town Center representative, Kevin Fitzgerald, has resigned from the Board, and his village voted to replace him with Lin Egan, who was the previous TC rep. Lin will serve as a crossover member of the IAT Board in place of Kevin. Eric Greenberg (RH) will take Kevin's seat on the Audit Committee
- The proposed Board Ethics Code was reviewed by CA's General Counsel and his input was incorporated in the draft document. Board discussion on the topic has been delayed until the January Work Session. An accompanying Ethics Enforcement Policy is in the works pending recommendations by an outside consultant.
- Discussion of a policy relating to CA's votes in certain village elections was delayed pending village input.
- A review of CA's anti-nepotism rules regarding lifeguards resulted in the current policy being upheld.
- A request by the Senior Advisory Committee to change its name to the Aging in Place Advocacy Committee was favorably considered, but the group will need to change their charter to accommodate the name change. There was also some discussion as to the difference between "Advisory" and "Advocacy," for which the group was asked to provide feedback.
- There was further discussion of the FY24 budget, and it was agreed to hold the rate and cap at current levels (annual charge at 0.68 cents and cap at 3.5%). The Board also directed staff to add allocations for the Inner Arbor Trust and the Community Foundation of Howard County and to provide recommendations on what needs to be cut to compensate for those spending increases. A \$100K request by Festival of the Arts was turned down due to questions regarding funding availability. It should be noted that all three of these organizations received funding pre-Covid, and the Board wished to resume that practice despite staff objections. \$11M was allocated for capital expenditures.
- We approved a staff recommendation to hire SB & Company as our outside audit firm.
- The Board did not approve the staff-prepared IRS 990 form due to concern over a staff attempt use it as a platform to criticize Board Conflict-of-Interest compliance. Staff has told the Board that the CA CFO has the authority to file the document regardless of Board oversight.
- Although, the Board did not have time to review the quarterly financial statements, I did get to see them at the 12/6 Audit Committee meeting and can report that they are very positive. Dashboard stats are also impressive.