

Mayor and City Council of Cumberland

RETREAT

Gilchrist Museum
104 Washington Street
Cumberland, MD 21502

November 15, 2019
11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Brian K. Grim, President; Council Members Seth Bernard, David Caporale, Eugene Frazier, Richard Cioni

ALSO PRESENT: Jeffrey D. Rhodes, City Administrator; Marjorie Woodring, City Clerk; media

MOTION to enter into retreat session was made by Council Member Frazier, seconded by Council Member Cioni, and was passed on a vote of 5-0.

The Mayor and Council discussed the need to establish goals for the betterment of the organization. The Council members, Mr. Rhodes, and Ms. Woodring, broke into several work groups to identify goals and priorities, then reconvened to allow each group to discuss their thoughts. The following goals were defined:

- I. Improve the appearance and livability of the city, making it more attractive for investment, development, etc., by:
 1. removing blighted structures;
 2. enhancing neighborhood revitalization;
 3. encouraging pride in the maintenance of properties;
 4. evaluating and streamlining the code enforcement processes;
 5. identifying and supporting public safety initiatives

- II. Increase the tax base, by:
 1. revitalization of the City Center;
 2. attract and retain businesses;
 3. attract and retain citizens;
 4. improve housing opportunities;
 5. identify and support economic development initiatives

- III. Seek ways to improve communication:
 1. amongst the Mayor and Council members, with a focus on obtaining training through MML or ICMA so that the Council members can better understand their roles;
 2. with the County Commissioners and the Western MD Delegation;

3. with City staff;
4. with the public.

The Mayor and Council agreed to formulate a mission statement in the coming weeks, with input from council member.

With nothing further, motion to adjourn was made by Bernard, seconded by Cioni, and was approved by all.

Meeting adjourned: 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie A. Woodring
City Clerk

Minutes approved February 18, 2020