

**Greater Severna Park Council Meeting Notes
August 14, 2018**

Welcome and Report—President Maureen Carr York – previous minutes submitted and accepted.

Guest Speaker – Detective Daniel Dickey, Vice Squad for Anne Arundel County Police Dept. – Also assigned to FBI. The Vice unit is made up of 3 officers in AA Co. However they are partnered with the FEDs and can add additional officers through a task force.

“Human Trafficking” - Sex or Labor – This is involuntary – someone profits from another person’s involuntary sex or labor act – by force, fraud, coercion, or age. When labor is involved, it is the employment of someone who is illegal where there may be a very big job but for a very low, unfair wage. It is measured by the amount of traffic and currency that goes through the person without them having to move. Human Labor Trafficking is handled by Federal Investigation only.

This is different from “human smuggling” – when someone voluntarily pays for a person to transport them to a different location.

The detective focused tonight’s presentation on human trafficking. AA County is on a circuit of easy access to planes, trains, and automobiles – BWI, Train Stations, I-95 Corridor – Between Annapolis, Baltimore, DC, and Philly. It mostly involves women 18-25 years of age and is pimp (trafficker) driven. The youngest he has seen in AA Co. has been 11 and the oldest was 63. The market is here, and not a lot of AACo girls are being taken out for trafficking. AA County works with Howard and Baltimore Counties and Baltimore City to combat this issue.

How does AA Co combat this issue?

- 1) Go after the girls – put in jail to protect and break the pimp “trauma bond” – otherwise she goes back to the pimp. AA Co. is victim oriented and centered and works with various non-profit agencies to help. AA Co does not currently have a safe house for these victims, but works with Howard and Montgomery County facilities such as Safe House of Hope, Turn Around, and Courtney’s Home.
 - How do we find the victims?
 - o Low cost “mom and pop” motels and hotels payable with cash and no information collected - with no paper trail needed or rent by the hour. Usually on the outskirts of town. Big corporate hotels have paper trail so these are not usual locations for this type of activity
 - o Internet – the only location where a blatant crime is out in the open, multiple porn sites advertising
 - o Go downtown – victims come from all over – US and abroad. THEY are the evidence but cops can’t keep them. Cops have many cases they cannot prosecute and cases close because the evidence will not participate.
 - o Go to malls such as Arundel Mills, Marley Station, or Annapolis Mall – anywhere kids congregate – look for the girls with the lowest self-esteem, how they carry themselves may make them fall victim to a pimp, as he will isolate the ones that could be easily manipulated by building her confidence to hook her. Watch out for “Stranger Danger” just teaching that it is a male – some pimps will send out their female victims to lure another female into trafficking.
 - o Go to bus and train stations to look for runaways
- 2) Go after the clients or “Johns” – set up sting operations to capture those seeking services. The officers may set up 4 phone numbers and get 60-95 hits in 6 hours with 6-15 clients that show up. In this area, they are usually professional business people, many with top secret clearance, military, DOD, NSA, firefighters that can lose their jobs with this type of charge.
- 3) Go after the traffickers
 - Who are they? Master manipulators! You can go on YouTube and see videos or make a purchase on Amazon for how to be a pimp. There is also an annual “Players Ball” where pimps from all over get together to brag and show off to each other. East Coast pimps are usually in white Tshirt, jeans, nice shoes, and bling. West Coast pimps dress in flashy furs, hats, and jewelry and want their victims to not be on drugs or alcohol so they can be fast to turn tricks – cash and dash, oral sex is fastest to rapidly turn tricks. Three types
 - o Psychological – “Romeo” – spends \$\$\$ on the victim to spoil her, then says the money has dried up and she owes him so he turns her out to make \$\$\$\$. He usually spends money on her for clothes, hair, nails, etc and tells her how great she is now that he has fixed her up
 - o Gorilla – dominates and physically tortures victims. We do not have much of this in this area. It is found in certain gangs in NYC
 - o Survival – drug addiction, paying for bills or food – these girls we can help because there is no trauma bond

In AA Co, we are seeing an influx of “Happy Ending” Asian massage parlors. There are Hispanic brothels located in PG County and south.

Traffickers that are sentenced in the State of Maryland get UP to 10 years and \$5000 fine. If you can get traffickers Federally prosecuted, the Federal sentencing guidelines are mandatory and begins at a MINIMUM of 10 years.

What can we do as a community to assist with this issue?

Be aware of your surroundings and activities going on in and around your neighborhoods. Be vigilant to report any suspicious activity. There has been human traffic activity recently reported and shut down in a Severna Park home near the shopping plaza.

Chamber of Commerce – Shop local event at Festival Plaza on 8/18/18 from 12-4PM.

Planning/Zoning/Legislation Committee - Art Timmons: Please see attached GSPC Watch List for details. Items of interest within report: See page 6 for summary of Issues to Watch, Legislation to watch, and Shipleys Choice Dam Removal Project Update.

Education Committee – Holly Slack – investigating at Oak Hill Elementary if walkers being held 30min after car riders is a problem. Asking if any other area schools has a similar issue, as this may be too late to expect elementary school children to stay behind and walk home in the dark during winter months. Is there any safety concern? Please report back.

Police/Community Relations – Maureen Carr York: August 7th National Night Out was a tremendous success despite rain. Many thanks to several volunteers, many of which are members of GSPC.

Environmental Committee -

Paul Spadero of Magothy River Association: meets every 3rd Wed of every month. All of this rain has brought much run off from impervious surfaces. This is what does damage to our rivers and waterways. MRA has given ultimatum to county regarding the preservation of wetlands which provides a natural filter to our waterways. The Enclave at Severna Park, for example would have an impact. The recent storms did not have an impact on the Magothy the way it did the Bay, due to the water flow and tides and the barrier that Dobbin Island provides near the mouth of the Magothy. Much of the trash passed by onto Sandy Point. The large amounts of rain this summer have created more freshwater in the balance so there will likely not be jellyfish in the river this year. Mussels are working in our river, greatly increasing underwater grasses and mussel spats will have second spawn in the fall. Paul is also partnering with the DNR for doing circumnavigation of the river in September.

Public Works Committee - Erin O'Neill: County is continuing to work with communities neighboring Severna Park High School to discuss how best to control traffic and pedestrians in area. Currently postponing paving marking changes until input is heard. Suggestion was made to have an article in the Sev.Pk Voice to solicit community opinion and concerns.

Airport Noise Committee - Linda Curry: Continue to contact your legislators about this issue. Demand that they protect us on the ground with health studies impact, noise on the ground, etc. See the two attachments for updates.

ASPIRE Report – Amy Leahy – Meeting tomorrow night. ASPIRE and Kiwanis meeting on Sept 16th at Kinderfarm Park to get nonprofits to communicate and share resources.

New Business – None

Next Meeting 09/11/2018 Severna Park Library 7:30pm