

Cherry Hill Community Coalition General Meeting

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Hybrid Meeting: The Market Place and via Zoom

5:30 p.m.

CHCC Board Roll Call:

Executive Assistant to Board:

Sustainability/Emeritus Committee:

Attendees: In-Person: Zoom:

Agenda

Welcome All Attendees

Prayer

Approval of Minutes for November 6, 2025

Councilwoman Porter's Corner: Desire' Jones, Policy and Community Engagement, Fellow

Informational

- Our Schools.....Zeevelle Nottingham-Lemon presenting for Carrie Finklestein, Program Director, Cherry Hill Education Initiative
- ENOUGH Grant & New Era/Dr. Carter G. Woodson Proposal Updates.....Zeevelle Nottingham-Lemon, Executive Director, Cherry Hill Strong

Updates and Presentations

- No city agencies or guest presentations for this meeting

Community Concerns

Announcements and "Thank You for Your Service" Acknowledgements

- ✓ Cherry Hill Alumni Initiative, Cherry Hill Tenant's Council, RICH Program, Safe Streets, United Methodist Church and various organizations for providing turkeys and fixings to residents, during the Thanksgiving holiday
- ✓ Cherry Hill Eagles for the Annual Unity in the Community Dinner on Thanksgiving Day
- ✓ RICH Program for providing coats to scholars at The Historic Cherry Hill Elementary/Middle School

Upcoming Events:

Cherry Hill Community Coalition Public Safety Committee Meeting: Tues., Dec. 9, 2025@ 3:30pm- Safe Streets Office, *Contact Person: Cathy McClain

Cherry Hill Community Coalition "Keeping Kids Warm Campaign"- donate through Dec. 16, 2025 via Zelle 240-229-8007 or bring new winter hats, gloves and coats for Prek-2nd graders (sizes 4-8) to Arundel Elem. from 11am-2pm *Contact Person: Tracey Garrett Rogers

**Pre-Kwanzaa Community Celebration: Dec. 18, 2025- The Market Place 638 Cherry Hill Rd. (6pm-8pm)
*Contact Person: Malika Brown**

**Mayo Snackz & Friends Presents- A Cherry Hill Holiday Celebration- Miracle on 34th: Dec. 23, 2025
*Contact Person-Cordell at 443-525-0075 to donate**

Next Scheduled CHCC General Meeting: Feb. 5, 2026 @ 5:30 pm, in-person at the Cherry Hill Senior Manor Building, 901 Cherry Hill Rd. Baltimore, MD 21225 and via Zoom



**Cherry Hill Community Coalition, Inc.
General Body Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 4, 2025
The Market Place & Zoom**

The Cherry Hill Community Coalition, Inc. General Body Meeting was called to order and prayer by Pastor Eaton. The meeting minutes from November 2025 were approved.

Board Members Present: Dr. LaReneque Bartholomew, Malika Brown, Javon Harris, Claude Johnson, Peggy Jackson-Jobe, LaToya Martin, Morgan Rouse & Dr. Joan Wharton .

Board Members Absent: Martina Owens. Quadir Russell & Tony Woolfolk

Executive Assistant Present: Tracey Garrett Rogers

Emeritus Board Members Present: Margaret Roberts & Cleoda Walker

Attendance: In Person-25, Zoom- 20

Welcome New members: Peggy Jackson-Jobe

Prayer: Pastor Eaton

The following agenda items were implemented:

- ❖ **Updates from Councilwoman Porter's Office..... Desiree Jones, Policy and Community Engagement Fellow**
 - Provided updates on Patapsco Avenue improvements, including a planned road rebuild, new sidewalks, and a shared use path, pending DPW's design of related projects
 - Haydee Batista, the DPW liaison, introduced herself and offered to provide updates on water, garbage, and illegal dumping issues for the next meeting in February

Informational and Discussion Items:

- ❖ **Cherry Hill Education Initiative.....Carrie Finkelstein, BCPS Program Director/Liaison- Report Given by Zeevelle Nottingham-Lemon**
 - Shared school activities and events: Lunch with Loved Ones @ Cherry Hill Elementary/Middle School (CHEMS), Pastries and People We Love @ Arundel Elementary, Councilwoman Porter visits CHEMS, CHEMS students volunteered for Turkey Giveaway, Mayor Scott & City Council President Zeke Cohen visited the Judy Center @ Arundel Elementary, and CHEMS African Dancers performed at the 16th Annual Alumni Dinner
 - Highlighted 86.3% attendance rate at Arundel Elementary compared to 87.8% in Nov. 2024, chronic absenteeism rate is 51% compared to the same percentage in

Nov. 2024, some illnesses reported which impacted attendance, overall attendance is 88% compared to 87% in Nov. 2024.

- Highlighted 85.7% attendance rate at The Historic Cherry Hill Elementary/Middle School (CHEMS) compared to 86.9% in Nov. 2024, chronic absenteeism rate is 49% compared to 53% in Nov. 2024; overall attendance is 87.4% compared to 87% in Nov. 2024
- See presentation slides for additional information

❖ **Cherry Hill Strong (CHS).....Zeevelle Nottingham-Lemon, Executive Director**

- Explained Cherry Hill Strong's strategic acquisition plan for vacant and underutilized properties
- Emphasizing the goal of revitalizing the community and creating opportunities for residents to return home.
- Clarified that while considering properties across Cherry Hill, also being careful not to publicly identify specific sites to avoid negatively impacting potential deals.
- Discussed their work with the Housing Authority of Baltimore City, which controls most of Cherry Hill's land, and their plans to engage with the community throughout the year to ensure the work aligns with residents' visions.
- Andy Frank, representing CapEx Advisory Group, presented an acquisition strategy for Cherry Hill focused on non-residential properties, strategy aims to revitalize the area by acquiring vacant or underutilized properties, aligning with existing community plans
- Andy Frank highlighted the importance of strategic property acquisition in supporting revitalization and mentioned a similar successful project in Central Baltimore
- Andy Frank outlined a community-intensive process for acquiring properties, including identifying target areas, developing criteria for selection, and ensuring equity through minority and women-owned participation.
- Zeevelle discussed the status of the proposal submitted to Baltimore City Public Schools regarding the development of land at Carter G. Woodson/New Era, which includes plans for a grocery store, housing, and a new high school for Cherry Hill
- Zeevelle explained that the proposal, developed in collaboration with SeaWall, Cross Street Partners, and Revital Design, outlines a 12-month community engagement period and includes fundraising efforts of over \$500,000 for pre-development activities
- Shared that while the proposal has been reviewed and feedback has been provided, there is no formal update from City Schools, and the group is awaiting an updated timeline.
- See presentation slides combined with the education slides for additional information

Updates and Presentations

❖ Cherry Hill Community Coalition- “*Keeping 1,000 Kids Warm Campaign*”

Tracey Garrett Rogers, Executive Assistant

- Hats, gloves/mittens will be given to all children at Arundel Elementary, Cherry Hill Elementary/Middle and the Judy Center; coats will be provided to children at Arundel Elementary; coats already provided to children at CHEMS by the RICH Program
- Donations received via Zelle @ 240-229-8007 through Dec. 16th
- Donations of new items will be collected at Arundel Elementary, 2400 Round Rd., until Dec. 16th (11am-2pm)
- Donations received via checks made payable to: Cherry Hill Community Coalition, bring to Arundel Elementary, 2400 Round Rd., through Dec. 16th (11am-2pm)
- See attached flyer for additional details

Community Concerns:

- Missing street signs at the intersection of Cherry Hill Road and Round Road, which Jacob, the new Baltimore City Department of Transportation Community Engagement Liaison, agreed to address.
- Power lines down in front of CHEMS; caution sign is attached to wires; get update for ensuring wires are placed safely in front of the school
- Attendee Mustafa El Shabazz Bey had questions about the origins and development of the Cherry Hill Transformation Plan 2020 and Ms. Peggy clarified that the plan was a community effort led by Cherry Hill Development Corporation, with input from residents, various organizations, and that Cherry Hill Strong was established as a quarterback organization to implement the plan's Purpose-Built Community goals; Zeevelle emphasized the collaborative nature of the plan's creation and the living history of those involved. The group agreed to continue the discussion at a future meeting, with Mustafa being invited to attend or request a presentation on the transformation plan.

Announcements & Upcoming Events:

- Public Safety Committee Meeting- Dec. 9th at The Market Place (next to Family Dollar) 638 Cherry Hill Rd. (3:30pm-4:30pm)
- NuWave 12 Days of Christmas (See attached flyer)
- Pre Kwanzaa Event- Dec. 18th at The Market Place (next to Family Dollar) 638 Cherry Hill Rd. (6:00pm-8:00pm)
- Mayo Snackz & Friends Present: A Cherry Hill Holiday Celebration- Miracle on 34th on December 23rd, Call Cordell at 443-525-0075 (See attached flyer)
- December Updates from SBGP:
 - **The first two Middle Branch Resiliency Initiative (MBRI) wetland restoration sites are officially complete!**
 - Hanover Street & Patapsco Delta East
 - More details: The wetlands are entering their dormancy period, and they are not going to be lush and green right off the bat. They may look downright dead in the middle of winter; that is all part of the process.

- MBRI Team just started construction on the Medstar Harbor Hospital wetlands restoration, which will include an updated walking path and re-attached, updated fishing piers when finished
- **Community Grants**
 - Summer 2025 Cycle Announcements have been made, list will be available publicly soon
 - Next Community Grants cycle will open on January 2 and close on February 27
 - <https://sbgpartnership.org/our-grants/>
- **FY 2026 Q1 Quarterly Report Now Available**
 - <https://sbgpartnership.org/quarterly-report-first-quarter-of-fiscal-year-2026/>
- **Open RFP - Black Sox Sculpture Project (BSSP)**
 - On behalf of Parks & People and South Baltimore Gateway Partnership (SBGP), Maryland Art Place (MAP) is offering an exciting opportunity to Baltimore regional artists (MD, DC, PA, DE, VA) working in large-scale sculpture to create artworks of historical Baltimore Black Sox baseball players. The sculptures will be placed within a larger \$30 million public park on the Middle Branch of the Patapsco River in the Westport neighborhood.
 - Application link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe87GhhUK6T7TjVs0kvf0Ed-L0MVMNNKJopnTBp-OL8xv7Y8w/viewform> (Closes for applications 12/12/25)

➤ Next Scheduled CHCC General Hybrid Meeting: February 5, 2026 @ 5:30 pm, at the Cherry Hill Senior Manor, 901 Cherry Hill Road and via Zoom.

Note: You may contact Javon Harris at cherryhillcommunitycoalition@gmail.com to request the zoom meeting link and contact Tracey Garrett Rogers to be added to the email list, to receive the CHCC general meeting minutes and for community concerns.

Respectfully Submitted By:
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