

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2015 Legislative Session

Legislative day # 5

RESOLUTION NO. 49 - 2015

Introduced by: Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Susan Garber to the Planning Board.

Introduced and read first time on June 1, 2015.

By order Jessica Feldmark  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on June 15, 2015.

By order Jessica Feldmark  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

Tabled 7/6/15

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted \_\_, Adopted with amendments \_\_, Failed , Withdrawn \_\_ by the County Council on July 31, 2015.

Certified by Jessica Feldmark  
Jessica Feldmark, Administrator to the County Council

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing language; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing language. ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.



**It's time to vote on the Appointment for Susan Garber.**

Jim Nickel [james.nickel55@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Saturday, July 18, 2015 3:34 PM

**To:** CouncilMail

**Cc:** Kittleman, Allan; beacon7712@comcast.net

**FILE COPY**

In this weeks Howard County Times there was an opinion written by Doug Miller which is attached below for your convenience.

I might disagree with Mr. Miller on the point of “nothing wrong in asking”. Mr. Kittleman provided the Council with all that was required for the nomination of Ms. Garber. Asking for more information accomplished nothing other than to delay a the vote. Though that is apparently behind us as an issue.

Mr. Ball, as chair of the Zoning Board, pointed out that he was waiting to hear about the member that was to be replaced and waiting to hear a response from Mr. Kittleman about the additional information he had requested.

Mr. Fox pointed out at the last legislative session that the member of the Planning Board whose term had expired is not required to submit anything to the board and it is the County Executive that nominates replacements to the Planning Board.

The two excuses [and they were excuses] for not voting on the nomination of Susan Garber no longer exist.

Perhaps you were unaware that Ms. Garber has received the President’s Lifetime Achievement Award. Here is the link to the story in the Baltimore Sun.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/howard/laurel/ph-ho-n-north-laurel-20150623-story.html>

As a resident of Howard County for over 40 years, I’m having some difficulty in understanding the reason of your delay and/or objections might be to Ms. Garber. Has her support of the residents in and around Savage been not to the Council’s liking?

It’s time to vote on the Appointment for Susan Garber at the next appropriate meeting of the Council In my opinion, that vote should be to confirm the nomination.

Best Regards.  
James Nickel  
Dayton, MD



**OPINION 31**

# Nothing wrong with asking and nothing wrong with 'no'

It never hurts to ask, but the County Council looks unprepared for the answer to be "no."

The council did nothing untoward in its June 8 memo to the county executive's office requesting that the administration's current and future appointments to county boards and commissions come with more supporting documentation than is required by the county charter.

After all, the council has to vote to approve these appointments. If members believe they need more information to make an informed choice, they have every right to ask for it, either in a single case or as a matter of policy.

Likewise, there's nothing wrong with County Executive Allan Kittleman politely telling the council to stuff it.

While the council made a blanket request, the members had one or two proposed appointees in mind when they made it.

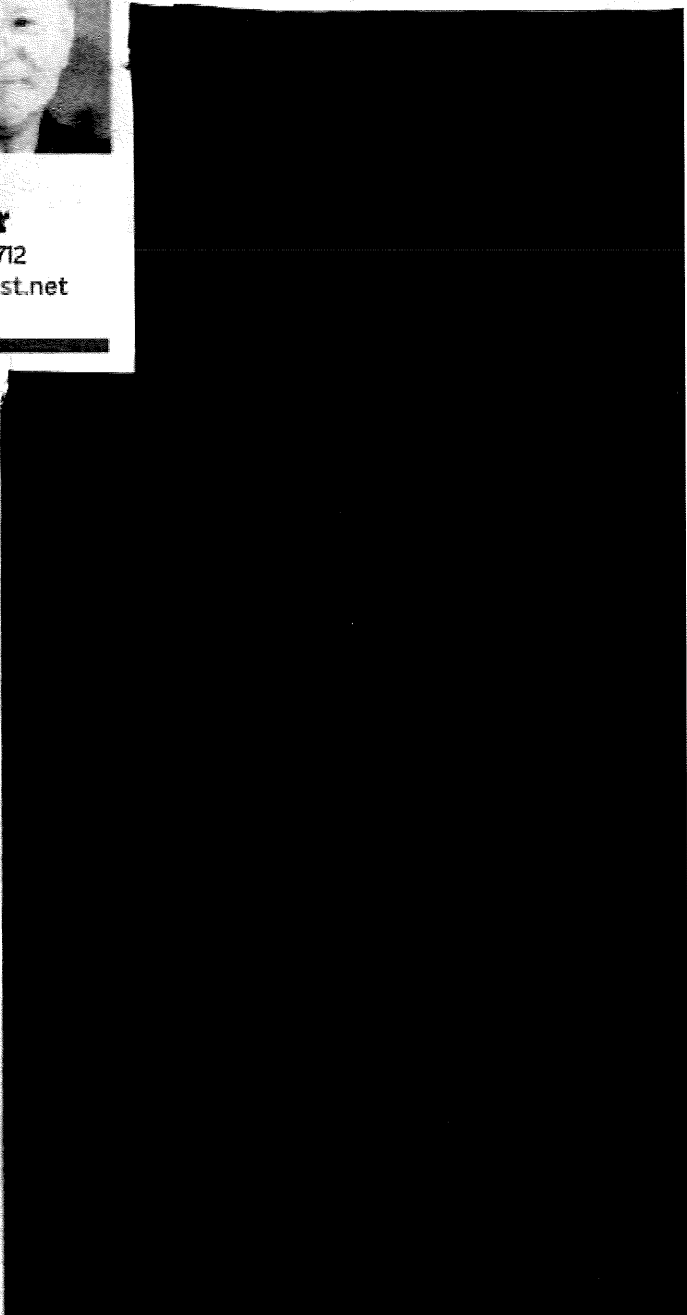
Among the written testimony the council is asking for: "if the (board) member proposed to be replaced is eligible for reappointment, the rationale for why the Administration proposes appointing the nominee rather than reappointing the current member proposed to be replaced."

Kittleman wants to replace current Planning Board member Josh Tzucker with Susan Garber, the president of the



**Doug Miller**  
beacon7712  
@comcast.net

needs, those who voted "no" should explain why.



**Susan Garber confirmation**

Michael Caruso [mike44pt@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Monday, July 20, 2015 11:44 AM

**To:** CouncilMail

**FILE COPY**

Dear County Council,

Susan Garber is a well-qualified person who has demonstrated a reasoned approach in discussions on county land use issues.

She has questioned the proposals of special interests when few others in administrative positions have. We need that balance.

I implore you to not delay her confirmation any further.

The citizens I talk to favor her confirmation.

Mike Caruso  
6510 Paper Place  
Highland MD  
Howard County

ELITE COBA

**Fwd: County Executive Kittleman's nomination of Susan Garber to the Howard County Planning Board**

charlie5mpd@aol.com

**Sent:** Sunday, July 19, 2015 7:55 PM

**To:** CouncilMail

**FILE COPY**

-----Original Message-----

From: charlie5mpd <charlie5mpd@aol.com>

To: mailto:CouncilMail <mailto:CouncilMail@HowardCountyMD.gov>

Sent: Sun, Jul 19, 2015 7:35 pm

Subject: County Executive Kittleman's nomination of Susan Garber to the Howard County Planning Board

Dear Members of the Howard County :

I was surprised and disturbed by the Howard County's Councils decision, at its July 6, 2015, meeting to table County Executive Kittleman's nomination of Susan Garber to fill a vacant position on the Howard County Planning Board.

The issue of whether the member whose term has expired may want to remain on the Planning Board is not relevant to the appointment of Susan Garber to the Planning Board since County Executive Kittleman has decided to appoint Susan Garber to the vacant position on the Planning Board.

I understand Susan Garber would be well qualified for the vacant position on the Planning Board.

I hope the County Council, after reflecting on the nomination of Susan Garber since the last Council Meeting, will unanimously appoint her to the Planning Board at the July 20, 2015, Council Meeting.

Sincerely,

Charles J. Corcoran  
8533 Beaufort Drive  
Fulton, MD 20759  
(301) 490-0406





**Susan Garber**

Lisa Kawata [lisakawata@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Saturday, July 11, 2015 9:18 PM

**To:** CouncilMail

**FILE COPY**

I am shocked at your decision to table Susan's appointment. She is a woman of integrity and cares deeply for the community. Your inaction does appear a spiteful act as observed by The Baltimore Sun. What explanation can you give?

Lisa Kawata

9418 Madison Ave.

North Laurel

## Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Lisa Kawata [Lisakawata@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Saturday, July 04, 2015 2:23 PM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounyemd.gov

**FILE COPY**

Dear Howard Council Members:

As you are well aware, long time Howard County resident Susan Garber of Savage was recently appointed by County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on the County's Planning Board.

Mrs. Garber is well qualified to serve in this position. I encourage you to 1) vote on, and 2) support her appointment when the Council meets this Monday evening.

In addition to serving as the Savage Community Association President, Mrs. Garber is one of the most hard working volunteers in Howard County. She has been active in the preservation of the Patuxent River and surrounding parkland, maintaining historic sites, community engagement, and making Howard County a desirable place to live for seniors, parents, and young people alike.

Susan's volunteer efforts have been recognized both locally and nationally.

In 2009, Susan was granted the Outstanding Service Provider Award by County Executive Ken Ulman and the Howard County Commission on Disability Issues.

Earlier this year, President Barack Obama awarded Susan with the President's Lifetime Achievement Award for Lifelong Commitment to Building a Stronger Nation Through Volunteer Service.

Professionally, Susan's 40+ year career centered on special education and rehabilitation, both as a teacher and as a program director responsible for the creation of new innovative special education and rehabilitation technology programs. Susan holds two advanced degrees from the Johns Hopkins University and, on several occasions, presented on her work internationally.

Susan also founded and directed a non-profit organization, AT:LAST, Inc., headquartered in Howard County which served families in Maryland, Tennessee, and Georgia as a cooperative buying service for assistive technology. Under a grant from the Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities' Maryland Technology Assistance Program, Susan operated an AT Demonstration Center in Columbia and a satellite office in Garrett County.

Susan Garber is exactly the type of individual we need to serve on the County's Planning Board. Her appointment has been delayed long enough. Please vote to confirm Susan Garber this Monday evening.

--

Lisa Kawata  
Lisakawata@gmail.com



## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

John Garber [jgar2002@msn.com]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 2:21 PM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov

Dear Howard Council Members:

As you are well aware, long time Howard County resident Susan Garber of Savage was recently appointed by County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on the County's Planning Board.

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--

John Garber  
jgar2002@msn.com

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Diane Wilson <Bdianewilson2007@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 11:14 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

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--

Diane Wilson  
[Bdianewilson2007@gmail.com](mailto:Bdianewilson2007@gmail.com)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Kimberly Perez-Lugones <kimperez2@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:40 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

Kimberly Perez-Lugones  
[kimperez2@verizon.net](mailto:kimperez2@verizon.net)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Michael Tomachek <tomachek@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 2:05 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

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--

Michael Tomachek  
[tomachek@hotmail.com](mailto:tomachek@hotmail.com)



## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Kara Hawkins <KaraLwhawkins@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 11:13 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounty.md.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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Kara Hawkins  
[KaraLwhawkins@gmail.com](mailto:KaraLwhawkins@gmail.com)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Lizanne Davis <dbubbyd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:36 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

Lizanne Davis  
[dbubbyd@gmail.com](mailto:dbubbyd@gmail.com)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Jason Downie <jasondownie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 1:56 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

Jason Downie  
[jasondownie@gmail.com](mailto:jasondownie@gmail.com)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Hans Raven <hraven@vt.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 11:09 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

Hans Raven  
[hraven@vt.edu](mailto:hraven@vt.edu)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Judith Emery <jaeshadow@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:30 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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Judith Emery  
[jaeshadow@verizon.net](mailto:jaeshadow@verizon.net)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Robert Schmidt <rlschmidt@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 12:56 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Resolution #49-2015 Susan Garber

Dear Council;

I am asking for a favorable vote on the nomination of Susan Garber. Susan has been untiring in her efforts to better Howard County without emphasis of party or political concern. She has always focused on the citizens' needs and not of party affiliation or on any sort of favor or payback. In this regard alone she separates herself from most others. There will be no hidden agenda with Susan and she is not using this position as a stepping stone to further her political career. This is truly a person dedicated to the service of her County and State in which she resides and pays taxes-she represents the ultimate in citizen involvement and volunteering. I urge again for a favorable vote on her nomination without prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert L. Schmidt  
9052 Gorman Road  
Laurel, MD 20723  
(301) 343-7527.

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Marie Raven <mgarber@whoever.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 11:08 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

Marie Raven  
[mgarber@whoever.com](mailto:mgarber@whoever.com)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Charlene Shearer <cookie819@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:13 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
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In addition to serving as the Savage Community Association President, Mrs. Garber is one of the most hard working volunteers in Howard County. She has been active in the preservation of the Patuxent River and surrounding parkland, maintaining historic sites, community engagement, and making Howard County a desirable place to live for seniors, parents, and young people alike.

Susan's volunteer efforts have been recognized both locally and nationally.

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Susan Garber is exactly the type of individual we need to serve on the County's Planning Board. Her appointment has been delayed long enough. Please vote to confirm Susan Garber this Monday evening.

--

Charlene Shearer  
[cookie819@gmail.com](mailto:cookie819@gmail.com)



## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Dwayne Robinson <mrvsti@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 12:39 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

As you are well aware, long time Howard County resident Susan Garber of Savage was recently appointed by County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on the County's Planning Board.

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--

Dwayne Robinson  
[mrvsti@icloud.com](mailto:mrvsti@icloud.com)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Sherri Kenney <Sherrickenny@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:55 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

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--  
Sherri Kenney  
[Sherrickenny@msn.com](mailto:Sherrickenny@msn.com)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Gregory Shearer <gregbalt@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:10 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

Gregory Shearer  
[gregbalt@mac.com](mailto:gregbalt@mac.com)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** David Wilson <Dwilson91143@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 11:17 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

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--

David Wilson  
[Dwilson91143@verizon.net](mailto:Dwilson91143@verizon.net)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Richard Nixon <RichardNixon@deadpresidents.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:53 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

Richard Nixon  
[RichardNixon@deadpresidents.org](mailto:RichardNixon@deadpresidents.org)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Aurelio Perez-Lugones <odieperez@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 9:44 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--  
Aurelio Perez-Lugones  
[odieperez@verizon.net](mailto:odieperez@verizon.net)

**CR49-2015**

Feldmark, Jessica

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 3:04 PM**To:** Sayers, Margery; Habicht, Kelli**Attachments:** Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB) ; Vote to Support Susan Garber! (10 KB)

and more...

Jessica Feldmark

Administrator

Howard County Council

410-313-3111

jfeldmark@howardcountymd.gov

## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

Chris Bloor [chris.bloor@med.ge.com]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 8:50 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov

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--

Chris Bloor  
chris.bloor@med.ge.com



## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

John Lehman [jlehman@lapc.us]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 7:50 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov

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--

John Lehman  
jlehman@lapc.us

## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

Scott Shearer [scottshearer13288@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 9:02 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov

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--

Scott Shearer  
scottshearer13288@gmail.com

## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

Leah Kliegman [Leah.klieg@verizon.net]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 8:42 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov

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--

Leah Kliegman  
Leah.klieg@verizon.net

## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

Michele Herwig [Michele@herwig.us]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 7:33 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov

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--  
Michele Herwig  
Michele@herwig.us

## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

Patricia Olsen [ttdolsen@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 9:01 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov

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--

Patricia Olsen  
ttdolsen@gmail.com

## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

Douglas Kornreich [kornreich@hotmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 8:12 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov

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--

Douglas Kornreich  
kornreich@hotmail.com

## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

Anne Hall [anne1103@verizon.net]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 7:49 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov

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--

Anne Hall  
anne1103@verizon.net

## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

fred hazeltine [fredhazeltine@allstate.com]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 7:02 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov

Dear Howard Council Members:

As you are well aware, long time Howard County resident Susan Garber of Savage was recently appointed by County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on the County's Planning Board.

Mrs. Garber is well qualified to serve in this position. I encourage you to 1) vote on, and 2) support her appointment when the Council meets this Monday evening.

In addition to serving as the Savage Community Association President, Mrs. Garber is one of the most hard working volunteers in Howard County. She has been active in the preservation of the Patuxent River and surrounding parkland, maintaining historic sites, community engagement, and making Howard County a desirable place to live for seniors, parents, and young people alike.

Susan's volunteer efforts have been recognized both locally and nationally.

In 2009, Susan was granted the Outstanding Service Provider Award by County Executive Ken Ulman and the Howard County Commission on Disability Issues.

Earlier this year, President Barack Obama awarded Susan with the President's Lifetime Achievement Award for Lifelong Commitment to Building a Stronger Nation Through Volunteer Service.

Professionally, Susan's 40+ year career centered on special education and rehabilitation, both as a teacher and as a program director responsible for the creation of new innovative special education and rehabilitation technology programs. Susan holds two advanced degrees from the Johns Hopkins University and, on several occasions, presented on her work internationally.

Susan also founded and directed a non-profit organization, AT:LAST, Inc., headquartered in Howard County which served families in Maryland, Tennessee, and Georgia as a cooperative buying service for assistive technology. Under a grant from the Governor's Office for Individuals with Disabilities' Maryland Technology Assistance Program, Susan operated an AT Demonstration Center in Columbia and a satellite office in Garrett County.

Susan Garber is exactly the type of individual we need to serve on the County's Planning Board. Her appointment has been delayed long enough. Please vote to confirm Susan Garber this Monday evening.

--

fred hazeltine  
fredhazeltine@allstate.com



## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

Alan Davis [Adavis@princetonports.com]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 12:22 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov

Dear Howard Council Members:

As you are well aware, long time Howard County resident Susan Garber of Savage was recently appointed by County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on the County's Planning Board.

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--

Alan Davis

Adavis@princetonports.com

## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

Steve Adams [stonewaresteve@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 5:42 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountymd.gov

Dear Howard Council Members:

As you are well aware, long time Howard County resident Susan Garber of Savage was recently appointed by County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on the County's Planning Board.

Mrs. Garber is well qualified to serve in this position. I encourage you to 1) vote on, and 2) support her appointment when the Council meets this Monday evening.

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Susan Garber is exactly the type of individual we need to serve on the County's Planning Board. Her appointment has been delayed long enough. Please vote to confirm Susan Garber this Monday evening.

--

Steve Adams  
stonewaresteve@gmail.com

## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

David Warfield [dnwarfield@verizon.net]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 12:15 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howardcountymd.gov

Dear Howard Council Members:

As you are well aware, long time Howard County resident Susan Garber of Savage was recently appointed by County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on the County's Planning Board.

Mrs. Garber is well qualified to serve in this position. I encourage you to 1) vote on, and 2) support her appointment when the Council meets this Monday evening.

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Susan Garber is exactly the type of individual we need to serve on the County's Planning Board. Her appointment has been delayed long enough. Please vote to confirm Susan Garber this Monday evening.

--

David Warfield  
dnwarfield@verizon.net

## **Vote to Support Susan Garber!**

Kay Carter [kgcarter35@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 1:54 AM

**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov

Dear Howard Council Members:

As you are well aware, long time Howard County resident Susan Garber of Savage was recently appointed by County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on the County's Planning Board.

Mrs. Garber is well qualified to serve in this position. I encourage you to 1) vote on, and 2) support her appointment when the Council meets this Monday evening.

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Susan Garber is exactly the type of individual we need to serve on the County's Planning Board. Her appointment has been delayed long enough. Please vote to confirm Susan Garber this Monday evening.

--

Kay Carter  
kgcarter35@gmail.com



## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** John Garber <jgar2002@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 2:22 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcourtymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

As you are well aware, long time Howard County resident Susan Garber of Savage was recently appointed by County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on the County's Planning Board.

Mrs. Garber is well qualified to serve in this position. I encourage you to 1) vote on, and 2) support her appointment when the Council meets this Monday evening.

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Susan Garber is exactly the type of individual we need to serve on the County's Planning Board. Her appointment has been delayed long enough. Please vote to confirm Susan Garber this Monday evening.

--

John Garber  
[jgar2002@msn.com](mailto:jgar2002@msn.com)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Robert Schmidt <rlaschmidt@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 12:56 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Resolution #49-2015 Susan Garber

Dear Council;

I am asking for a favorable vote on the nomination of Susan Garber. Susan has been untiring in her efforts to better Howard County without emphasis of party or political concern. She has always focused on the citizens' needs and not of party affiliation or on any sort of favor or payback. In this regard alone she separates herself from most others. There will be no hidden agenda with Susan and she is not using this position as a stepping stone to further her political career. This is truly a person dedicated to the service of her County and State in which she resides and pays taxes-she represents the ultimate in citizen involvement and volunteering. I urge again for a favorable vote on her nomination without prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert L. Schmidt  
9052 Gorman Road  
Laurel, MD 20723  
(301) 343-7527.

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Diane Wilson <Bdianewilson2007@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 11:14 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounnymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

As you are well aware, long time Howard County resident Susan Garber of Savage was recently appointed by County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on the County's Planning Board.

Mrs. Garber is well qualified to serve in this position. I encourage you to 1) vote on, and 2) support her appointment when the Council meets this Monday evening.

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--  
Diane Wilson  
[Bdianewilson2007@gmail.com](mailto:Bdianewilson2007@gmail.com)



## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Marie Raven <mgarber@whoever.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 11:08 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcouymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

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--

Marie Raven  
[mgarber@whoever.com](mailto:mgarber@whoever.com)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Kimberly Perez-Lugones <kimperez2@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:40 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounnymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

Kimberly Perez-Lugones  
[kimperez2@verizon.net](mailto:kimperez2@verizon.net)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Charlene Shearer <cookie819@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:13 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounnymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

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--

Charlene Shearer  
[cookie819@gmail.com](mailto:cookie819@gmail.com)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Michael Tomachek <tomachek@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 2:05 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounnymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

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--

Michael Tomachek  
[tomachek@hotmail.com](mailto:tomachek@hotmail.com)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Dwayne Robinson <mrvti@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 12:39 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounnymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

Dwayne Robinson  
[mrvti@icloud.com](mailto:mrvti@icloud.com)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Kara Hawkins <Karalwhawkins@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 11:13 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

Kara Hawkins  
[Karalwhawkins@gmail.com](mailto:Karalwhawkins@gmail.com)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Sherri Kenney <Sherrickenny@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:55 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounnymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

Sherri Kenney  
[Sherrickenny@msn.com](mailto:Sherrickenny@msn.com)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Lizanne Davis <dbubbyd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:36 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounnymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

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--  
Lizanne Davis  
[dbubbyd@gmail.com](mailto:dbubbyd@gmail.com)



## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Gregory Shearer <gregbalt@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:10 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

Dear Howard Council Members:

As you are well aware, long time Howard County resident Susan Garber of Savage was recently appointed by County Executive Allan Kittleman to serve on the County's Planning Board.

Mrs. Garber is well qualified to serve in this position. I encourage you to 1) vote on, and 2) support her appointment when the Council meets this Monday evening.

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--

Gregory Shearer  
[gregbalt@mac.com](mailto:gregbalt@mac.com)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Jason Downie <jasondownie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 1:56 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounnymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--  
Jason Downie  
[jasondownie@gmail.com](mailto:jasondownie@gmail.com)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** David Wilson <Dwilson91143@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 11:17 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounnymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--

David Wilson  
[Dwilson91143@verizon.net](mailto:Dwilson91143@verizon.net)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Hans Raven <hraven@vt.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 11:09 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--  
Hans Raven  
[hraven@vt.edu](mailto:hraven@vt.edu)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Richard Nixon <RichardNixon@deadpresidents.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:53 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounnymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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Richard Nixon  
[RichardNixon@deadpresidents.org](mailto:RichardNixon@deadpresidents.org)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Judith Emery <jaeshadow@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 10:30 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcountrymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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--  
Judith Emery  
[jaeshadow@verizon.net](mailto:jaeshadow@verizon.net)

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Aurelio Perez-Lugones <odieperez@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 06, 2015 9:44 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; team@kittleman.com; akittleman@howarcounnymd.gov  
**Subject:** Vote to Support Susan Garber!

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Aurelio Perez-Lugones  
[odieperez@verizon.net](mailto:odieperez@verizon.net)

# Nominations battle reveals county tension

Council members table Kittleman's appointments of Garber, Betancourt

BY AMANDA YEAGER  
ayeager@tribune.com

The Howard County Council voted to approve dozens of appointments and some high-profile bills Monday night, in its last legislative session before the council's summer recess.

But perhaps even more significant were the votes they didn't take.

In an apparent rebuke to County Executive Allan Kittleman, a majority of the council voted to delay making decisions on two nominations, one of which has generated controversy over the past month.

Council members tabled the appointments of Susan Garber, a community activist who had been nominated for the Planning Board; and Ivan Betancourt, a volunteer firefighter who was nominated for the Human Rights Commission.

Once tabled, approval for an appointment can be delayed indefinitely.

The nomination process has become the focal point for political tensions between Kittleman, a Republican, and the Democrat-dominated council.

Late last week, the county executive

made an unusual public appeal to supporters on his campaign website, kittleman.com, when he launched a petition calling on the council to take an up or down vote on Garber's appointment, rather than tabling it.

"Susan will be a terrific addition to the planning board," the petition, posted to the site on Friday, says. "She is as well qualified - or more qualified - than other Planning Board appointees. She has the support of many in the community."

Meanwhile, the council's Democrats have been trying to expand the checklist of information the county executive provides when presenting his nominations.

Last month, council members - though Republican Councilman Greg Fox said he was not consulted - sent a letter to the administration requesting that Kittleman provide a list of qualifications for each person he nominates for a board or commission. They also asked for Kittleman to specify whether his appointee would replace a current or former board member, and to give a rationale for why that person was being replaced.

"Our boards and commission members put a lot of time into serving the community," Councilwoman Jen Terrasa, a Democrat, said Monday night. "It's part of our duty to find out what's going on with those. I'm not comfortable just replacing them" without more informa-

**'It seems that the council is starting to use Washington-style politics here in Howard County'**

Allan Kittleman  
Howard County Executive

tion.

"I would say it's a good thing to be transparent and open," Councilman Calvin Ball, also a Democrat, said. "If the administration feels the appointees they're nominating would be better, can't we just have that conversation?"

Kittleman has pointed out that no other Howard County executive has been asked to justify his or her appointments as thoroughly.

"It seems that the council is starting to use Washington-style politics here in Howard County," he said Monday, before the vote.

Fox also accused his Democratic colleagues of playing politics.

"The biggest questions are, are people qualified for the role?" he said. "Whether they want to stay or not, this is the prerogative of the county executive... who they're replacing is irrelevant."

Garber, the president of the Savage

Community Association and a citizen activist who has spoken up on multiple land-use and zoning matters, was nominated for the Planning Board in April. If confirmed, she would replace current member Josh Tzucker, whose term expired at the end of May.

Her appointment has generated controversy in the community based on some of the positions she's taken on development, such as opposing efficiency apartments for the homeless on Guilford Road - she says she would rather see housing for the homeless spread throughout the community - and for a letter she wrote last summer, in which she accused the local teachers union of being "greedy" and "manipulative" during the contract negotiation process.

Betancourt's nomination has not received the same level of attention, but Ball said Monday he had heard the volunteer firefighter would be replacing current Human Rights Commission Chairwoman Genevieve Walker-Lightfoot.

The Human Rights Commission was the subject of tense battles between the council and Kittleman's administration earlier this year, after commission members pushed back against a recommendation from the county executive's transition team to look at shifting most of their adjudicatory role to an independent hearing examiner.



FILE PHOTO

Councilman Calvin Ball was lauded for his nutrition bill by Horizon Foundation's CEO.

## Nutritional standards approved

Councilman's bill focuses on eliminating junk food in 'youth-oriented' areas

BY AMANDA YEAGER  
ayeager@tribune.com

The council also voted Monday to approve a bill proposed by Councilman Calvin Ball that would create a set of nutritional standards for vending machines on county property.

The bill revives some of the health guidelines created by former County Executive Ken Ulman's 2012 executive order, which caused a stir last summer among vendors who chafed at government restrictions on the food and drinks they could serve at county-sponsored events. Kittleman repealed the order as his first act in office.

Ball's bill offers more exemptions and focuses on eliminating junk food in "youth-oriented" areas. The final bill passed Monday night, by a 4-1 vote - Fox opposed the legislation - was stripped of some of its more controversial requirements, such as regulations on concessions stands and a requirement to provide water free of charge at all county events.

That wasn't enough for a soft drink industry representative, who said the bill would actually "limit healthy choices" by making it harder to sell some comparatively lower calorie options, such as Vitamin water and Honest Tea, in the county's vending machines.

"The council has now made themselves the arbiter of picking and choosing what they feel is a healthy beverage and what is not," she said.

Fox concurred. "There continues to be significant problems with this bill and I think a lot of them will be more apparent

over the coming days," he said.

Public health advocates and several community groups celebrated the legislation's passage.

"Howard County Government has long been a leader in promoting public health, and this legislation continues in that proud tradition," Nicolette Highsmith Vernick, the president and CEO of public health nonprofit Horizon Foundation, which worked with Ball on the legislation, said in a statement. "Residents, visitors and employees will now have a full range of healthy food and drink choices available on Howard County Government property, and that is a win for us all."

Also Monday night, the council decided to table a ban on vaping indoors proposed by Councilman Jon Weinstein. Weinstein, a Democrat, said he wanted more time to work out definitions in the bill in collaboration with Fox.



What do I believe Susan will bring to the Planning Board? Susan will be committed to the position functioning as an ethical and fair leader making decisions with integrity. She will think analytically and morally while participating as part of the planning team. Her participation on the planning board will be guided by the desire to see all individuals in Howard County thrive.

If approved for the Planning Board, I am certain that Susan Garber will be a pure asset in this position.

Sincerely,

 6.15.15

Christine Dietrich

Date: 15 June 2015

Subject: HCCA Approves Susan Garber to the Planning Board

Whether one is a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or a Vegetarian it does not matter. What does matter is that Susan Garber would be a tremendous asset as a member to the Planning Board and should unequivocally and unanimously be approved by our County Council. The Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA Board of Directors fully supports this nomination and your favorable vote for CR-49. HCCA sent you a letter of support on 7 April 2015 as appended in this testimony.

This nomination should in no way be considered political. It should be considered as to what is in the best interest of Howard County and all your constituents. I can guarantee you that Ms. Garber would be more than fair, ask the right questions that should be asked, and be very involved to ensure that attention to detail for both the petitioner and any protestant will be adhered to. This is what many of us have been asking for years. I know you are hearing concerns regarding misgivings about the Planning Board and misconceptions about Susan which need to stop. The latest objections with the Planning Board stems from the Chapelgate zoning case which I will not discuss tonight since you are sitting as the Zoning Board.

I know that Ms. Garber would be a major watchdog on the Planning Board to guarantee that procedural and Technical Staff Reports criteria are ensured to be followed as designated. We, citizens are hopeful that your approval of this resolution to appoint Ms. Garber will provide the hope that our voices matter. [*Refer to HCCA letter 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph*]

I was extremely pleased to hear that Susan just received a most prestigious award that her community of Savage bestowed upon her at their annual festival. This is not just any award. The award was for a Lifetime Achievement Award from President Obama. That's right -- I said the President of the United States. It doesn't get any higher than that! If I didn't know any better the first lady, Michele Obama must have told the President to make sure you read to the County Council members tonight her quote as to the reason that Susan received this award. So don't be disappointed folks as the President sent me instead to read the quote. It reads, "We learned about honesty and integrity --that truth matters ... that you don't take shortcuts or play by your own set of rules, and success doesn't count unless you earn it fair and square." Well you can best believe that this quote totally depicts Ms. Susan Garber yesterday, today and I'm sure in the future whether she is approved as a Planning Board member or not.

We are very proud and thankful that she has always been a concerned citizen, very active, not afraid to voice her opinion, and can work with people. She is an asset in the Howard County community. She will be a tremendous benefit to the community when approved to the Planning Board. We look forward for you to simply say that you fully approve of this nomination especially since your approval of CR80-2014.

Thank You,



Stu Kohn  
HCCA, President



**Howard County Citizens Association**

*Since 1961...*

*The Voice Of The People of Howard County*

Date: 7 May 2015

Subject: Appointment of Susan Garber to Planning Board

We, the HCCA Board are dismayed by the fact that pre-testimony is being posted on the Howard County website prior to Susan Garber's nomination as a Planning Board (PB) member is heard before the County Council. This should not be permitted as it is our opinion a very poor decision and should be dismissed because it is "choosing civility" at its worst. We are better than this. Whether anyone is for or against any nominee should only be documented at such time after testimony is heard. We would appreciate an explanation of the rationale. Is this the norm and has this ever been done in the past?

Since the qualifications for a prospective PB are apparently not posted on the County website we see no reason why Ms. Garber should not be approved to be a PB member. She is as qualified as anyone else especially when you review her resume. Her resume is impressive and stands on its merits. She has been involved as an activist for many years in the community and is extremely well versed on zoning policies, rules and regulations. Ms. Garber was selected by the County Executive to be DPZ/DILP Transition Team which HCCA was also a member. I can tell you first-hand that contrary to one critic; Ms. Garber was positive and not "nasty" towards DPZ staff. If one associates asking direct questions to the DPZ staff being negative then they are simply wrong in their analysis. It is tough questions that should and need to be required to articulate at PB meetings. I find it interesting because during our Transition Team meetings the developers and builders who were part of our team were educated by citizen's concerns and as a result we learned from one another. We were all respectful of each other opinions and although we agreed to disagree we often compromised which resulted in an outstanding comprehensive report. There is no doubt that Ms. Garber would be more than impartial, dedicated, and a good steward of fair play and follow the law as established by policy and regulations.

In conclusion, Ms. Susan Garber should be unanimously approved based on her good character, zoning knowledge, and not being timid by asking very germane questions. She would be a major asset as a PB member. Her appointment would be a very positive step for all and beneficial for the future of Howard County.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn  
HCCA, President

## Sara Arditti - Testimony Re Susan Garber for Planning Board 6/15/15

I'm here to speak in support of Susan Garber's appointment to the Planning Board. Susan has often spoken in front of this group, occasionally sharing her perspective on bills as a former special educator. However this gives no hint as to how accomplished she was in her career. Let me tell you about some of her many accomplishments that speak to how fortunate Howard County would be to have someone of her caliber willing to serve on the Planning Board.

It was the 19 years "in the trenches", teaching students of all disability types and ages that provided the solid first-hand experience for Ms. Garber to be recruited by Johns Hopkins University's Center for technology in Human Disability. During her decade with JHU she developed and directed a statewide program that led to Maryland being one of the first states to be awarded a Technology-Related Assistance Program Grant. She was the first non-PhD in the Hopkins School of Education to be allowed to develop a proposal for a personnel preparation grant and to direct the innovative program when funded.

Few people would be aware that this humble person was chosen to be one of an 11 member, international board to develop credentialing in the then new field of assistive technology for individuals with disabilities. Imagine the attention to detail and comprehensive understanding of the perspective of other professionals from rehabilitation engineering to occupational, physical, and speech therapies necessary to create criteria and testing questions.

With two advanced degrees from Hopkins and years of pioneering experience in assistive technology it is not surprising that she was invited to speak at the Second Sino-American Symposium on Special Education Technology in Taiwan and was the only participant to present on 3 individual topics.

While at Hopkins she became frustrated with the reality that no matter how many practitioners, parents, and graduate students she could train, the high cost of assistive technologies continued to prevent their purchase and implementation. Therefore she founded and directed a non-profit which created a buying cooperative, based on the combined purchasing power of Maryland's public and private schools. Our own Howard School System saved tens of thousands dollars annually on technology purchases and adapted equipment through AT:LAST, Inc.

It's no wonder that folks from both JHU and the Governor's Office on Disability have called Ms. Garber a visionary. How fortunate that since her retirement Susan has devoted her time to volunteer work and civic activism. Just nine days ago she was recognized by the Corporation for National and Community Service with President Obama's Lifetime Achievement Award for building a stronger nation through volunteer service.

Don't we need a visionary to participate on our Howard Planning Board as we face new opportunities and challenges? Don't we need someone who has dedicated her life to leveling the playing field for ALL people?

Testimony for County Council resolution # 49, June 15, 2015

Dear Howard County Council members,

I support County Executive's appointment of Susan Garber to the Planning Board. I have made up my mind not because I agree with Susan on everything, I do disagree with her sometimes, but because I believe her strong qualifications and long time involvement in the County and community affairs, her extraordinary dedication to the common good as a volunteer are much more important than her imperfection."

Susan is a distinguished educator, leader, and pioneer in special education and rehabilitation with a focus to help the disabled and the senior. She devoted her career life to help the disadvantaged over the decades. After retirement, she has contributed numerous hours as president of Savage Association, and served in many other County and community committees. She has a special interest in protecting the environment such as the Patuxent Rivers, parklands, and maintaining historical sites. *She has been working tirelessly to make Howard County a better place to live.*

I attended many meetings with Susan and was impressed with her selfless dedication and character of an independent thinker, who is never bent to any politics, but truth and facts. She is a person you can argue with, disagree with because she does independent analysis, asks challenging questions, and is never afraid of speaking out what she believes is right, but at the same time, she is great to work with because she listens carefully, very reasonable and helpful.

I support Susan's appointment. I think it reflects an important approach of our County leadership to work inclusively, more attention to the community voice, and great effort to a more transparent government.

Please consider an approval for the appointment of Susan Garber. Thank you for your consideration!

Shun Lu

12852 Macbeth Farm Lane  
Clarksville, MD 21029  
slmail2018@gmail.com  
410-440-7738

Good evening. I'm Susan Garber of 9100 Gorman Road 20723. It's nice to see you all again.

I'm pleased and humbled to have been appointed to the Planning Board. I look forward to involvement at a time when the County faces new challenges and great opportunities as it moves forward.

Since the only qualification listed for membership is county residency, I guess I should start there. We've been Howard landowners since 1973 and built our home here in 1990. Previously we had resided in Prince George's County in a garden apartment, a highrise nestled in a park, 2 townhomes and a single family house---- So you can see I've had first-hand experience with a continuum of housing types as our family's needs have changed. While the vast majority of homeowners in this room probably purchased from a developer, my family has also experienced the Howard County development and subdivision process from the perspective of a developer, subdividing and building on our land.

I mention these experiences as they go beyond that minimum requirement for Planning Board membership. To that list I would add skills developed over the 40+ years of my professional experience in special education and non-profit management. These skills are remarkably applicable to participation on the Planning Board and include:

- critical diagnostic/analytic skills,
- creative problem solving,
- sensitivity to other's needs and emotions,
- good written and oral communication skills,
- critical listening,
- business acumen,
- the ability to advocate and negotiate,
- lead while a team player,
- facilitate group processes,
- develop long range plans and a vision for the future -- not to mention an over-arching belief in fairness and leveling of the playing field for ALL people.

Whether in the classroom with special needs students or as a University professor—I always stressed certain behaviors with my students.

- Do your best.
- Follow the rules, especially the Golden Rule.
- Do your homework.
- And Don't forget to put your name on your paper.

As a planning board member I pledge to follow that advice.

- As a retiree I'll have the time to do my best-- for all petitioners and citizens.
- I'll apply the rules as written, guided by their stated intent "to promote the health, safety, and welfare of the community."
- I'll do my homework, reviewing staff reports and familiarizing myself with each case site.
- **I will uphold the high standards expected of Planning Board members, and will work within the guidelines, regulations and laws to render fair and impartial decisions to which I will sign my name.**

As a senior citizen I bring experience, time, and the perspective of *the fastest growing demographic* in the County.

As a retiree I bring the perspective of a household on a fixed income significantly below the County's average.

As a grandmother I'm vested in assuring that Howard County will remain a great place for children to grow and learn --and settle here as adults.

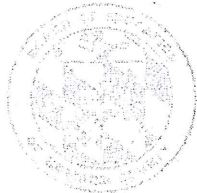
I appreciate your consideration and welcome the opportunity to meet with you further if you have any concerns.

Thank you

Allen Dyer  
6/15/15  
CR49-2015

HOWARD COUNTY  
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM

January 26, 2010



Board of Education  
of Howard County

Ellen Flynn Giles  
*Chairman*

Janet Siddiqui, M.D.  
*Vice Chairman*

Frank J. Aquino, Esq.

Lawrence H. Cohen

Allen Dyer, Esq.

Sandra H. French

Patricia S. Gordon

Josh T. Manley  
*Student Member*

Sydney L. Cousin  
*Superintendent  
Secretary/Treasurer*

The Honorable Courtney Watson, Chairperson  
Howard County Council  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Re: A Minority Report on CB 58 and CB 59 Educational Infrastructure

Dear Chairperson Watson,

Thank you again for inviting the Howard County Board of Education to review and comment on the sufficiency of educational infrastructure in CB 58 and CB 59.

On January 14, 2010, the Board voted to support the Howard County Council's education amendment to CB58. As an individual member of the Board, however, I cannot support postponing the reservation of an elementary school site. I am most directly concerned that the construction of 5,500 new residences in the middle of Columbia will require the County either to build a new elementary school there or to bus the new students to existing schools. The public policy of Maryland, per the recently enacted High Performance Building Act,<sup>1</sup> strongly favors sustainable sites for all public buildings so as to save energy. Plainly, building a school in a new community would be far more sustainable than busing the new students to other neighborhoods; and the County and this Board would be remiss not to reserve a site now.

Moreover, local boards of education must try to reconcile the need to create sustainable schools with the duty to achieve the student diversity goals of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*. In an era of increasing social, economic, and environmental pressures, public schools can ill afford high density, school sized, enclaves of racial or economic uniformity and the associated transportation costs to bus students in and out of such enclaves.

Of special import, therefore, is the challenge/opportunity provided by high density housing such as the 5,500 residential units contemplated in CB 58 and CB 59.<sup>2</sup> As a member of the Board of Education of Howard County, I am concerned that CB 58 and CB 59 do not include tools to insure that the cultural, racial and economic mix of this new urban residential community will reflect countywide demographics.

<sup>1</sup> See: *LEED for Schools Rating System*, Sustainable Sites Prerequisites and Credits.

<sup>2</sup> The Howard County Public Schools System already has one school — Stevens Forest Elementary — that is "walkers only."



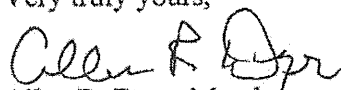
Accordingly, in my opinion the Board should recommend that the County Council anchor the planned new residential community with a new elementary school site without delay and use that prospective new public school as a catalyst for creation of a mixed community of families that accurately reflects the cultural, racial and economic diversity of Howard County. Specifically, the Board should recommend that the County Council:

1. Amend CB 58 to require the granting of a sustainable, walkable elementary school site to the Board of Education;
2. Amend CB 58 to restrict new residential units to locations within a safe walking distance the new town center school site;
3. Amend CB 58 to require new housing demographics to accurately reflect the overall racial and economic diversity of Howard County;
4. Amend CB 58 to include previously proposed provisions regarding checkpoints for determining whether additional schools are needed; and,
5. Having amended CB 58, postpone enactment of CB 59 so as to allow the Planning Board to create and incorporate the tools necessary to make the racial and economic goals of the amended CB 58 possible.

The problem is not whether a school site is needed and where it can be located: the Maryland Education Article delegates sufficient authority to the Board of Education to locate and condemn school sites. The challenge is crafting an enlightened land use policy and working with the developer of this new urban residential community to showcase the cultural, racial, and economic diversity that is Howard County. The Board of Education can build the schools and staff them with the best educators in the country, but only the County Council and the developer can surround that school with a microcosm of Howard County.

Such is the minority advice of this Board member, but, that advice is bundled with a promise to strive mightily to support the County Council and the developer if they choose to take the next step in fulfilling the promise of Brown v. Board of Education.

Very truly yours,



Allen R. Dyer, Member  
Board of Education of Howard County  
Speaking as an individual member

cc: Board Members  
Ms. Mary Kay Sigaty, Vice Chairman, Howard County Council  
Dr. Sydney Cousin, Superintendent

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Feldmark, Jessica  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 03, 2015 3:08 PM  
**To:** Sayers, Margery; Habicht, Kelli  
**Subject:** CR49-2015  
**Attachments:** Planning Board; Nomination of Susan Garber to the PB; HCCA Fully Supports Approval of Susan Garber as Planning Board Member; I Support Susan Garber for Planning Board

For legislative file & web...thanks!

Jessica Feldmark  
Administrator  
Howard County Council  
410-313-3111  
[jfeldmark@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:jfeldmark@howardcountymd.gov)

**Habicht, Kelli**

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**From:** NanetteMS@aol.com  
**Sent:** Monday, May 11, 2015 4:53 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** Kittleman, Allan  
**Subject:** Planning Board  
**Attachments:** letter to HCC - Planning Board Appt.doc

Council Members,

Attached please find a letter regarding the nomination of Susan Garber to the Planning Board.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nanette M. Schweitzer

3366 Oak West Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043  
May 11, 2015

Howard County Council  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Dear Council Members:

This letter is regarding CR49-2015 and my support for the appointment of Susan Garber to the Planning Board.

I met Ms. Garber when she was the Executive Director of the non-profit At Last (Maryland Assistive Technology CO-OP) in Columbia. Ms. Garber assisted individuals, with all types of disabilities, and their families, with the tools to make their daily lives easier, productive, and more fulfilling .

I believe some of the skills Ms. Garber used at At Last, such as her kindness and patience with clients, her research, the constant studying of materials and her knowledge of all types of disabilities would be an asset to the Planning Board and benefit **all** citizens of our community.

Sincerely,

Nanette M Schweitzer  
Past President, Howard County Learning Disabilities Association  
Past President, Maryland Learning Disabilities Association  
Recipient, Howard County Public School System, 2011 Friends of Education Award

cc: Allan Kittleman, County Executive

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Stu Kohn <stukohn@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 07, 2015 9:43 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** Kittleman, Allan; Wilson, B Diane; Susan Garber; Brian England ; Howard Johnson; lmarkovitz@comcast.net; jacquiesentell@hotmail.com; ajs333@aol.com; Smith JD; Ros Williams  
**Subject:** HCCA Fully Supports Approval of Susan Garber as Planning Board Member  
**Attachments:** Susan Garber.docx

Dear Council,

The HCCA Board fully supports the appointment of Ms. Susan Garber, see attachment as a member of the Planning Board.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn  
HCCA, President

Cc: HCCA Board – Brian England, Howard Johnson, Lisa Markovitz, Jacquie Sentell, Alan Schneider, JD Smith, and Ros Williams



# HCCA

**Howard County Citizens Association**

*Since 1961...*

*The Voice Of The People of Howard County*

Date: 7 May 2015

Subject: Appointment of Susan Garber to Planning Board

We, the HCCA Board are dismayed by the fact that pre-testimony is being posted on the Howard County website prior to Susan Garber's nomination as a Planning Board (PB) member is heard before the County Council. This should not be permitted as it is our opinion a very poor decision and should be dismissed because it is "choosing civility" at its worst. We are better than this. Whether anyone is for or against any nominee should only be documented at such time after testimony is heard. We would appreciate an explanation of the rationale. Is this the norm and has this ever been done in the past?

Since the qualifications for a prospective PB are apparently not posted on the County website we see no reason why Ms. Garber should not be approved to be a PB member. She is as qualified as anyone else especially when you review her resume. Her resume is impressive and stands on its merits. She has been involved as an activist for many years in the community and is extremely well versed on zoning policies, rules and regulations. Ms. Garber was selected by the County Executive to be DPZ/DILP Transition Team which HCCA was also a member. I can tell you first-hand that contrary to one critic; Ms. Garber was positive and not "nasty" towards DPZ staff. If one associates asking direct questions to the DPZ staff being negative then they are simply wrong in their analysis. It is tough questions that should and need to be required to articulate at PB meetings. I find it interesting because during our Transition Team meetings the developers and builders who were part of our team were educated by citizen's concerns and as a result we learned from one another. We were all respectful of each other opinions and although we agreed to disagree we often compromised which resulted in an outstanding comprehensive report. There is no doubt that Ms. Garber would be more than impartial, dedicated, and a good steward of fair play and follow the law as established by policy and regulations.

In conclusion, Ms. Susan Garber should be unanimously approved based on her good character, zoning knowledge, and not being timid by asking very germane questions. She would be a major asset as a PB member. Her appointment would be a very positive step for all and beneficial for the future of Howard County.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn  
HCCA, President

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** beengland@comcast.net  
**Sent:** Friday, May 08, 2015 3:08 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** akittleman@howardcountymd.gov; HCCA  
**Subject:** Nomination of Susan Garber to the PB

When I heard that County Executive Allan Kittleman had recommended Susan Garber for the planning board because she would ask tough questions I had a "flashback".....

At a Planning Board meeting I attended related to development in Columbia New Town Josh Tzucker said in referring to a decision they were making "Are we going to roll over like we normally do" !!!!

Chair David Grabowski said with a smile "I think you are going to regret saying that"!

Well Josh did not "Roll over" the rest of the Planning Board did!

We need people on the planning board that are going to ask tough questions and that are going to make sure that DPZ acts as a "regulator" not a "facilitator".

Susan Garber is the right person for the job please vote to approve her nomination.

Brian England 410 952 6856

Sent from Xfinity Connect Mobile App

## Habicht, Kelli

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**From:** Sara Arditti <saraarditti@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 04, 2015 6:49 PM  
**To:** Fox, Greg; Weinstein, Jon; Ball, Calvin B; Terrasa, Jen; Sigaty, Mary Kay; CouncilMail  
**Cc:** Kittleman, Allan; Wilson, B Diane  
**Subject:** I Support Susan Garber for Planning Board

Dear Council Members,

I would like to voice my strong support of Susan Garber for a position on the Planning Board. She is well qualified and has a long history as a hard working civic activist. It is time for such a representative of the citizen taxpayers to be appointed to the board. I have known Susan for about 2 years, attended many of the same meetings and events, and have worked alongside her on several civic issues, including testifying to the DPZ Transition Team that she served on. She is an easy-going, reasonable, articulate, even-handed person with integrity, whose interest is nothing other than doing what is best for the citizen taxpayers of Howard County. Her views on development are informed and balanced. She treats everyone cheerfully and with respect. Most importantly, Susan is beholden to no one, and unlike other people who serve on various boards and other political positions, she has no personal or financial conflicts of interest which might influence her.

Susan has deep knowledge of many issues and I believe she would make an excellent addition to the Planning Board, one that is long overdue. I hope you will approve her appointment.

Sincerely,

**Sara Arditti**

**Owner**

**Still Life Gallery**

**Fine Art & Custom Framing**

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Phone: 410-461-1616

Gallery Hours: Wed-Sun 11:00am-6:00pm

<http://StillLifeGallery.net>

<https://www.facebook.com/Still.Life.Gallery>



## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Feldmark, Jessica  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2015 9:53 AM  
**To:** Sayers, Margery; Habicht, Kelli  
**Subject:** CR49-2015  
**Attachments:** [HOWARD-CITIZEN] Positive Testimony for Support of Susan Garber; Resolution # 49-2015 Susan Garber; In support of Susan Garber for Planning Board; CR-49-2015; I oppose the appointment of Susan Garber to the Planning Board; Support for Susan Garber; I oppose the appointment of Susan Garber to the Planning Board; Re; CR49-2015 ; Re: CR 49-2015

More testimony to post and file. Thanks!

Jessica Feldmark  
Administrator  
Howard County Council  
410-313-3111  
[jfeldmark@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:jfeldmark@howardcountymd.gov)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** HOWARD-CITIZEN@yahoogroups.com on behalf of 'Stu Kohn' stukohn@verizon.net  
[HOWARD-CITIZEN] <HOWARD-CITIZEN@yahoogroups.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 18, 2015 12:14 AM  
**To:** howard-citizen@yahoogroups.com; CouncilMail  
**Subject:** [HOWARD-CITIZEN] Positive Testimony for Support of Susan Garber

All,

FYI – This is to inform you that at the County Council Legislative Hearing on June 15 testimony was given on CR49-2015, the nomination of Susan Garber to be a Planning Board (PB) member. The testimony heard was overwhelming and compelling in support of Ms. Garber being approved by the Council members. There were 18 individuals who testified of which 16 were extremely positive and two had reservations. The two who had reservations were both teachers. One was not sure of the interaction of the PB regarding the school system. The Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA testified in her support and sent a letter to the Council on 7 May.

To watch the tape and hear Susan Garber and citizen's testimony you can go to <http://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Online-Tools/Watch-Us> to the County Council Section at the "Legislative Public Hearing -- 06/15/15" and then hit "Video." When the video is displayed then go above the time and toggle to 01:02:57. If you want to hear HCCA's testimony you can toggle to 01:38:00.

The County Council is to vote on CR49-2015 on Monday, July 6 at 7PM. We hope that the Council will indeed vote for Ms. Garber's approval.

Sincerely,

Stu Kohn  
HCCA, President

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Posted by: "Stu Kohn" <[stukohn@verizon.net](mailto:stukohn@verizon.net)>

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NOTE 1: When you choose REPLY, it will go to the entire group.  
To send to one member, enter that address in the TO window.

NOTE 2: HCCA does not take responsibility for the content of messages posted on the listserve; assertions should be verified before placing reliance on them.

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Nancy Wisner <nancywisner16@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2015 5:43 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** CR-49-2015

I'm writing to highly recommend that Susan Garber be approved for the appointment to the Howard County Planning Board.

Susan Garber is an avid member and supporter of the North Laurel 50+ Center.

She champions the North Laurel Community Center partners in their work especially the health and wellness programs of the North Laurel 50+ Center.

Susan has been keeping herself engaged in a variety of health, social and lifelong learning programs at the center such as Enhanced Fitness Exercise Class, Older American Month Celebrations and Master Gardener Series.

As a full-time member of the **North Laurel Senior Council**, she keeps the North Laurel 50+ members and staff informed about issues of importance in our Southern Region of the County and beyond.

Susan has spearheaded the campaign for an indoor pool at the North Laurel Community Center and gently encouraged advocacy in others in this campaign.

She is a wealth of information on County concerns especially impacting the older citizens.

Susan serves as an advocate and liaison for older adults in the community.

She connects members and staff with vital information in and around the community such as local housing developments that would impact transportation for seniors.

She also shares with us current ideas, discussions and developments taking place in the community such as annual government plans and budgets so Senior Council Members are aware and able to contribute in the decision making process.

Susan has always taken a leadership role regarding older adult issues which has strengthened partnerships with local government, community partners and the overall camaraderie among older adults.

Above all else, Susan is the kindest, most compassionate and most sincere person I have ever met!

Her approach and attentiveness is always professional, considerate and fair.

These attributes and her community advocacy experience would make her a fine member on the Howard County Planning Board.

I've recently learned that HCEA is against Susan's approval for Planning Board and have asked members to speak against her. I'm appalled that the HCEA would do such a thing since they don't know Susan and her work in the county. Positions taken by the union don't necessarily reflect the opinions of the individual members.

I'm retired from the Howard County School System and find the union, as witnessed in 23 years in the county, to be overstepping their bounds once again!

Nancy Wisner  
President, North Laurel Senior Council

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Tasha Brison <Tasha\_Brison@hcpss.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 15, 2015 10:58 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** I oppose the appointment of Susan Garber to the Planning Board

Dear Members of the County Council,

On behalf of the 5500 members of the Howard County Education Association, we strongly oppose the appointment of Susan Garber to the Planning Board.

Ms. Garber's rhetoric describing educators' negotiations as "greedy, manipulative, and rather like blackmail" is inflammatory and unfair. Her "not in my backyard" attacks on efforts to protect the homeless are indicative of a troubling absence of sympathy and concern for our most unfortunate neighbors. In short, the Association has serious doubts that Ms. Garber will treat the people of our county with the kindness, dignity, and respect they deserve.

Howard County has more than enough residents with the skills and temperament for public service. Regardless of the post, it is imperative that we find and support the people who are willing to lead by example. The Howard County Education Association stands ready to assist.

Sincerely,

Tasha Brison  
kindergarten teacher  
Pointers Run Elementary School

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** H Rushing <frostyspen@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 17, 2015 11:50 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Resolution #49-2015 Susan Garber

This email is furnished in support of the appointment of Susan Garber to the Planning Board as indicated in County Resolution #49-2015.

Susan has been an asset to Howard County and this Savage Community, organizing and successfully finalizing projects that have

been considered. An attribute I admire is that she does not make decisions without researching the pros and cons concerning same.

I think Susan has proven her ability to work with others, has a pleasant personality (necessary when participating in a government position

and/or in group functioning). Her appearance reflects a business like manner when the situation at hand requires same. I think she would be

very fair and effective on the Planning Board.

Helen Hackley Rushing  
8815 Washington Street  
Savage, MD 20763-9764