Chairperson Mr. Robert Pipik, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Following a round of introductions, Ms. Margaret Kaii-Ziegler moved the approval of the Cooperative Forecasting Group (CFG) minutes of the February 22, 2017 meeting with text amendments requested by Ms. Kui Zhao. Mr. Jeff Bronow seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. ROUND 9 UPDATE – CONTROL TOTAL STATUS

In reply to a request from the chairperson, Mr. Shawn Kimberly reminded CFG members of the next steps on the Round 9 Update timeline. April 30th is the deadline for submission of population, household and employment control totals to the BMC. The Master Establishment File (MEF), pending a follow-up discussion with Carroll County staff, is complete. He will distribute the completed MEF to CFG members next month to aid finalizing the small area forecast due November 30th.

Mr. Pipik reported that Baltimore City, using their Round 8 methodology and Woods and Poole data set, is on track to meet the April 30th deadline. Comprehensive small area analysis comprised the bulk of their work. He thanked Mr. Kimberly for support and advice through the process. Mr. Bronow reported that Howard County has nearly completed their residential and population analysis. County staff is focused currently on employment analysis and review of redevelopment assumptions. Mr. Richard Campbell reported that Anne Arundel County will miss the submission deadline by a month. He has only recently received the employment and residential estimates critical to his analysis. He reported that staffing constraints and in-house priorities have slowed his progress. He anticipates submitting county control totals at the end of May. Mr. Steve Cohoon reported that Queen Anne’s County is on track to meet the deadline. Household and population totals are nearly complete and he anticipates submitting them later this week. He thanked Mr. Kimberly for support and direction. Ms. Lynda Eisenberg reported that changes in staffing assignments at Carroll County have disrupted her
progress. She plans to meet with Mr. Kimberly following the meeting to verify outstanding submissions and clarify next steps. Ms. Zhao reported steps and data sets she used for her analysis, which included overview of the recently adopted county comprehensive plan. She plans to submit county control totals following her final review.


Using the July 2016 U. S. Census Bureau population estimates released on March 23rd, Mr. Kimberly prepared a chart of population estimates, by jurisdiction, from 2010 through 2016. He also calculated the percent change 2015-2016 and 2010-2016. The Census Bureau generated the one-year estimates using the cohort component method. During his PowerPoint presentation of the data, he noted that the CFG forecast closely mirrors the Census Bureau estimates. He discussed net domestic, net international and total net migration. International migration increased sharply between 2010 and 2011. A substantial portion of this increase is due to a change in Census Bureau methodology initiated in 2011. He then discussed charts of each CFG jurisdiction Round 8, 8A and 8B forecast compared with corresponding census estimates. Various discussions about the census estimates followed.

Mr. Pipik noted that the Population Estimate Program reported a steep decline in domestic migration for Baltimore City. His staff, working with various City departments, conducted a quantitative review of the census estimate. They concluded that the decline is overstated. As a result, the City is considering challenging the census estimate. A discussion, of the methodology/data set the census used (IRS tax filings) to calculate migration, followed. Mr. Pipik concluded the discussion by inviting CFG members to dialogue with him about their impressions of and experiences with interpreting population estimates released by the Census Bureau. Additionally, he offered to continue the discussion at the next CFG meeting.

[PowerPoint: U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates]

4. LUCA AND PSAP UPDATE

Mr. Kimberly updated CFG members on activities currently underway in preparation for the 2020 decennial census. The Boundary Annexation Survey provides an opportunity for local jurisdictions to inform the Census Bureau of any current boundary inconsistencies with the 2010 Census. CFG members received notification of schedules for the Local Update to Census Addresses (LUCA) program. Census Bureau staff will conduct a LUCA training session in the BMC conference room on June 7, 2017, at 11:00 am. Near the end of 2018, the Participants Statistical Area Program (PSAP) will provide the software local jurisdictions need to review and revise TAZ boundaries.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kimberly called attention to a project funded in the recently approved FY 2018 UPWP, the development of Regional and Jurisdictional Transportation Data Books.
The books and online content will contain information covering infrastructure, growth patterns and other relevant transportation data that effects or is effected by transportation in the Baltimore region. The work program includes staff of local jurisdictions supporting BMC managed consultants in gathering and organizing the contents of the data books. Once completed, the data books will serve as a baseline to measure changes over time as well as inform the long-range transportation planning process. He circulated examples of data books produced by other MPO’s. He will email additional information about data points BMC staff are considering for inclusion into the Data Books and invited CFG member feedback.

ATTENDANCE

Members
Krishna Akundi – Maryland Department of Planning
Jeff Bronow – Howard County Department of Planning
Richard Campbell - Anne Arundel County Department of Planning
Steve Cohoon – Queen Anne’s County Department of Planning
Chris Davis – Baltimore County Department of Planning
Lynda Eisenberg – Carroll County Department of Planning
Robert Pipik - Baltimore City Department of Planning
Dan Rooney – Harford County Department of Planning
Alfred Sundara – Maryland Department of Planning
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler - Anne Arundel County Department of Planning
Kui Zhao - Baltimore County Department of Planning

Staff and Guests
Charles Baber - Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC)
Robert Berger - BMC
Victor Bonaparte - BMC
Shawn Kimberly - BMC
Blake Fisher - BMC