

Public Policy and Community Affairs Committee

Minutes from February 4th, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Committee facilitator Matt Quinn opened the meeting at 7:01 pm in the teen room at the Olney Library

The first item was to acknowledge that we were all volunteers giving up our time to serve and support our community. Respecting each other's views, even when in disagreement, was a requirement. Minutes will be kept and assigned in a rotation fashion. (Matt Quinn first)

Objectives Matt Quinn shared the PPCA purpose document with the team. (attached). There were no issues with the purpose of the PPCA.

Legislative

As a goal, we would like to get in front of legislative issues that impact Olney. This as opposed to being in a reactive mode, in regards to legislative issues. The first step was to identify current legislation under review by our elected officials.

Howard Greif will focus on Montgomery County legislation

Barbara Ray will focus on state of Maryland legislation

It was also decided that developing relationships with elected officials was necessary. We talked about the importance of not over representing who we were as individuals or as committee members. (see purpose doc)

Status updates will be provided at the next face to face meeting in March

It was requested to add the organizing of political debates to our responsibilities.

Land Use

Matt Quinn will meet with Yale Tankus on Friday Feb 6th to review his method for gathering information on local land use issues – it is possible other members will attend.

OTCAC

Barbara Ray and Howard Greif provided an overview what OTACA was attempting to accomplish. This committee will continue to stay involved with OTCAC

Other Issues

A request was made to identify the method in which MCPS works to change school district boundaries. Discussion was had on the number of people that should be on the committee, should it be limited.

Concern was raised as to who the makeup of the debate committee – should participants who currently work for elected officials, were either elected officials or ran for office in the past 2 years be eligible?

The next meeting will be Wednesday March 4th at 7 pm at the Olney Library

The meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

In attendance: Barbara Ray, Mark Hill, Howard Greif and Matt Quinn

Minutes respectfully submitted by Matt Quinn