

Minutes
June 11, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

President Barbara Falcigno called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and the GOCA Board and delegates, alternates, and members of the public then introduced themselves. Matt Zaborsky moved to approve the amended May 12, 2013 minutes and Arnie Gordon seconded. The amended May minutes were approved unanimously by the delegates. Kathy Curtis moved to approve the amended agenda. The agenda was approved unanimously by the delegates.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barbara Falcigno announced that the Montgomery County Council is seeking applicants for positions for the County Board of Appeals. The deadline for submissions is July 10 at 5 p.m. The Olney Theatre is having their 4th Annual Community Day on June 29, a free event. On June 24, the very first meeting of the Olney Civic Fund, a GOCA non-profit organization, at the Remax Building to increase community awareness and raise funds for community projects.

OLD BUSINESS

Presentation by Barbara Falcigno on the history and issues concerning the Trotters Glen Project and the Trail Connection to the North Branch Trail System, followed by commentary by the GOCA delegates, land developers, and homeowners directly affected by these projects.

Motion by GOCA: Whereas the addition of 69 homes in Trotters Glen will almost double the number of homes living off Batchellors Forest Road, the transportation committee feels that another method of egress is needed from that community to access Georgia Avenue south other than having the traffic use Batchellor's Forest Road and cut through the park to access 97S at Emory Lane. The park has already complained about safety with cut-through traffic and the Transportation Committee feels that additional cut-through traffic from the new community will make matters worse. The committee feels a second method of egress should be constructed. The simplest method would appear to be the connection of Emory Church Road to the Trotters Glen property since Emory Church Road already abuts the Trotters Glen property and traffic could access Georgia Avenue via an existing traffic signal without cutting through the park and the already failing signal at Emory Lane/97. An alternate, and perhaps more desirable option, would be to connect Mt. Everest Lane to the Trotters Glen property allowing traffic to exit on Route 28 to get to 97. This option minimizes F-level congestion that has already occurred between the ICC and Emory lane. These two suggested options do not preclude other possible options of egress from the new development to 97S OTHER than cutting through the park.

Motion by GOCA: GOCA supports the original master plan alignment for the North Branch Trail between the Preserve at Rock Creek Trail and Bowie Mill Road. There was a proposal to cross the stream further south and connect directly to either Kirk Lane or Ridge Road. GOCA does not support this proposed route for several reasons. First, there is no cost savings due to the steep topography of the stream area which will require a large bridge. The extensive wetlands in the area will also require much of the trail to be elevated. In addition, GOCA feels the trail route should stay off of area roads which do not have a shoulder or sidewalk making it unsafe for users.

OFFICERS/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

a. President's Report

Barbara Falcigno announced that Montgomery County Council was holding a hearing on June 12 on the new zoning regulations.

b. Correspondence Report

GOCA received a letter from Delegate Zucker on scholarship opportunities through his office and offered constituents to come to his meetings to discuss these opportunities and other community issues. There is also a notice to purchase a divided parcel of land near Alan Court of Norbeck Road.

c. Olney Chamber of Commerce

Annual Awards Ceremony from 6-9:30 pm at the Norbeck Country Club on June 13, 2013. Tony Davis of Brooke Grove Foundation will be presenting.

d. Olney Town Center Report

OTCAC has been working with the county on road improvements through the Montgomery County's program on small road improvement with plans for Morningwood Drive and Spartan Road, north of Rte.108. The Next meeting for OTCAC will be on July 30 at 7:30 with Joseph Eagan on the library agenda. OTCAC new email address is info.olneytowncenter@gmail.com.

e. Olney Days Report

Despite the rain, Olney Days went very well with additional corporate sponsors.

e. Civic Federation Report

No new issues to report for this term.

f. Membership Report

All HOAS are current and up to date in their dues.

g. Olney Civic Foundation Report

The Olney Civic Foundation is now incorporated. Their first meeting will be on June 24th at 7:30 at the Remax Building. Volunteers and donations needed.

h. Transportation Report

65,000 speeding tickets were issued in Olney due to the speed cameras although there are only 35,000 people living in Olney. The Transportation Committee is looking into the accident data in relation to the speed cameras and the timing on the stop lights along Georgia Avenue. However, the County, with the assistance of Delegate Zucker, has made improvements on the timing on the lights on Georgia Ave, allowing for a better flow of traffic. The repaving of Rte. 97 from Old Baltimore Road to Queen Mary Road is still in progress. The portion from Queen Mary Road to Queen Elizabeth Road will not be repaved, although it needs to be done. The Transportation Committee is seeking for an

endorsement from OTCAC for the pavement of that portion. Finally, the State is cancelling three of the five ICC commuter buses due to low ridership.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next GOCA meeting will be on Tuesday, July 9, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

Matt Zaborsky made a motion to adjourn; Arnie Gordon seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark K. Hill, Recording Secretary

GOCA Executive Board

Barbara Falcigno (GOCA President, Olney Oaks), Kathy Curtis (2nd Vice President, Lake Hallowell), Greg Intoccia (Corresponding Secretary, Ashley Hollow), Howard Grief (1st President, Norbeck Grove), Mark K. Hill (Recording Secretary, Camelback Village), Ruth Laughner (Treasurer, Williamsburg Village), Helene Rosenheim (Past President, Highlands), John Webster (Executive Vice President, Manor Oaks), Paul Jarosinski (Cherrywood HOA), Jackie Benn (Fair Hill Farm), Judy Broseker (Brookeville Knolls), Bob Reel (Victoria Springs), Meg Pease-Fye (SEROCA), Barbara Barry (Perspective Woods), Arnie Gordon (Norbeck Meadows), Matt Zaborsky (Past President, Norbeck Meadows), Jim Smith (Oatland Farm,) Joe Corbett (Williamsburg Village), Jay Feinberg (Olney Oaks), Aleka Kapaton,(Tanterra) Carol Sullivan (Cherrywood), Lydia Rappolt (Camelback Village), Jodi Finkelstein (Hallowell).

Invited Guests

Terri Hogan (The Gazette), Tom Mateya (Toll Brothers)

Public

Alden English (SEROCA), Barbara Ray (Green Space), Art Bodsky (Cherrywood), Danny Benn (Fairhill Farm) Sharon Kay Dooley (James Creek), Liz Symonds, L. Claudia Hanlon (SEROCA), Dee Nelson (SEROCA), Claire Miller (SEROCA), Gerald Miller (Kirk Lane), John Wylie (Batchellors Forest Road), Bob Tworkowski (Batchellors Forest Road), Lauren Farah (Kirk Lane), Barbara Ray (Brookeville Knolls) Lee Lofthus (Oatlands), Barbara Jackson (SEROCA), M. Stringar (Olney Acres), Rodger Nelson (Batchellors Forest Road), Ann Wylie (Batchellors Forest Road), Leslie Cronin (Batchellors Forest Road), Mike Lenhart (LTC), Kathy Brannigin (Olney Acres) D. Reile (SEORCA), Syd Craig, John Sackets, Lynn Campbell (Batchellors Forest Road), Andrea Campbell (Batchellors Forest Road), Marti English (SEROCA), Forean Eagan (MCPL), Stephen Fye (Batchellors Forest Road).