

Minutes
January 14, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

President Barbara Falcigno called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and the GOCA Representatives, alternates, and members of the public then introduced themselves. Matt Zaborsky moved to approve the November 2013 minutes; seconded by John Webster. The minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

David Dise and Suresh Patel of the MC Department of General Services announced that the progress on the construction of the Olney Library is going well. The contractor now has 30-45 days to complete minor construction details in the interior of the building. Library staff will be moving in shortly. Shelves and furniture are in place. However, an exact date for completion is not known. The Olney Library closed as a tier 2 library but will be open seven days a week as a tier 1 library.

The County Executive has put out an Operating Budget for Montgomery County, MD that is available for viewing and comment at www.montgomerycountymd.gov.

Monday, January 20th is The Day of Service. Please go to www.montgomeyserves.org to see activities where you can help the community.

On January 28, 2014, there is the Glenmont Sectional Map Amendment public hearing.

On January 21, 2014 the Mid-County has a board meeting.

At the beginning of February, Sandy Spring Village Center is doing a design seminar for three days for ideas for remodeling the Sandy Spring Village Center.

Montgomery College is offering scholarships for senior high school students in the community. The deadline for one is January 30th and for others is April 30th. Please go to the Montgomery College website for more information.

Please see www.montgomerycountymd.gov for press releases for applications on various openings on Board member positions.

There is a Jam Session & Potluck to celebrate the preservation of Ten-Mile Creek. It is on Sunday, January 19 from 1-4 p.m in Kensington, MD. A \$10 donation and a dish to share is requested but voluntary.

County Executive Ike Leggett will be speaking on the Montgomery County Budget at Mid-County Recreational Center at Queens Guard at 7 p.m. on Monday, January 27 and the Olney community is invited to Arnie Gordon's home on February 8th at 2:30 to have a conversation with County Executive Ike Leggett.

The Athena Awards, sponsored by Olney Chamber of Commerce and the Brooke Grove Foundation, will accept nominations for leading women in the community for the May Athena Awards. The deadline for nominations is February 28.

Relay for Life begins on May 31st of May through June 1st at Sherwood High School. Volunteers and contributions are requested.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

Comparison of current and proposed zoning regulations in Olney

Presentations and question and answer session conducted by Pamela Dunn of Montgomery County Park and Planning and Meredith Wellington, Former Commission on the Montgomery County Planning Board. More information on the zoning issues in Olney and interactive maps can be found at www.zoningmontgomery.org.

Archery Safety Zone Regulations

Presentation conducted by State Senator Eric Luedtke of District 14 on the purpose of the new safety proposals for archery in deer hunting, which is mainly due to the over population of deer in Maryland and deer management. (MD Bill MC5-14; Archery safety zone from 50 yards to 150 yards). More information can be found at:

<http://montgomerycountydelegation.com/documents/MC5-14.pdf>

OFFICERS/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

a. President's Report

President Barbara Falcigno thanked Bob Beard for his service as GOCA Liaison to the Olney Town Center Advisory Committee and appointed Kathy Curtis as his replacement.

The Olney and Sandy Spring Lions are raising money to replace all of the American flags displayed on Georgia Ave on many holidays. The Mid-County Board started this several years ago and Fletchers have replaced the flags a few times. The estimated cost is between \$2300 and \$2800. Currently, \$800 has been raised for the effort. They are also looking for volunteers to join their committee. Contacts can be found at <http://www.olneylionsclub.com> or <http://sandyspringlions.com>.

GOCA has been asked to have members serve on two different Community Outreach Committees. The first is with Our Lady of Good Counsel High School. This group will likely meet only 2-3 times a year and they will address any concerns with transportation, noise, or any other interaction with the adjacent community. Their next meeting is 1/21 at 3:30 pm. The second is the Community Liaison Committee with Medstar Montgomery Medical Center. They meet twice a year and discuss the impact hospital activities and future development has on adjacent communities. They met on December 3, 2013 and will likely meet again in May/June.

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School's original site plan approval included a Performing Art Center. It was not built at the time due to budget restraints. They now are ready to move forward and they can build it under the original approval. As they reviewed their plans, they saw space they could use in the vaulted space behind the stage as classroom space. This does not change the footprint of the building but does surpass the original square footage approval requiring a site plan amendment.

All GOCA Representatives should have received a test ballot for voting. If this test ballot is successful, then voting for the 2013 GOCA Awards will be done electronically. Please let Matt Zaborsky or Barbara Falcigno know if you did not receive an email with a link to the voting. We are using Survey Monkey.

Given the impact Rapid Transit will have on the Olney area, I am looking for 5-7 folks willing to form a BRT Task Force to research the topic and follow developments. This is a long-term commitment, as the process will take several years.

For those that missed the County Council's October 23 forum for HOAs, Condo, and Civic Associations, it is available to watch on the web. Link is in:

<http://mccouncil.blogspot.com/2013/11/leaders-of-hoas-condo-associations.html>

b. Membership Report

January 14, 2014 is the deadline for submitting a 2014 Membership application to GOCA and the grace period is until March 31, 2014.

c. Correspondence Report

The Board of Appeals adopted the recommendation for HHS Companies to have a special exception for the domiciliary care home on Georgia Avenue.

d. Treasurer's Report

Based on the GOCA Annual Budget Report, Olney Days has been running a deficit for GOCA for several years. However, this year Olney Days will be largely funded through the Olney Civic Fund and not be part of the GOCA budget.

e. Transportation Report

Paul Jarosinski reported that the county projects for Intersection 97 and Rte.28 have been underfunded. As such: GOCA has proposed a motion to the MC Park & Planning and the County Council.

Motion: GOCA requests that the grade separated interchange at Routes 97 and 28 be the county's top transportation priority.

The motion was approved unanimously. A letter will be sent to the Montgomery County Park and Planning Commission informing them of the passage of this motion.

f. Olney Town Center Advisory Committee

Helene Rosenheim stated that at the last OTCAC meeting that OTCAC met with a representative from the MD Department of Transportation to discuss connecting North High Street to Morningwood Drive. However, County funds are not present for that type of project, as stated by the representative. Residents of North High Street are welcome to come to the next OTCAC meeting to hear the benefits for such a connection.

g. Chamber of Commerce Report

Joe Buffington announced that "Coffee with a Cop" will take place on Wednesday, February 5, 2014 from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. at Olney Bagel Bakery.

h. Civic Federation

At the last Civic Federation, there was a discussion on ethics laws and programs and ethics at the county and state levels. Surprisingly, there are no county ethical requirements for registration for lobbyists. At the next Civic Federation meeting, Arnie Gordon plans to introduce a resolution that states that lobbyists who contribute \$500 or more for lobbying state and county activities need to publicize their total campaign contributions to the County Council.

i. Nomination Committee Report

Matt Zaborsky announced that GOCA will conduct electronic voting for nominations for citizen awards in March 2014 and the new forms are on the GOCA website. A mock election was successfully conducted electronically in November so this year's GOCA awards will use electronic voting. Only Representatives vote. If a Representative does not receive an electronic ballot please see Matt Zaborsky or Barbara Falcigno.

The 2014 GOCA Officer candidates are John Webster (President, Manor Oaks), Greg Intoccia (Executive Vice President, Ashley Hollow), Yale Tankus (1st Vice President, Oak Grove), Bob Reel (2nd Vice President, Victoria Springs), Matt Quinn (Recording Secretary, Cherrywood), Jackie Benn (Corresponding Secretary, Fair Hill Farm), and Kathy Curtis (Treasurer, Lake Hallowell). The voting is in February for the Officer positions.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark K. Hill, Recording Secretary

GOCA Executive Board

Barbara Falcigno (President, Olney Oaks), Kathy Curtis (2nd Vice President, Lake Hallowell), Greg Intoccia (Corresponding Secretary, Ashley Hollow), Mark K. Hill (Recording Secretary, Camelback Village), Ruth Laughner (Treasurer, Williamsburg Village), Helene Rosenheim (Past President, Highlands), John Webster (Executive Vice President, Manor Oaks), Howard Grief (First Vice President), Paul Jarosinski (Cherrywood), Judy Broseker (Brookeville Knolls), Lydia Rappolt (Camelback Village), Jackie Benn (Fair Hill Farm), Jodi Finkelstein (Hallowell), Arnie Gordon (Norbeck Meadows), Bob Reel (Victoria Springs), Matt Zaborsky (Past President, Norbeck Meadows),

Jay Feinberg (Olney Oaks), Ed Weisel (Norbeck Meadows), Andrea Keller (Fair Hill Farm), Jeffery Carolyn Knight (Olney Oaks), Sharon Dooley (James Creek), Ann Marie Saporito (James Creek), Joe Corbett (Williamsburg Village) Meg Pease Frye (SEROCA).

Invited Guests

Terri Hogan (The Gazette), State Senator Eric Luedtke (District 14), Pamela Dunn (MC Park and Planning), Meredith Wellington (Former Commissioner, MC Park and Planning), David Dise (Montgomery County Department of General Services), Suresh Patel (Montgomery County Department of General Services)

Public

Barbara Ray (Brookeville), Vivian Malloy (Olney), Danny Benn (Fair Hill Farm), Tim Stemann (Williamsburg Village), Jim Frye (Tanterra), Charlotte Crutchfield, Kim McCary (Cherrywood), Lee Lofthus (Oatland Farm), Art Bodsky (Cherrywood), Jenni Davier (Cherrywood), Lee Lofthus (Oatland Farm), Alden English (SEROCA).