

Minutes
February 11, 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. Arnie Gordon moved to approve the January 2014 minutes; seconded by Greg Intoccia. The minutes were approved unanimously. A request was made by Arnie Gordon to amend the agenda by adding under Old Business a motion regarding lobbying in Montgomery County. This was agreed upon unanimously by the GOCA Representatives.

PUBLIC COMMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Falcigno made the following announcements:

Scholarships - State District 14, contact Eric Luedtke, [301-858-3110](tel:301-858-3110) and speak with Noel Isama. Montgomery College - see MC website.

The Olney Library is scheduled to open 3/15/14.

Many CSAs are registering folks (such as Our House). The Farmers Market will continue through winter indoors at Sandy Spring Museum on Sundays between 10-2. It has programs there for all ages. Volunteers needed.

The Board of Elections is looking for adults and students to serve as election judges for the July 24 primary election. Volunteers are needed for the Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee (deadline 2/14), the Rustic Roads Advisory Committee (deadline 2/14), and the Ethics Commission (deadline 2/18).

Leadership Montgomery is now taking applications for next year's program. Applications due in May. The current Planning Board Chair is not reapplying. Applications for this position are due 4/7/2014.

NEW BUSINESS

Berrend Dance Center, Special Exception for 17024 Georgia Ave.

Allen Wright, attorney for the project led the presentation, among others, for the Berrend dance studio. They are proposing to build a new studio on the site address 17024 Georgia Ave. This would be a 2 level building with parking for 9 in the rear. There would be 4 spaces with three classes being held at one time (the second floor is one large space that can be divided into two spaces). There would be 24-36 students in each class. Nine total parking spaces would be used by staff (4-5 people) and students. The primary issue was there did not appear to be enough planning for the availability of parking.

OLD BUSINESS

Speed Camera Update

The GOCA Transportation Committee requested statistical information on Olney area speed cameras. Does Olney have an unusual number of cameras compared to the rest of the county? What percentage of Olney zip codes contribute to the dollars generated for the Speed Camera program?

Dan McNickle, Program Manager Safe Speed Program and MCPD Sergeant Andy Loudermilk
Per Mr. McNickle, Olney has the same concentration of cameras as the rest of the county including; Gaithersburg, Germantown, Bethesda and Silver Spring. Olney has 22 cameras, 19 in Damascus. A report was left on camera placement criteria. Multiple requests for additional cameras in Olney are made to the Safe Speed Program. Two new cameras have been installed near St Peters. Data was obtained and it qualified. St Peters would have to apply to the state to be designated a School Zone. Currently it is not. This group doesn't have statistics on the number of citations issued to Olney zip codes. Mr. McNickle, and Sargent Loudermilk do not create policy. They implement and manage the Safe Speed Program based and county and state guidelines. They do not have any control over how fines are dispersed in the county.

A motion regarding making lobbying in Montgomery County more transparent was made by Arnie Gordon.

Be it resolved that the Greater Olney Civic Association requests the County Council and County Executive to:

Enact a law:

- 1. Requiring all persons and entities registered as lobbyists in this county to annually report to the County Ethics Commission all political campaign contributions made by such lobbyists or their employees to members of the Council or the County Executive or to announced candidates for these positions. Such report should show amounts and dates of contributions.***
- 2. Requiring such lobbyists to submit a report to the Ethics Commission of any contributions made to such official(s) since the date of the Annual Report stated in 1 above, up to the time of their first appearance or representation before the Council, County Executive and any county agency or Department with respect to any matter being advocated by any such lobbyist, such report to be made coincident with such first appearance or representation, or not later than 5 business days after such first appearance or representation. Such report to also indicate the entity or entities represented by the lobbyist and what campaign contributions, as defined in state law, if any, have been made by the represented entity within the 12 months preceding the lobbyists first appearance or representation.***
- 3. Supplemental reports: During the pendency of the matter referred to in 1 or 2 above until final action by the officials concerned has been taken, the lobbyist and client shall be required to file reports with the Ethics Commission of any additional contributions, if any, made to these officials or candidates within 5 business days after the contribution is made.***
- 4. To require that any such reports or supplemental reports as required under 1,2 or 3 above be made publicly available by the Ethics Commission within 5 days after receipt on its web site.***
- 5. To require that violations of these recommended provisions be punishable by fines or disbarment from the practice of lobbying as shall be specified by the Council.***
- 6. That the County Ethics commission be provided with the additional resources necessary to effectuate and administer these requirements.***

7. *In the event state law prevents the Council from enacting this law, then the Council should lobby the state to change the law.*

Motion was seconded by Barbara Falcigno. Motion was tabled until the March meeting.

OFFICERS/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

a. President's Report

Several Bond Bills proposed in Annapolis. They include \$150,000 for Olney Theatre's Historic Stage, \$150,000 to expand the Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department's facility on Georgia Ave, and \$90,000 for the Sandy Spring Museum.

There is an amendment regarding hunting deer with cross bows - amended to 100 yards from a dwelling. A hearing on this will be held on 2/18/14.

Currently there are no state legislature bills requiring fencing around storm water ponds.

A motion was made from the floor to support the bond bills in front of the legislature. It was seconded by John Webster and passed without objection.

b. Membership Report

Memberships are up to date except for a few HOAs.

c. Correspondence Report

GOCA is asking for the Rts 97/28 intersection to have priority moved up. Funding for the north branch trail was removed. However, there have been efforts to restore most of this funding per Councilperson Navarro's representative, Ken Silverman.

d. Treasurer's Report

There is no new information to report.

e. Transportation Report

Paul Jarosinski reported that Norbeck Meadows requested the county help them with some local traffic issues. The Rt 97/28 grade separated interchange has dropped to 14th position on the state's priority list. Councilperson Navarro's office will help address this issue. The Transportation Committee will work with the County Executive and the Council to move this item back to a Top 5 priority level.

f. Olney Town Center Advisory Committee

There is a focus on connecting Morningwood Drive and N. High Street. The majority of residents on N. High Street are not in favor of the connection. The Olney Library will open on March 15th. A public meeting to be held March 25th at 7:30 in the Remax Building.

g. Chamber of Commerce Report

There is no new information to report.

h. Civic Federation

There is no new information to report.

i. Nomination Committee Report

Matt Zaborsky announced the 2014 GOCA Award recipients:

Howard J. Garber Memorial Citizen of the Year Award – John Webster
Contribution to Community Award – Gina Angiola
Contribution to Community Award – Olney Giant Food Store
Youth Contribution to Community Award – Summer White
Ron Berger Olney Heritage Award – Barbara Barry
GOCA Worker of the Year Award – Lee Lofthus
Special President’s Award – To be announced at the ceremony

The following were unanimously elected as the 2014 GOCA Officers

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
Kathy Curtis, Treasurer - Lake Hallowell.

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 Greif (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 (Immediate 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), Ken Silverman (Councilperson Navarro’s office), Dan McNickle (Program Manager Safe Speed Program), MCPD Sargent Andy Loudermilk.

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), Jenni Davis (Cherrywood), Alden English (SEROCA), Louis Wilen (Cherrywood).