

Minutes
March 11, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

President John Webster called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and the GOCA Representatives, alternates, and members of the public then introduced themselves. The minutes were amended to reflect the Rt 97/28 intersection had dropped to 14th (last) on the County's 2014 transportation priority list. Ann Marie Saporito moved to approve the February 2014 minutes; seconded by Arnie Gordon. The minutes were approved unanimously.

A request was made by Paul Jarosinski to amend the agenda by adding under Old Business a discussion on HB1279 and SB627, authorizing special taxing districts for transportation improvements. This was agreed upon unanimously by the GOCA Representatives.

PUBLIC COMMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following announcements were made by President Webster:

The Olney Library is opening at 9 am on March 15th, a formal ceremony is planned to include the County Executive.

Senator Roger Manno has a special needs scholarship and is looking for applicants.

From the floor

Olney Relay for Life will be held at Sandy Spring Friends School May 31st and June 1st

Paul Jarosinski stated that there was not a clear method to contact board members of local associations. President Webster requested the information and would work to resolve that issue.

Sharon Dooley stated that at 7:30 pm on Wednesday April 2nd, the Greater Sandy Spring Green Space committee will have their annual meeting at the Sandy Spring Friends meeting room. Councilmember Marc Elrich is the featured speaker. All are invited.

Paul Bardack announced he was running for state delegate to represent District 19.

NEW BUSINESS

Our Lady of the Good Counsel; New Performing Arts Center.

A presentation on the changes requested to the Good Counsel campus was delivered by Dr. Paul Barker, President of Good Council.

Primary issues were the environmental easements and the traffic impact to Rt 108

A motion was made by Barbara Falcigno to support all the changes as presented by Dr Barker and seconded from the floor. Discussion ensued. The motion passed with two abstentions.

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution on County Council Lobbyist Campaign Contribution Reporting Requirements

A motion was made to un-table the resolution on County Council Lobbyist Campaign Contribution Reporting Requirements by Arnie Gordon and seconded by Jackie Benn. The motion to un-table passed unanimously.

Arnie Gordon made motion to pass the resolution and it was seconded by Ed Wiesel.

Discussion revolved around where this motion belonged, state or county? No consensus on this issue was reached. Additional discussion was on the primary intent of the motion. It was determined that the goal was to create additional transparency in regards to campaign contributions.

The resolution is below:

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.

Arnie Gordon made motion to withdraw the resolution and it was seconded by Ed Wiesel. The motion was withdrawn.

Opposition to special tax districts.

Discussion on whether we need to have a new motion to oppose the creation of special tax districts since this was done, with vigor in 2012.

Paul Jarosinski moved that we need a new resolution to oppose the current bills in front of the state legislature, HB1279 and SB627. Arnie Gordon seconded the motion. The motion passed with one opposed and one abstaining

OFFICERS/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

a. President's Report

On February 20, the County Planning Board issued a decision approving, with conditions, plans to build a new William H. Farquhar Middle School through a land swap involving a property of about 18 acres of rural open space adjacent to the existing school property. The decision is final unless an appeal is filed. At the hearing, testifying in support of the land swap as being in the public interest were Troy Kimmel, Jennifer McKneely, Angela Edwards and Greg Intoccia (testifying as a private citizen and not in any other capacity). In opposition, a detailed statement for the record was entered by the Hyde family. The Middle School, located on Bachelors Forest Road, was originally built in 1968. Without the land swap, earlier plans would have subjected students to a long daily commute between Olney and the Tilden Holding Center in Bethesda while the Middle School was being rebuilt.

The Maryland State Legislature is moving forward with HB1279 and SB627 authorizing special taxing districts for transportation improvements. GOCA (<http://www.goca.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/2012BRTtestimony.pdf>) and MCCAB (January 29, 2014 letter to County Executive) are both on record opposing special tax districts as a funding mechanism for BRT. GOCA is reiterating its opposition to special taxing districts to sponsoring delegates and senators and to the County Executive.

b. Mid County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB)

MCCAB reacted to the County Council's priority list for transportation projects in the county where the Rt28/Rt97 grade separation project was positioned at 13th on the list. Council recommended to the state that the BRT be at the top of the list followed by Rt28/Rt97 project.

c. Membership Report

There is no new information to report.

d. Correspondence Report

There is no new information to report.

e. Treasurer’s Report

There is no new information to report.

f. Transportation Report

Paul Jarosinski reported that the repaving of Rt 97 will start on 5/5/14. Concern re the possible impact to the Olney Days parade was raised. The State was notified and the Transportation committee will work with the state to minimize the impact. A notification was made regarding the large amount of pot holes on Dr Bird Road. The work has begun and the county does have a mechanism to have pot holes reported. The Rt 97/28 intersection had been dropped to 14th priority (last).. Many calls were placed. It has been moved to number 5. It is the top new roadway project in the county. Nancy Floreen, Nancy Navarro and Ike Leggett provide strong support. Having as many community voices heard as possible can be very impactful.

g. Olney Town Center Advisory Committee

The next Olney Town Center Advisory Committee meeting is to be held March 25th at 7:30 in the Remax Building. This will be open to the public. Nancy Navarro’s office will be represented to talk about the town center and to listen to community issues.

There was a request to include the Homeland Village Association in the Library opening, because of their close proximity to library. The Goddard School project is moving forward.

h. Chamber of Commerce Report

There is no new information to report.

i. Civic Federation

There is no new information to report.

j. Land Use Report

Yale Tankus provided the following report on the projects in the Olney Area:

Planning Board Approved	
Name / Location	Summary
Olney Springs Olneyspringsmd.com Bowie Mill Road	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development approximately 50% complete • 114 units, 60% affordable
Trotters Glen – Toll Brothers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved July 2013 - 59 singles + 10 MPDUs • Building permit phase
Spring Arbor Assisted Living Facility Springarborliving.com East side Georgia Ave north of SS Fire Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised plans based on GOCA & Planning board recommendations from one to two story change and land donated to Fire Department
Goddard School goddardschool.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved 11/12 with 1/13 resolution • Construction underway

Morningwood Dr. & North High St.	
Formation Shelbourne Senior Living http://formationshelbourne.com/ West side of 17000 blk of Georgia Ave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction underway
Pulte Development Pulte Batchellors Forest Batchellors Forest Road across from FMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ~ 6 lots left, Old Vic Blvd will open when all lots completed (est. end of 2014 at the earliest)
Development Not Yet Approved	
Center for Jewish Living Expansion www.osttolney.org GA Ave. east side, north of 108	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requesting GOCA input on additional facility • Plans allowed within current R200 zoning • Representatives to present to GOCA
Marian Fathers Development Natellcommunities.com Georgia Ave. South of Gold Mine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with input from Manor Oaks & Oak Grove • Incorporating in discussions with planning board
Berrend Dance Center www.berrenddancecentre.com Georgia Ave north of Old Baltimore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented to GOCA 2/14, parking issues identified • Representatives to present revised plan
Good Counsel Performing Arts www.olghs.org Good Counsel High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion for performing arts - 2nd story addition • Increase in enrollment
Mess Property Horse farm near Brooke Grove ES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No activity

k. Legislative Report

Paul Jarosinski reported that there is a bill in the state house to restrict the amount that associations can charge for resale packages (association covenants, rules, and restrictions) to \$50.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Quinn, Recording Secretary

GOCA Executive Board

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. Barbara Falcigno (Past President, Olney Oaks), Helene
Rosenheim (Past President, Highlands), Paul Jarosinski (Cherrywood), Judy Broseker (Brookeville
Knolls), Jenni Davis (Cherrywood),Jodi Finkelstein (Hallowell), Arnie Gordon (Norbeck Meadows),
Matt Zaborsky (Past President, Norbeck Meadows), Alma Hinton (Olney Oaks), Ed Weisel (Norbeck
Meadows), Andrea Keller (Fair Hill Farm), Sharon Dooley(James Creek), Louis Saporito (James
Creek), Ann Marie Saporito (James Creek), Joe Corbett (Williamsburg Village) Alden English
(SEROCA), Stephen Dubzik (Oatland Farm), Bill Calomeris (Olney Mill).

Invited Guests

Terri Hogan (The Gazette), Paul Barker (Good Counsel)

Public

Barbara Ray (Brookeville), Paul Bardack.