

Executive Board Meeting Minutes
May 13th, 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. Arnie Gordon moved to approve the April 2014 minutes; seconded by Yale Tankus. The minutes were approved unanimously.

A motion was made was by Arnie Gordon to accept the April agenda. The second was made by Yale Tankus. The May agenda was approved unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENTS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following announcements were made

Norbeck Meadows annual meeting at Norbeck country club, June 4th 7 pm. Delegate Kramer and Bardack will be the featured speaker

Relay for life, Sandy Spring friends school

Olney days this weekend - schedule on the website

District 14 & 19 Elected Officials will present General Session highlights

(5 minutes per Elected Official followed by 20 minute Q&A)

Senator Karen Montgomery

AAA is secure for the State of Maryland

State funds have been allocated to include the SSFD, Olney Theater, Woodlawn Center, Maryland Muslim Center, and the Sandy Spring Museum. Lively state discussion on medical marijuana, a stringent bill was passed on this issue, and people with identified issues can a doctor's prescription. Fairness of all Maryland Act was passed to support people with gender identity. Estate income tax rate was changed from \$1M to \$5M, Senator Montgomery did not indorse. Minimum wage bill passed which she did indorse. Still working to deal with IEP issues. A recycle bill was supported. Moved forward with a small business reserve program, this is for women and minority owned businesses. This was an under-subscribed service. Park Police officers who contract Lyme disease in the field will be supported. Fines have been increased for WSSC for sewage spills. Dangerous Dog bill, the owner of the dog not the landlord is responsible.

Senator Roger Manno

Difficult long session. The filing deadline was in the middle of the session. Sits on the budget committee and the senate went first this year. \$39B budget was passed this year. The state is growing at about 4%. The state is doing well. Increase funding for Public Safety, schools and health care. Rating agencies are positive on the fiscal management of the state. Stated this was his best year, in regards to passage of legislation, to include Jake's Law. Passed a bill to set up a pesticide data base, where and what pesticides are being used and the impact to the bay, air and water ways. Funded by a 10% tax on chemical companies. Authored, with the administration, an electric vehicle recharging bill. Created a funding mechanism for the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped..

Created a graphical representation of a dollar bill that will be part of the state tax bill. This will provide a picture of where the dollar was spent, at the state level.

District 14 Delegate Eric Luedtke

Expansion funding was secured for SSFD and Laytonville FD. The volunteer tax credit was almost doubled. Currently, if a firefighter is assaulted in the line of duty, it is not a crime. Working to get that changed. Deer population is an issue, solutions are hard to get consensus. Various ideas are being considered, including lethal and non-lethal methods. Transportation issues are the Brookville By-Pass and the 97/28 overpass. The delegates do not have the ability to line item projects. Lots of soft pressure has been applied and looking to meet with the State Secretary of Transportation. Special Taxing Districts to fund transportation projects: Lots of objections from the business community as well as others. The intent was to make the process a less blunt instrument. It did not pass this year but is sure it will be brought up again next year.

District 14 Delegate Craig Zucker

Serves on the House Budget committee and Capital Budget subcommittee. Secured \$370K+ for the Olney Community. Felt that GOCA helped. Provided assistance with those who had mortgage issues that resulted in increased tax bills when their mortgage was lowered. Put in the budget a notification process to the 3 major credit reporting agencies from the hospitals when a child is born. This protects identity theft. The Olney satellite police station will get refurbished.

District 14 Delegate Anne Kaiser

We are a citizen legislator, all with other jobs. Session only lasts 3 months so the need to communicate is critical. Recognized Louis Wilen and how he helped save taxpayers \$10M per year because of issues with the Homestead tax credit. She chairs the county delegation. The county, at 17% of the population, received 23% of transportation funds. Increased the funding for Pre-K education for lower income families. Expanded the minimum wage. Earned income tax credit was increased. Was in favor of changing the estate tax credit to \$5M. She was able to get \$40M in school construction. Speed Camera reform was supported.

District 19 Delegate Bonnie Cullison

Took responsibility for the state's health care exchange issues. Worked to make sure that people could be covered retroactively because of the technical problems. Supported the transition to the technology utilized by Connecticut. Covered the medical marijuana issues. The past legislations did not work because the hospitals were concerned they would lose federal funding. The current bill covers a process for growers and a doctor makes a recommendation for its use. It can be used for chronic pain, nausea, and to regain appetite as well as reduce seizures in children. Naturopathic doctors are looking to get licensed in the state of MD so they can get paid by insurance companies. This was passed this year. Un-paid maternity leave was passed. 80% of physical work place injuries occur in hospitals, long term care facilities and nursing homes. Looking to provide a safer environment for the workers.

District 19 Delegate Benjamin F. Kramer

Focus on supporting our senior population. Sponsored the money transfer companies to train their employees on scams aimed at the senior population. One of two states to enact this type of legislation. Working on creating energy efficiencies programs such as low or no interest loans for business to achieve energy efficiencies. Worked to make sure the state can enforce the minimum wage increases in Montgomery and Prince Georges counties. Worked to make sure that only a licensed veterinarian can make cosmetic surgeries on dogs. Prohibits the severing of vocal cords on dogs and cats.

Q & A

Clarification on the special tax districts. What is the purpose and who decides?

Delegate Luedtke. County Councils would decide who would be taxed. The intent was to tax the business near the Seneca Science center. The broader question is how to fund transportation projects with the Federal Transportation Fund nearing its end.

Are our state pension funds under funded?

Senator Manno

The state pension fund has over \$40B. They are 60%+ to full funding. 80% is the target and should be there in the next 10 years. No state employee is in any danger of not receiving their pension.

Question was asked regarding why states, with no geographic connection to the Chesapeake Bay, would sue to “blow up” the clean-up effort agreed to by Virginia, Maryland and the EPA?

Delegate Luedtke

The opinion was that those other states did not want an EPA precedent set that would impact those states.

Need to better understand the timing of the meeting with the SHA and the county delegation to impact the 97/28 grade separation project.

The following responded

Delegate Luedtke.

Senator Montgomery

Senator Manno

The delegation is pushing the county council to make sure this is the top priority, of all transportation projects. The authority belongs with the council. This is a contentious issue between the delegation and the council. And Please keep pushing....

What was the intent of gas increase tax, to fund road projects or mass-transit?

Senator Montgomery

Both

A discussion on the BRT and funding, loss of lanes, impact to business.... Change will be profound.

OFFICERS/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS

President’s Report, John Webster reported

The Maryland State Highway Administration, Maryland Transit Administration, and Montgomery County Department of Transportation are conducting an Alternatives Public Workshop for the Georgia Avenue Bus Rapid Transit Planning Study from the Wheaton Metrorail Station to Montgomery General Hospital. The Workshop will be held at John F. Kennedy High School Cafeteria located on 1901 Randolph Road, Silver Spring, Maryland on Wednesday, May 14 from 5:30PM until 8:30PM. There is no formal presentation, so you may arrive at any time during the workshop hours and review the planning materials at your own pace. Olney Days is May 17 and 18. Please plan to attend with your families and help to spread the word in the community.

The Officers Committee respectfully requests that GOCA Delegates abide by the following rules during open discussion periods:

- Wait until recognized by meeting Chair before proceeding
- State name and association to help improve accuracy of meeting minutes
- Stay on topic
- Be succinct, concise, and to the point
- Avoid repeating prior comments
- Do not speak out of turn

- o No side conversations
- o Exercise civility and mutual respect

GOCA TRAFFIC CAMERA TASK FORCE

CHARTER this was presented by Greg Intoccia

Greater Olney Civic Association (GOCA) President John Webster (President) charters a TRAFFIC CAMERA TASK FORCE (TASK FORCE), effective on the date determined below.

The purpose of the TASK FORCE is to recommend to GOCA what position, if any, GOCA should take on the County's Traffic Cameras operating within Olney and/or the County's Traffic Camera Programs. "Traffic Camera Programs" is used here to mean County programs using cameras to deal with reducing traffic speed to legal limits and/or the number of vehicles that do not obey red light signals.

Once duly constituted, the TASK FORCE is expected, as final products, to present written recommendations in a report, and to present a verbal summary of the report at the September 2014 GOCA meeting. A one-time, one-month extension may be requested by the TASK force, if justification is provided to the President and he agrees that the extension is warranted.

To be eligible to apply to become a member of the TASK FORCE, a person must be a resident of Olney. GOCA delegates are encouraged to apply. Applications must be submitted to the President. In making the TASK FORCE application, persons must state, in a sentence, their current view on the County's use of TRAFFIC CAMERAS. The President will select persons on the bases of qualifications and the need to have a balanced membership that represents various community perspectives on the issue. The President will appoint a TASK FORCE leader. The President will make the final determination regarding which persons will become members of the TASK FORCE. The TASK FORCE must comprise at least 3 persons, but no more than 15 persons. The President will determine the date that the Task Force is duly constituted. The TASK FORCE will make all major decisions by a simple majority vote. P.O. Box 212 • Olney, Maryland • 20830 www.goca.org

In making its report to GOCA, the TASK FORCE will recommend that GOCA go on the record, adopting a resolution, urging: (1) modification(s) to the current related County policies; (2) modification(s) to the way that current County policies are administered; or (3) make no change at all. (If the TASK FORCE cannot reach one of the above recommendations, the TASK FORCE leader will inform the GOCA President of this fact.) In terms of its scope, the TASK FORCE may recommend that GOCA take a County-wide position, choose to focus only on TRAFFIC CAMERA operations in Olney, or do both. The TASK FORCE's report will provide details of the position it believes GOCA should take on the TRAFFIC CAMERAS matter, including (1) a clear statement of the policy position along with facts, reasons, and references in support of the position; and (2) the Report will indicate what alternative policy positions were considered, briefly summarizing the TASK FORCE's views on these alternatives.

Issues expected to be addressed in the Task Force report include:

Statistical information obtained by the GOCA Transportation Committee from the County on Speed Cameras in Olney, along with other information gathered by the Transportation Committee, as reported in the February 11, 2014 GOCA minutes, such as: how the Olney TRAFFIC CAMERA program administered in Olney compares to programs administered in other locations in the County; methodology for determining how decisions are made regarding camera installation and removal; level of discretion granted to County police other County employees, and County contractors; and the appropriateness of current County and State guidelines, and how they are administered.

Additional matters to be addressed in the Task Force report:

- Its preliminary view on whether State law allowing Montgomery County to have its own Traffic Camera programs grants Montgomery County too much discretion in administering the programs or unduly singles out the County;
- Its preliminary view on whether Montgomery County's Traffic Camera programs are being administered in accordance with State law;
- Its preliminary view on whether the current method by which Montgomery County pays any contractors related to the Traffic Camera programs are legal;
- Its preliminary view on the current state of any relevant court proceeding;
- Whether there is evidence and reason(s) to believe that the County's purpose or purposes for the Traffic Camera program is/are financial; and
- Any additional specific issue that the Task Force leader deems appropriate after obtaining approval of it by the President.

The GOCA Officers Committee has unanimously endorsed this proposed Task Force and recommends that the Executive Board formally votes to authorize the Task Force to proceed.

Discussion ensued, some positions were taken. Greg stated that the task force would consist of individuals with multiple points of view. The task force would need to drill down to understand as much as possible and report back.

A vote was taken, 17 for 3 opposed. The motion was carried.

2. Mid County Citizens Advisory Board (MCCAB) Greg Intoccia reported.

The county council approved a \$144M redevelopment plan for Wheaton. MCCAB was in support of this project. We would like to meet with them on lessons learned.

3. Olney Town Center Advisory Committee Jim Smith reported

Met with the planning board over the concept and planning guides for the Olney Town Center. Planning board was appreciative that Olney Town Center Advisory Committee was pro-active in terms of development. Met with the library officials regarding pedestrian access. Improvements will be made both at the rear of the library and with the adjacent shopping center.

4. Legislative Report Bob Reel reported.

On June 10th, the next scheduled GOCA meeting, there will be a At-Large County Council debate. All of the candidates have been invited. Please email your questions to the GOCA president.

5. Chamber of Commerce Report Joe Buffington reported

June 5th awards and installation dinner.

6. Civic Federation

There is no new information to report.

7. Land Use Report

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 • Planning for early Fall completion
Trotters Glen – Toll Brothers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved July 2013 – 59 singles + 10 MPDUs • Removal of certain structures requested before building permit will be issued.
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 • Revised plan submitted to Planning Board, April 7th
Goddard School goddardschool.com Morningwood Dr. & North High St.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved 11/12 with 1/13 resolution • Construction underway (stage 1 of 6) • January 2015 completion targeted
Formation Shelbourne Senior Living http://formationshelbourne.com/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction underway

West side of 17000 blk of Georgia Ave	
Pulte Development Pulte Batchellors Forest Batchellors Forest Road across from FMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only a few lots left, • Old Vic Blvd will open when all lots completed (est. end of 2014 at the earliest)
Olney Mobil – Special Exception 3100 Olney Sandy Spring Road (108 & Spartan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests approval to convert existing service bays into part of larger store • Existing 1890 sq ft size will not change - Increase operations to 24 x 7 • Board approves exception citing prior rulings
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 • Soil testing & discussions with adjoining neighbors • Fall meeting with Planning Board
Marian Fathers Development Natellicommunities.com Georgia Ave. South of Gold Mine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHA will not allow GA Ave. connection, want interconnect within • Working with Victory Homes and Marian Fathers on resolution • Will come back to Planning Board with proposal
Berrend Dance Center www.berrenddancecentre.com Georgia Ave north of Old Baltimore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking issues raised by GOCA have been reviewed. • 2nd waiver will be required for plan to extend to 22 cars • Speaking with Park & Planning next 2 weeks
Good Counsel Performing Arts www.olghs.org Good Counsel High School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion for performing arts – 2nd story addition • Amendments to prelim plan accepted by Planning Board – now reviewable • Anticipate public hearing in mid/late July
Allanwood – Mitchell & Best Homes 2100 Norbeck (Woods Center Road)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submission of plan for 3 homes on 5.6 acres

8. Transportation Paul Jarosinski Reported

Repaving of Georgia Ave will start soon. Letters are still being sent in support of the 97/28 intersection improvement.

There is a request to change the zoning for a portion of the properties near the intersection of 97/28. This could impact the 97/28 intersection improvement plan.

Paul submitted the following motion

Be it firmly resolved that the Greater Olney Civic Association is strongly opposed to any portion of Zoning Request G-960 that infringes on any of the potential rights-of-way for the realignment of the 97/28 grade separated intersection. Furthermore, GOCA strongly urges the State to exercise its option to purchase the properties required for the 97/28 grade separated intersection on an expedited basis. GOCA resolves to make its position known to the appropriate government agencies and elected officials.

The motion passed unanimously

OFFICERS/COMMITTEE/LIAISON REPORTS...continued

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.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 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),

John Blachere (Ashley Hollow), Dave Rada (Brooke Manor Estates) Helene Rosenheim (Past President, Highlands), Paul Jarosinski (Cherrywood) Jenni Davis (Cherrywood),Jodi Finkelstein (Hallowell), Alma Hinton (Olney Oaks), Ed Weisel (Norbeck Meadows), Andrea Keller (Fair Hill Farm), Danny Benn (Fair Hill Farm), Sharon Dooley(James Creek), Louis Saporito (James Creek), Ann Marie Saporito (James Creek), Jim Smith (Oatland Farm), Carolyn Knight (Olney Oaks), Ruth Laughner (Williamsburg Village) Arnie Gordon (Norbeck Meadows), Matt Zaborski (Norbeck Meadows) Jim Fienburg (Olney Oaks) Alma Hinton (Olney Oaks), Aleka Kapatou (Tanterra)

Invited Guests

Terri Hogan (The Gazette),

Public

Barbara Cronin, Roger Manno, Frank Howard, Tim Stemann, Karen Montgomery, Jessica Brill Ortiz, Bernie Cullison, Sharon Begosh, Martin Bogosh