



GREATER OLNEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
2025-09-09 Representatives DRAFT Meeting
Minutes
APPROVED: 2025-10-14

The 2025-09-09 Representatives Meeting of the Greater Olney Civic Association (GOCA) was conducted in-person at the Sandy Spring Vol Fire Department, Oak Ballroom and online via Zoom Web Teleconference. President Irina Norrell called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm EST.

A quorum was present.. V = attended virtually

Officers

- Matt Post, Exec VP (Individual)
- Matt Quinn, Second Vice President (Cherrywood) - V
- Tina Crau, Treasurer (Individual)
- Kristen Quinn, Corresponding Secretary (Norbeck Meadows)
- Helene Rosenheim, Recording Secretary (Highlands of Olney)

Members

- Mindy Badin, (Olney Mill), Transp Comm Chair
- Bill Becker (Past President)
- Maria Bender (Brookville Knolls) - V
- Alden English (SEROCA)
- Howie Greif (Lake Hallowell) - V
- Paul Jarosinski (Cherrywood) - V
- Carolyn Knight (Olney Oaks SF) - V
- Diana Littlefield (Olney Acres)
- Marlene Saulsbury (Forest) - V

- Jim Smith (Oatland Farm)
- Ann Strain (Cherrywood)
- Louis Wilen (Cherrywood)

Guests

- Thomas Canavan (Hallowell), Community Affairs & Public Policy Comm, Chair
- Matthew Folden (Pack 1074)
- Brandy Heckman-Stoddard (NCI) - V
- Judy Hruz (Greater Olney News) - V
- Mary Johnson (Oakdale Church)
- Casey Jordan (Pack 1074)
- Aaron Kraut, Chief of Staff, Dawn Luedtke, Montgomery County Council, District 7
- Michele McLeod (Olney Crossing, President)
- Tom Prokop (Pack 1074)
- Melissa Riolo (Pack 1074)
- Elizabeth Sayre (Pack 1074)

Agenda Approval

- October 14, 2025 agenda approved as presented.
- September 9, 2025 minutes approved with corrections: removal of three guest names and addition of Jonathan Brown's last name and title.

Guest Speakers
Scout Pack 1074

- GOCA is now sponsor for Pack 1074. The Pack (est. 1974) serves 50-75 K–5th graders annually from several area schools and offers diverse activities emphasizing the 12 core values.
- The Pack presented a citation and framed patch to GOCA in recognition of support.

Update: Bikes to Africa (Olney Days event)

- Mary Johnson, Oakdale Church: During Olney Days, 138 bikes were collected for shipment to Sierra Leone, in partnership with other local organizations. Bike access is critical for job opportunities in Sierra Leone. The project will repeat in three years.

Committee Reports

Transportation (Mindy Badin, Chair):

- Major Red Line construction will close Medical Center and Bethesda stations July 6–Sept 6.
- New laws: illegal to park in bike lanes (\$250 fine); traffic camera changes; increased penalties for reckless driving.
- Recent fatality on Bauer Dr. highlighted need for safer biking/walking; Safe Streets group is exploring solutions.
- New speed cameras for St. Peter's Church & School forthcoming.

Comment: Howie Greif questioned if \$250 fine for bike lane parking is excessive, suggesting GOCA consider a position.

Public Policy & Govt. Concerns (Thomas Canavan):

- Committee focus: weekly Fun Runs at Olney Farmers and Artists Market (now 6 weeks running; 8–9 attendees/week, 45 in Facebook group).
- Thanks to supporters at the market.

MidCounty Citizens Advisory Board/Services Center: No report.

Officers' Reports

Exec VP Matt Post:

- Moved to Colesville; after consultation, will step down as required by by-laws as officers must be Olney residents (effective end of meeting), but will continue to assist as able.

Announcements

- "It's Olney Time" moved to Sunday, October 26, at the Market due to rain.
- Alden English reported the Olney Post Office mailbox is often full; efforts underway (Kraut to check with Congressman Raskin/Senator Van Hollen) to improve service.

Adjournment at 8:15 pm

Submitted by Helene Rosenheim Recording Secretary