

Minutes  
November 9, 2010

President Matt Zaborsky called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., and after introductions Steve Cohen approved the agenda and Arnie Gordon seconded. Matt Zaborsky requested that we postpone the approval of the October 12 minutes until the November 9 meeting since the latest version was posted so recently, and we agreed that was best.

To introduce the upcoming charitable contribution, Matt Zaborsky read a piece from GOCA's June 2009 minutes stating Sherwood High School raised \$590 in ticket sales and \$50 in donations at their April 2009 charity fashion show. Because GOCA had agreed to help in the distribution of those funds, Sherwood High School had presented GOCA in 2009 with a check of \$395 to be used in the Olney community. GOCA treasurer Roy Peck had recommended, and the executive board had agreed by vote, to award the money to Olney Help, so Mr. Zaborsky presented the check this evening to Deborah Hanson, the Olney Help Technology Director and Assistant Warehouse Supervisor. Ms. Hanson expressed her gratitude, indicating 2010 has been the neediest year in 40 years with already 41 food orders filled this year. Ms. Peaches Crenshaw, a guidance counselor at Sherwood High School, shared that 2009 was the year of Sherwood's first charity fashion show and 50 students had participated then. The April 2010 fashion show had raised over \$600 and donated it to the Make a Wish Foundation. The students have not yet decided the recipient of the 2011 fashion show funds.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

1. November 17 – Informational forum on snow removal at Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center at 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Hosted by Councilwoman Nancy Navarro, Keith Compton, chief of the County's Department of Transportation (DOT) Division of Highway Services will also participate in this presentation followed by a question and answer session.
2. November 23 – Interfaith Thanksgiving service at B'Nai Shalom of Olney. Refreshments will be served and proceeds will benefit Olney Help.
3. December 31 – Olney Library closes for renovation.
4. December 5 – Olney Farmers and Artists first annual Holiday Market at 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Participants will enjoy chestnuts, s'mores, hot chocolate, hot apple cider, farmer's specialties, and artwork

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

**1. Community Report: Police Sergeant Heurich and Officer Hidayat**

The officers reported that the FBI and the local police robbery section are still investigating the October 30 Olney bank robbery, the October burglars had been arrested and incarcerated, and there is little crime in Olney. Williamsburg Village homeowners association is starting a neighborhood watch group two Tuesdays from now in the Buffington Community Room at 7:30. The officers will work with that group and any Olney neighborhood that wants to form a watch group. The officers pointed out that Matt Zaborsky is on the police's Citizen Advisory Board, so Mr. Zaborsky is a good resource for those with questions about neighborhood watches.

Delegate Karen Montgomery mentioned the burglaries of air bags in eastern Montgomery County, and although this is not a problem in Olney, the officers emphasized the importance of locking all cars and houses. When asked if the police was helping the Olney bank employees work through their devastation, the officers said they may have been helped through the police's Victims Assistance program. When asked how to contact Neighborhood Watch, the officer gave the police website number, 240-773-5524, and invited us to call the police whenever there is someone or something suspicious in the neighborhood. The police will always investigate.

The officers told us that a Rockville group named Police Protection robocalls to solicit money for law enforcement and does not represent the police. No law enforcer engages in telephone solicitations, and this group becomes uncivil when people do not give them the contributions they are seeking.

Diane Littlefield shared there is a vacant house not lit at night. She asked the officers if she should suggest timers to the homeowners. The officers agreed timers are needed and recommended the lights be timed to turn on and off on the same schedule and in the same rooms the homeowners typically lit. They also recommended someone go in and out of the house on an irregular but frequent enough schedule. If police know the address and contact information for vacant houses, they will put the houses on their web board for patrol checks. The main number for the police is 240-773-5500.

## **2. Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program (VASAP): Bunny Gordon**

Ms. Gordon has been a volunteer with the program for over 10 years. In her comprehensive Power Point presentation, she stated VASAP was founded in 1978 as a sexual assault service of Montgomery County serving only victims of crime and combined with the victim advocate program in 1995 to service both sexual assault and general crime victims. It is under the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services, and the Behavior Health and Crisis Services. The Abused Persons Program (APP), the Crisis Center, and the VASAP are the three programs in the Behavior Health and Crisis Services. The APP is only for domestic violence; the crisis center is always open and is for victims of any crime, the homeless, and those with psychiatric emergencies. The crisis center has shelters and staff and volunteers on call all hours. The VASAP staff consists of licensed mental health professionals including a psychiatrist. There are volunteers who go to court with anyone who needs help.

Ms. Gordon stated sexual violence is the most common violent crime in the United States; females are the most likely victims and in about 95% of the crimes the criminal is known. Rape is very under reported, about 1 in 5 are reported in 2000. The Sexual Assault Assistance Team (SAAT) of Montgomery County is comprised of VASAP outreach volunteers, medical ER hospital personnel and police. All teams are multidisciplinary to help victim work through crime.

In January 10, 2010, Congress passed the Jane Doe law which stipulates that if a victim does not want to press charges, forensic evidence exam is done and stored for when the victim is ready. Previously, if the victim did not want to press charges, a sexual exam (safe exam) would not be done.

Outreach workers are victim centered but only present at victim's request. In the past 10 years, when the outreach workers have asked the victim if they have permission to be there, no victim has ever said "No." The workers focus on the person, not the details of the sexual assault. The main purpose is to reassure and empower the person. The workers are linked to the crisis center and VASAP therapists. All workers wear pagers when on a six hour shift from midnight to six, six to noon, noon to six, or six to midnight. When a call is received, the worker must be at the police station, hospital, or Family Crimes division within a half hour to make it easier on the victim. The calls are generated by the crisis center. If someone walks in, the outreach workers are paged. Sometimes much information is given, but other times little information. The victim's identity is safeguarded by adherence to HIPAA guidelines, and workers maintain composure. The supervisor's number is memorized and used if a worker is becoming affected by the stress. Over the last 20 years, 1989 to 2009, there were 2,200 outreaches, over 230, 000 hours of service, and over 4, 600 people served.

A volunteer must be a Montgomery County resident, at least 21, and must own a car. Service must be a minimum of one year. There are over 30 hours of crisis intervention skills specific to sexual assault training for volunteers. These training sessions last about 30 days and are held week day evenings and one Saturday and are now conducted four or five times a year. There are also meetings one Tuesday night per month to discuss all the cases and new laws about sexual victims or perpetrators. Bilinguals are encouraged to apply. The phone number is 240-777-1355 and the website is [www.vasap.org](http://www.vasap.org).

In 2010, VASAP served 2,264 victims of sexual assault, and 337 are now clients for the therapist. Often victims do not seek help from therapists at the time but may return a few years later for services. The volunteers provided 142 outreaches and served 301 individuals. The volunteers provided 12, 770 hours of service to Montgomery County.

Sexual assault in Olney in 2010 was comprised of four indecent exposures and two arrests, and one rape but since it was reported two weeks after it was said to happen, no arrests were made because it may have been created.

Ellen Bogage asked about the discrepancy between the numbers served and numbers who became clients, and Ms. Gordon said that is unfortunate. One GOCA member suggested Ms. Gordon add the Maryland Coalition against Sexual Assault (MCASA) to the list of resources. Matt Z asked if other counties had these services, and Ms. Gordon said other counties likely have similar services some in combination with other services.

## **3. Intercounty Connector (ICC) Update: Tim Cooke (Contract B Community Liaison) of the ICC/SHA Eric Mellor (Contract/Design Manager)**

Mr. Cooke and Mr. Mellor stated Contract A was 88% completed; 70% of the landscaping is complete and the section of the ICC between Metro Access Road and the deck over Winters Run neighborhood is now being paved. Next week the eastern end of the contract will be worked on, and Carla Julian will email all living within 500 feet of the ICC and reach out to the homeowners associations. A 600 foot section of gas line must be lowered before the final approaches are done for in the traffic switch at Route 97 southbound. There is median and pipe work, and signal work and widening at the Route 28 intersection. Landscaping and signage will continue into early next year, and 20 days of good weather are needed for paving.

Mr. Cooke and Mr. Mellor invited the members to ask questions. Please see the next page.

Questioner	Question/Statement	Response from Mr. Cooke and Mr. Mellor
Arnie Gordon	Will the sign gantries be lit?	The sign gantries will not be lit but the dynamic message sign are lit. The ICC is not lit.
Arnie Gordon	Will there be hotel accommodations during paving time for those living close to the ICC?	They will have such accommodations.
Ellen Bogage	The deer are on the ICC.	It is now mating season for deer, and they will adapt to the surroundings but not likely jump over the sound barriers because they do not usually jump over fences they cannot see through. The barriers are all $\geq 8$ feet, tall enough to prevent deer from jumping.
Roy Peck	I have been trying to obtain capacity data for the improvements at Routes 28 and 97.	They will provide him with the data.
Helene Rosenheim	There are large stones at the access point from construction south of the ICC.	They will address that tomorrow.
Howard Greif	Has the ICC updated the tolls?	The front page of the ICC gives information on tolling. The final toll decision for the whole 18 miles of the ICC is as such: Peak Toll: 25¢ – 35¢/mile Off Peak Toll: 20¢ - 30¢/mile Overnight Toll: 10¢ - 20¢/mile
Barbara Barry	Will there be a free ride at some point?	No decision has been made on that.
Joe Fritsch	When will the bike trail open?	It is mostly complete and will likely open in the spring.
Arnie Gordon	The sound barrier in his neighborhood begins outside a yard and quickly rises to six feet instead of being tapered.	They will search for it in the phasing.
Roy Peck	Why were the large trees at Georgia Avenue and Emory Lane were removed?	They will look into it.

Mr. Cooke and Mr. Mellor said they had met last Wednesday with the Preserve, the closest community to the Park and Ride at Routes 28 and 97. They showed us the map concept but said many changes had been made to the map the previous Wednesday. The map showed the new Park and Ride southwest of the intersection of Georgia Avenue and the ICC, and Mr. Cook said it may shift further north to minimize the balance of lighting for security and landscaping for privacy. A landscaping barrier will likely be created; a large berm has already been constructed. Express ICC buses will pick up passengers from the Park and Ride lot where cars can park for free. There were originally 200 spaces planned but that number has been changed to 100 spaces. When Contract A of the ICC opens, the Park and Ride at Routes 97 and 28 will be used until the new lot is created.

Questions/Statements and Answers:

Questioner	Question/Statement	Response from Mr. Cooke and Mr. Mellor
Matt Zaborsky	Where the ICC buses go?	One route is between Route 370 and Baltimore Washington International Airport. The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) is creating two other routes.
Ellen Bogage	Is the current Park and Ride state owned?	They think it is owned by the state, and there are no plans to change its current functions when the ICC opens. MTA will likely have a bus stop on Georgia near the new Park and Ride but the bus will not enter the lot.
Ben Kramer	Why is the existing parking lot is not sufficient for the ICC buses?	Transit times will be minimized by easy access, the main impetus, and the existing lot has security issues. They agreed to look into the issue of whether or not the easy access justified the expenditure.
Walter Lee	Will the existing MTA bus lines stop at the new Park and Ride?	There are no plans for the MTA buses to use the new Park and Ride, and MTA will have a second round of hearings early next year for transit

		alternative routes in Montgomery and Prince Georges County.
Roy Peck	The property on the northwest side of Routes 97 and 28 intersection is up for sale, and if not purchased now will be much more expensive later on if developers buy and sell it.	They will look into it.
Roy Peck	Will the treed barriers that the ICC removed from the golf driving range be replaced? The lights go into the drivers' eyes.	They will look into it.
Anne Stretch	Where will the buses go at Fort Meade?	The buses will not go into Fort Meade is undergoing an expansion and will likely be a heavily traveled route.
Howard Greif	Will there be long-term parking at the Park and Ride?	The parking is all short term.
Howard Greif	What will it cost to get to BWI?	Service rates have not been decided. The rates may be addressed at the next public hearing.
Matt Zaborsky	How much will it cost to park at the Park and Ride?	It will be free.
Walter Lee	Will there be bus shelters at the Park and Ride?	MTA will not build bus shelters, but typically due to the partnership with Clear Channel, the media and entertainment company will build the shelters in exchange for advertising on the buses.

#### OFFICERS/COMMITTEE/LIASON REPORTS

**Treasurer: Roy Peck** stated the 10/08/10 balance is \$10,544.77, and The Olney Help check has not been recorded yet. The \$75 discrepancy in the November report has been resolved. The problem was two checks for \$75 each had been incorrectly reconciled in October. The October reconciliation should have included three checks for \$50 each. The resulting change allowed for two deposits each containing a check for \$75 to be made in November. Soft copies of the treasurers report and source data for all reports to date in Quicken format were distributed at the November 30 officers meeting. Roy Peck has moved to Texas but will continue to come back to Olney for several months each year. He thanks all of you for allowing him to serve GOCA these many years. Roy is unable to provide GOCA the full time local services GOCA needs from a treasurer. Roy has offered his assistance to GOCA for the coming year to smooth out any unforeseen transition problems & review of how to use the soft copy of the books.

Ruth Laughner will continue as acting treasurer for the balance of this term.

**Communications Secretary: Ruth Laughner** passed around the communications folder.

**Chamber of Commerce: Joe Buffington** said the police satellite station still needs funding and asked the homeowners associations to donate however much is possible. There are problems with paying the utilities and maintaining the wooden trailer. When asked how much the utilities cost, Mr. Buffington said he could provide a report.

**Olney Town Center Advisory Committee (OTCAC): Jim Haddow** said the by-monthly meeting would be held on November 23 in the Buffington Building's Community Room at 7:30 p.m. Khalid Afzal from Park and Planning will present an overview on the process the Park and Planning staff does for site planning reviews. Mr. Haddow also said the Olney Library closes on December 31, and the opening date is Dec 1 for Five Guys, mid-December for Chipotle, late December or January 1 for Green Turtle, and late spring or June 1 for Harris Teeter.

Sharon Dooley asked if the Fair Hill property was still for sale, and Jim said it was no longer for sale and there is no definite Panera Bread contract. Karen Montgomery asked if the tall trees that were removed in that area would be replaced but the height of the new trees is unknown. Danny Benny requested that Mr. Haddow talk with the Freeman company to request that the builders delay trash emptying in the morning because it disrupts the sleep of people at 6:30 a.m. Arnie Gordon stated that it is illegal for companies to empty trash before 7:30 a.m.

**Civic Federation: Arnie Gordon** stated that Maryland bill MC 10-11 sponsored by Senator Richard Magdalena would repeal a state law that states Montgomery County may not charge families for transporting public school students. According to Montgomery County Public Schools, it costs \$1,026 to transport each of the 4, 775 magnet students. The Civic Federation opposes the bill because the group believes it punishes families with gifted students.

Maryland Delegate Ben Kramer reminded us that in 1992 Nancy Dacek proposed charging students to ride buses. Matt suggested we discuss the issue under New Business.

Arnie Gordon stated that Maryland House Bill 842, the Residential Sustainability Act, which did not pass in 2010 after much bank lobbying, was again being considered. In the December meeting, the Civic Federation will support it.

Mr. Gordon stated Montgomery County plans to sell the Berman Hebrew Academy Academy, formerly the long abandoned Perry High School, for \$1.9 million. The property is on 19 acres and was assessed at \$19 million; the Civic Federation opposes the sale because of the low selling price and the current crowding in Montgomery County schools.

Ben Kramer stated the discrepancy in property value is due to the fact that the high assessment was based on commercial zoning, but the property is actually zoned residential which has a much lower value. He asked, "Can the current county council disregard the 1994 contract?" Arne Gordon said the lease always contained a provision that the county could buy back the school, and Mr. Kramer said the current contract would enable the county to buy the property back in five years at current market value. Matt Zaborsky noted it is not an Olney issue and requested that discussion regarding this matter cease. Mr. Gordon said he would later discuss HB 842.

**Membership Committee: Jim Haddow** said Briars Acres has paid their dues, so there are now 33 regular associations. The North Creek Civic Association and the Sycamore Citizen Association have not paid their dues. Soon all the homeowners associations will be receiving the 2011 dues notice.

**Transportation: Paul Jarosinski** described a number of traffic issues and began by stating he had not heard Mr. Cooke or Mr. Mellor state that the northeast parking lot at Routes 28 and 97 would not be vacated until late spring. He then referred to a recent Washington Post article a couple of weeks ago by Katherine Shaver indicating that because the twenty days above 50° needed for ICC paving are not likely in the late fall or winter. Mr. Jarosinski has also been concerned about the property for sale at the northwest section of the intersection of Routes 28 and 97 and hopes to soon meet with the county to discuss the purchase of the property by the county. See the second Question 5 under Section 3, ICC above.

Regarding the light at Cashell and Emory, which the community had not requested, Paul Jarosinski reported the assessment of the traffic figures by our independent traffic engineer as follows:

1. The 4-way stop sign does not fail in the a.m. or p.m. peak hours except for the eastbound approach (Emory lane) having an E Level of Service (LOS) in the p.m. peak hour. The level of service is based on an A – F rating.
2. The signal obviously works better, but the LOS/Delay does not improve drastically.
3. The intersection can still operate at an acceptable LOS/Delay with a 4-way stop sign.

As for the southbound right-turn lane for those turning right from Emory Lane onto Georgia Avenue, where it appears to be a free lane but a driver may have to compete with three lanes of traffic traveling 50 miles per hour, Mr. Jarosinski said mitigation had been turned down and he had received a response Friday from the State Highway Administration (SHA) on Roy Peck's painted dotted line proposal indicating the intersection does not meet the criteria used by the state for such marked lines. The state noted that the signal was modified in late 2007 to include exhaustive left-turn phasing or arrow to reduce left-turn crashes, and data from October, 2009, show no left-turn crashes and a 75% reduction in general in accidents at that intersection.

Arnie Gordon said that members of the community had been confused by the signs at the intersection. For the left lane, the sign says left turn only; for the center lane the sign says 3-way fine but no turn on red; and the right lane sign says right turn only. According to Mr. Gordon, some drivers in the right lane think the no turn on red applies to them and they delay traffic.

**President's Report: Matt Zaborsky** stated he will soon meet with the new county council members and with the Maryland Montgomery County delegates to express our community's concerns. He received an email from the SHA addressing all the questions from the July GOCA meeting. Regarding the request for a left-turn signal on eastbound 108 at Prince Philip Drive, the SHA had concluded that the traffic impact does not necessitate mitigation at this time. However, the study looks forward to the completion of the west campus Montgomery General construction and may revisit the traffic impact. The request for a light at Bowie Mill and 108 has been approved, plans are complete, 2011 funding is being finalized, and it is anticipated the light will be completed within a year.

Mr. Zaborsky stated the executive committee had been working on many issues, traffic, land use, and the importance of communicating all crimes to the police. He requested that as many delegates as possible get involved with the issues. Mr. Zaborsky then thanked the executive committee for its hard work. Some members are planning Olney Days events. He thanked Jim Haddow for his dedicated work and the mini-membership list he had compiled for him. Lastly he thanked Paul Jarosinski for his dedicated work on traffic issues.

**Unfinished Business:**

1. Matt Zaborsky gave an update on Buehler Road. He has reached out to the Mid-County Citizens Advisory Board and a copy of the letter he wrote to the board is on the GOCA website under correspondence. Yesterday Khalid Afzal stated the issue will go before the planning board December 2.

Mr. Zaborsky has been invited to meet with the Manor Oaks community regarding their concerns about the possible development at Owens Road and Georgia Avenue. The community is interested in enlisting GOCA's help in commenting on this development.

2. Regarding the Maryland legislation for homeowners and civic associations that are losing thousands of dollars on unpaid assessments in homeowners association and condominium fees due to foreclosures, the bill came before the state legislature and did not pass, likely because of intense lobbying on the part of the banking industry. GOCA has been asked to take a position on this. He invited Paul Jarosinski and Jim Haddow, both of whom represent communities with many foreclosures, to address the problems they have had.

Paul Jarosinski said it is important to increase awareness of how to resolve this issue because it is likely that many homeowners associations (HOAs) are losing money due to foreclosures. Banks foreclose, remove the residents, do not pay anything to the homeowners associations, let the bill run up in the former resident's name, and then tell the HOA no proceeds remain. The HOAs have many costs, including maintaining the stormwater management pond and paying the tuition on common ownership communities fee. This county fee requires the HOA to pay a fee for everyone in the neighborhood whether or not the residents pay dues. The HOAs are not collecting from delinquent accounts even when banks are managing the accounts.

Mr. Jarosinski said the purpose of last year's HB 842 was to give HOAs a priority lien to enable collect some of the money due when homes foreclose. If the HOA follows county procedures, it must first send a legal notice saying it intends to file a lien and then file the lien. The cost per household is usually \$500. The county recommends you get a judgment, but judges usually cut legal fees in half. HB 842 passed the House by 113 to 23 but was found unfavorable by the judicial committee which resulted in no vote in the Senate. Mr. Jarosinski emphasized a bill needs to be written that is favorable to most people.

Delegate Karen Montgomery said that foreclosure was widespread. Delegate Ben Kramer said HB 42 had been amended out of the House so that HOAs and condominium associations would have to keep a percentage of the dues in an interest bearing account with a minimum of 3% interest as a security deposit. Del. Kramer was flooded with calls and emails from HOAs and condominium associations opposed to the amended bill.

Matt Zaborsky said he had recommended that Paul Jarosinski and Jim Haddow ask their management company to contact Community Associations Institute because of its powerful lobbying presence. Ronald Dobransky, president of Norbeck Chase said his townhouse community is comprised of 43 units, and over \$11,500 of delinquent fees are owed the HOA. One unit that was foreclosed caused the HOA to lose \$6,000. Norbeck Chase is struggling in situations where it is hard to get a quorum and is only permitted to raise dues by 4 – 5%. Mr. Dobransky said the bank industry altered HB 42 so it would have to be killed, and he stressed that delegates need to represent their constituents, not the bank industry.

Arnie Gordon read his resolution:

WHEREAS, the fiscal health of communities governed by homeowners associations (HOAs) and condominium associations is of vital concern to all residents of those and surrounding communities, and;

WHEREAS, if, due to fiscal problems, and HOA/condo is unable to maintain its facilities and services, the entire community, including the HOA/condo, is adversely affected, and;

WHEREAS, in the economic recession we are now experiencing an inordinate number of foreclosures and numerous and large delinquencies in the collection of HOA/condo dues and fees, and;

WHEREAS, under state law, HOAs/condos are presently prevented from participating in the proceeds of foreclosure and short sales because the aforesaid delinquencies are accorded no lien priority making such delinquencies uncollectible without highly expensive and unproductive lawsuits against the former owner/debtor, and;

WHEREAS, for the last four years bills have been introduced to the Maryland Assembly to remedy this situation, including most recently in the 2010 session HB 842, and this and similar bills have failed of passage, and;

WHEREAS, The Greater Olney Civic Association is representative of the interests of these communities and other neighborhoods affected by this situation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS ASSOCIATION that it endorses and supports the effort to adopt legislation similar to HB 842 of 2010 as originally submitted by the House legislators and calls upon the legislative

representatives for this community in Legislative Districts 14 and 19 to introduce, sponsor and seek the passage of this legislation, and the officers of this association are called to use their best efforts in influencing a favorable outcome to this effort.

Paul Jarosinski seconded the resolution. In response to a question regarding the impact of the bill on banks, Arnie Gordon explained that for each unit out of the proceeds of each sale a maximum of four months of delinquent dues would be paid to the HOA. The bill also requires that new owners pay two months of a security deposit for the fees. This would protect the associations for six months. Barry suggested that banks be responsible for far more time than four months, but Mr. Zaborsky said that would not be likely.

Walter Lee would like to include a provision in the new bill that would prod the banks to sell the property so HOAs do not rack up a huge bill. Arnie Gordon said that because Fanny Mae and the federal government are involved that would not be possible.

Brad Branch said he and his partner wrote a feature in the Washington Post that sparked an international response which led to their being on the Canadian Broadcasting Company, Fox Business Channel, and soon a Netherlands and a Los Angeles broadcast. Mr. Branch said the precursors and cause of foreclosures are short-sales, and the banks response to short-sales is waiting months and years to sell the property and not lending money to those who want to buy the properties. He asked that Arnie Gordon include short-sales in his resolution, which was added by handwriting to the resolution above. Mr. Gordon said that when a short-sale occurs all liens must be satisfied before the sale, and there are many short-sales now going through. An HOA is better off in a short-sale than in a foreclosure. Mr. Branch stated that homeowners walk away from short-sales without paying, and the banks receive money from the federal bailout of the financial industry.

Joe Buffington stated there are some unintended consequences because the banks may foreclose sooner if a bill requires them to pay for four months. It is important to get responsible people who will pay back in the property. Sharon Dooley asked if the bill should state six months rather than four, and Ron Berger said the original bill was in for six months, but it was shortened to four months. Ron Berger asked Ben Kramer if the language of the resolution needed to be modified, and Mr. Kramer said there are many dynamics and committees through which the bill goes.

Ellen Bogage asked Matt Zaborsky to call the question and Arnie Gordon reread his resolution.  
The vote was Yes - 26, No - 0, Abstention - 0.

Arnie Gordon said that Senator Richard Madaleno's transportation bill, MC-11 would allow Montgomery County Public Schools to charge families for their student's transportation. Arnie Gordon crafted the following resolution.

Resolve, GOCA oppose the adoption of MC 10-11.

Lori Wilen seconded the resolution.

Mr. Gordon said a hearing on this topic is on December 6 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Office Building and recommended we attend the hearing.

Sharon Dooley stated Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) sent out a statement with a different interpretation, saying she preferred gathering more information. Ellen Bogage suggested we discuss the possibility of charging some students. Arnie Gordon read a quote from Senator Madaleno that clearly indicated the repeal of the bill would target magnet students, and Lori Goodwin said the parents and teachers associations (PTAs) had the same concern. Delegate Karen Montgomery decried the two-tiered system that would result if high-income parents paid for their child's education and low-income parents could not.

Arnie Gordon reread the above resolution on MC 10-11.  
The vote was: Yes - 22, No - 0, Abstentions - 3

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35.

Respectfully submitted,  
Theresa Kyne Robinson, Recording Secretary

People in attendance: Barbara Barry (Perspective Woods), Danny Benn (Fair Hill Farm), Ron Berger (Norbeck Meadows), Ellen Bogage (Victoria Springs), Brad Branch (Olney Mill), Joe Buffington (Olney Chamber of Commerce), Keith Carlson (Hallowell), Steve Cohen (Oakgrove), Tim Cooke (Intercounty Connector, State Highway Administration), Peaches Crenshaw (Sherwood High School), Kathy Curtis (Lake Hallowell), Ronald Dobransky (Norbeck Chase), Sharon Dooley (Towns Creek), Della Dorsey (Camelback Village), Barbara Falcigno (Olney Oaks), Jodi Finkelstein (Hallowell), Joe Fritsch (Highlands), Lori Goodwin (Hallowell), Arnie Gordon (Norbeck Meadows), Bunnie Gordon (Victim Assistance and Sexual Assault Program), Chuck Graefe (Southeast Rural Olney Civic Association), Howard Greif (Norbeck Grove), Jim Haddow

(Hallowell), Officer Heurich (Montgomery County Police), Officer Hidayat (Montgomery County Police), Mark K. Hill (Camelback Village), Terri Hogan (Gazette), Deborah Hanson (Olney Help), Paul Jarosinski (Cherrywood), Ben Kramer (Maryland Delegate, District 19), Beverly La Ames (Highlands Condo.), Ruth Laughner (Williamsburg Village), Walter Lee (Townes at Environ), Diana Littlefield (Olney Acres), Eric Mellor (Intercounty Connector, SHA), Karen Montgomery (Maryland Delegate, soon to be Maryland Senator/ Brookville), Barry Newton (Ashton), Roy Peck (Texas), Kym Rice (Sandy Spring Museum), Lydia Rapport (Camelback Village), Theresa Kyne Robinson (Olney Oaks), Helene Rosenheim (Highlands of Olney), Ann Marie Saporito (James Creek), L. J. Saporito (James Creek), Jason Sherman (CPH Engineers/Safeway), Anne Stretch (Cherrywood), John Webster (Manor Oaks), Lori Willen (Cherrywood), Matt Zaborsky (Norbeck Meadows)