

DRAFT
GOCA Board Meeting Minutes
April 10, 2018

CALL TO ORDER

President Billy Becker called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. GOCA representatives, alternates, invited guests, and members of the public introduced themselves.

He asked for a motion to approve the March 13, 2018 minutes and the April 10, 2018 agenda. Jackie Benn made a motion to approve the minutes and the agenda. The motion was seconded. The minutes and the agenda were approved by acclamation.

MCDONALD'S PRESENTATION

The McDonald's organization said it was not possible to get a representative to the GOCA meeting in April, but someone could come to the May 8 meeting. This is somewhat problematic since the May meeting includes the legislative wrap-up. If the McDonald's people can come, we'll accommodate them. There is a possibility that they could come to present earlier than we normally meet, perhaps at 7:00 PM. We will determine if the meeting room is available at that time.

There will be a hearing about the project on Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at 9:30 AM in the Stella Werner Council Office Building at 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD. It will be on the second floor in the Davidson Memorial Hearing Room.

In addition to changing the color of the restaurant, McDonald's proposal is to decrease the risk of takeout traffic backing up onto Georgia Avenue during the morning rush hour by installing an island with two ordering intercoms at the right rear corner of the building. Although this should work, GOCA has a better alternative: Replace the existing, two, long, complicated, counterclockwise, takeout lanes, which circle the restaurant 1 1/2 times and 2 times respectively, with a single, clockwise, takeout lane that starts at the N. High Street entrance, circles the restaurant only once, has no forks, merges or intersections, and ends at N. High Street This alternative would eliminate most of the potential problem areas with the existing two, long, merging and intersecting takeout lanes. Also, by closing of the Georgia Avenue entrance, the traffic purpose of the McDonald's proposal is fulfilled: takeout traffic cannot back up onto Georgia Avenue. In the GOCA alternative, moving the single ordering intercom to the right front corner of the building should provide a long enough takeout lane from N. High Street to the ordering intercom to absorb any surges of takeout traffic without backing up onto N. High

Street. Hence, there would be no need at that location for the island with two intercoms, which is the basis of the McDonald's proposal. Finally, the reduction of the number of takeout lanes across the front and along the left side of the restaurant from two to one would provide space for additional landscaping that would improve the appearance of the restaurant and downtown Olney. The only problem introduced with the GOCA alternative is the fact that, with clockwise traffic flow around the building, the driver would be on the side of the car away from the food delivery window. This could be addressed by a hinged arm attached to the building with a tray on the end that could be extended far enough into the car for the driver to reach the food. David Miller is looking forward to presenting the GOCA alternative at the next GOCA meeting after the McDonald's Representative presents their proposal. Other concerns are that six parking spaces will be eliminated, including the loss of one handicapped parking space. LED lighting will be added, which may impact people and businesses nearby.

NEW BUSINESS

The regularly scheduled September 11 meeting conflicted with the Jewish holy days. We will aim for Thursday, September 13 or Thursday, September 20 instead, if the meeting room is available.

AT LARGE COUNTY COUNCIL FORUM

Matt Quinn was not present to talk about the forum. It will be on June 2, 2018.

OFFICERS/COMMITTEES/LIAISON REPORTS

Correspondence Report – nothing new to report

Olney Town Center Advisory Committee (OTCAC)

- There are new officers.
- Jiffy Lube had its permit for land use approved. They are now in the next phase of permitting.
- Chick-fil-A has had all its permits approved. There will be a new sign that is 1/3 smaller that will be on a stone base, rerouting of traffic, and re-striping of the pavement.
- The next meeting will be on May 22, 2018.

Membership

Bob Hambrecht reported that membership dues and forms were due on March 31, 2018. Some association dues and forms are still outstanding. Please remind your association, if they are on the list.

President's Report

There will be a meeting with Nancy Navarro and Nancy Floreen about the GOCA bylaw proposal to the Master Plan. Several GOCA officers will attend.

Transportation Committee, Public Policy & Community Affairs Committee (PP&CAC), Nomination and Awards Committees Report

We are still in need of volunteers for all of these committees. Barbara Falcigno has expressed a willingness to help whoever chooses to step up.

Someone made a suggestion that Public Policy could be scaled back so that it is more pertinent to the concerns of Olney residents. It should not be so far reaching that it duplicates the efforts of other organizations or entities. Things such as the water main break and particular issues that would affect homeowners associations would be most relevant.

OLD BUSINESS

Jon Hulsizer from the Olney Chamber of Commerce attended the meeting. He spoke about the “Shop and Dine Local” initiative for Olney. The philosophy is to get people to choose to think local and keep money in the community whenever possible. There will be subliminal messages through signs. The kick-off will be at Olney Days. It’s a chance for the Chamber to help its members by spreading the word to local communities. He urged everyone to talk to their HOA members. Ask Jon if you need a sign. The Greater Olney News will also be a vehicle for advertisements. One delegate asked if we might recognize members who do an exceptional job keeping up their property. This might also encourage other business owners to improve the appearance of their properties.

Olney Days will be April 27-29, 2018. The first event will be Movie Night. Other events include: Joe’s Ride, Shred Event, Electronics Recycling, Party in the Park, Car Show, Parade, and Community Clean-up. Sign up through Sign-Up Genius to volunteer. About 100 volunteers are needed. Commitment can be as little as 1-2 hours. You can also make a donation through the website. For more information go to: www.olneycivicfund.org

We haven’t received word yet from WSSC about when the water tower will be painted.

NEW ISSUES FROM ASSOCIATIONS

- Residents from various communities expressed interest in matters related to businesses in Olney.
- There was also a question regarding earning SSL hours at Olney Days. They can be earned. Information is at the website.
- Another resident would like to see bike lanes on Georgia Avenue from Norbeck Road going north until Georgia Avenue ends. There have been prior proposals discussed. Any plans would

come from the Maryland State Highway Commission since Route 97 is a state road.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, a motion was submitted by Jackie Benn to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded. All were in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Carol Frenkel, Recording Secretary

In attendance:

GOCA Officers

Billy Becker, President – Ashley Hollow; David Miller, 1st Vice President – Norbeck Meadows; Stacy Levine, 2nd Vice President - The Reserve at Fair Hill; Carol Frenkel, Recording Secretary – Olney Mill; Katie Harris, Corresponding Secretary – Norbeck Meadows; Bob Hambrecht, Treasurer – Williamsburg Village

GOCA Representatives and Alternates

Kathleen Salanik (Brookeville Knolls), Carol Sullivan (Cherrywood), Jackie Benn (Fair Hill Farm), Helene Rosenheim (Highlands of Olney), Cathy Curtis (Lake Hallowell), Matthew Bernhard (Norbeck Grove), Edward Weisel (Norbeck Meadows), Matt Zaborsky (Norbeck Meadows), Jay Feinberg (Olney Oaks), Carolyn Knight (Olney Oaks), Michael Cullingford (Reserve at Fair Hill), Ruth Laughner (Williamsburg Village), Joe Corbet (Williamsburg Village), Francesco Paganini (Individual Member)

Public

Dave Rada (Brooke Manor), Lydia Rappolt (Camelback Village), Alden English (SEROCA), Evan Glass (County Council Candidate), Terri Hogan (Greater Olney News), Jim Simmel, Cory Siansky (Olney Springs), Jon Hulsizer (Olney Chamber of Commerce), Russell Wickham (James Creek), Victor Francis (James Creek), Alexis Reed (Council Member Navarro's Office)