

AMENDED
Representatives Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

President Matt Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM

Carol Frenkel made a motion to approve the November 12, 2019 Agenda. The motion was seconded and approved.

Carol Frenkel made a motion to approve the Minutes of October 15, 2019. The motion was seconded and approved.

GOCA representatives, alternates, invited guests, and members of the public introduced themselves.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There will be a makeup meeting on December 5, 2019 to fulfill the required number of meetings. Evan Glass will make a presentation. The location will be announced, but will likely be at Longwood Recreation Center.
- Medstar Montgomery Medical Center has graciously allowed us to meet at the hospital for our regular November and December meetings. We are currently discussing meeting place options for the new year.
- There will be an interfaith service in the Sandy Spring Friends School theater on November 26, 2019.
- Barry Schwartz of BJ Pumpnickel passed away.
- GOCA sent a letter of recognition for 25 years of service to honor Rabbi Layman at Shaare Tefila.

LIEUTENANT S. A. FLYNN FROM MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE

- Lt. Flynn is the Deputy Commander for the Wheaton Station incorporating the Olney Brookeville area
- she reported on a variety of issues as they relate to our area
- sexual assaults for zip code 20832 totaled 17: 10 in 2017; 5 in 2018; 2 so far in 2019 (4 were strangers and 13 were known individuals)
- traffic safety: Dave Reid is in charge of the traffic division; he usually responds within a week
- the perception of speed can seem like people are driving faster than they really are; speed limit in most neighborhoods is 25-30 MPH
- stop signs: it's usually your neighbors who are rolling through

- when you want to report a traffic concern, it's helpful to have a tag number
- pedestrian related collisions: 80% at Georgia and Rt. 108 (total of 15 in last 3 years: 5 in 2017; 6 in 2018; 4 so far in 2019)
- pedestrian crashes are often the problem of the pedestrians; they may not drive or have a good idea about what a car can do to them; more difficult to enforce than with a car which has tags and registration
- porch pirates (packages stolen from porches): nosy neighbors are the best defense
- doorbell camera systems are helpful; can be connected to an alarm company or your phone
- use Amazon lockers for deliveries through Amazon
- have packages delivered to your job or to someone who is at home
- Police have caught quite a few of the individuals who have stolen packages
- if you see package debris and items strewn in a yard, these are the leavings after a theft; report to Police
- call the non-emergency Police phone number at **301-279-8000** if you suspect or witness a theft
- it's always better to use a landline, if you have one, when calling Police; address pops up
- phone scams: if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is
- mail thefts from mailboxes: Police have warrants out for two people related to thefts; it's better not to use the red flag for mail pickup—this serves as a signal to thieves

ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS –Managing Zoning Text Amendment 19-01

- Jeremy Tucker serves as a lawyer representing condos and HOAs
- Hans Reimer felt that this zoning text amendment would help fill a need for more affordable housing
- ADU can be either detached or within the home
- ZTA 19-01 allows an ADU in every residential zone as a matter of zoning, with restrictions
- must get a license
- owner must live in the home to rent a unit (or portion of the home)
- only two adults over the age of 18 may live in an ADU
- must have a parking space for the ADU
- HOA Covenants still control uses in their community; County code doesn't override covenants
- covenants can prohibit ADUs
- a single family residence may be rented in its entirety
- all rental property, whether a portion of, or entire property, must have a written lease
- in addition to covenants, most HOAs also have architectural control documents; the board may approve or deny requests
- Civic Associations or Community Associations generally have bylaws only, which don't serve the same legal purpose as Covenants
- call 311 for code questions

2020 BALLOT INITIATIVE—9 COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICTS

- a group called Nine Districts for MOCO is petitioning to get an initiative on the 2020 ballot in Montgomery County proposing changing the representation of the County Council from 9

members comprised of 5 District and 4 At-Large Representatives to 9 District Representatives (eliminating the At-Large Representatives)

- Representatives for each District would need to live in their district
- many in the County are not truly represented and Olney is an example of an area that has no say in the outcome of the election
- the redistricting committee would decide districts using 2020 census data
- Nine Districts for MOCO asked for support from GOCA
- a proposed GOCA Resolution was presented at the meeting
- we would be saying that we support the initiative being put on the ballot; not necessarily that we would vote for it
- it was suggested that we remove the words “culturally distinct” from the second sentence of the first explanatory paragraph
- Ed Weisel moved that we adopt the Resolution as amended
- the motion was seconded and approved unanimously

CORRESPONDENCE COMMITTEE REPORT

- Correspondence Secretary sent out a traffic survey on road conditions in Olney
- received over 230 responses through Survey Monkey
- when using the free version of Survey Monkey, can only get results for 100 responses
- if we want to use it more fully we can get a subscription for \$380/year
- we could have quarterly surveys
- Carolyn Knight made a motion that we subscribe for the version for \$380/year
- the motion was seconded and approved unanimously

TRANSPORTATION

- a Road Show was held on Nov. 4 by the Maryland Department of Transportation
- \$15.3 billion budgeted (less than last year)
- 42% goes to mass transit
- Brookeville Bypass to be completed by 2021
- **There was no funding in the 6 year budget for the grade-separated intersection at Georgia Avenue and MD 28 that was originally approved in 2001.**
- **Vision Zero project to reduce pedestrian deaths to 0; Part of the Vision 0 plan calls for reducing the speed limits on our major State arterial routes to 20-25 and shrinking the travel lanes to 10 feet to greatly reduce traffic flow for safety purposes (note buses and many commercial vehicles are 11 feet wide from mirror to mirror). This will likely lengthen commute times and increase congestion. Olney residents need to be engaged in this plan to prevent our arterial routes from becoming parking lots.**

NOMINATING

- Hilary Phillips-Rogers and Carol Frenkel will take charge of the committee for GOCA Awards
- there will also be a couple of positions open for GOCA Officers; nominations by January

LOCATION FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- Medstar Montgomery Medical Center is available and is free of charge
- Longwood Recreation Center would be ideal, but there are significant fees involved (\$300-\$500 per meeting); Matt Quinn is negotiating with them to see if it might be possible to use and pay a smaller fee that would cover cleaning fees
- Olney Library could be used though there is a previous meeting that goes until 7:30 PM and we would have to be out promptly at 9:00 PM
- checking on houses of worship, though we don't want to create any uncomfortable feelings by choosing a particular denomination
- Norbeck Country Club a possibility
- Norbeck Road Community Room was suggested
- Sandy Spring Fire Department upper room—Alden will check

A motion was made to adjourn at 9:20 PM. The motion was seconded and approved by acclamation.

The next meeting of GOCA Officers will be on Thursday, November 21, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Olney Library.

A special meeting for all Representatives and Guests (make-up meeting) will be held on Thursday, December 5, 2019. Evan Glass will be present. Location to be determined.

The next regular Representatives Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 10, at 7:30 PM at the MedStar Montgomery Medical Center, Room G-20 A&B.

Respectfully submitted
Carol Frenkel, Recording Secretary

In attendance:

GOCA Officers

Matt Quinn, President – Cherrywood; David Miller, Executive Vice President – Norbeck Meadows; John Blachere, 1st Vice President – Ashley Hollow; Hilary Phillips-Rogers, 2nd Vice President -- Victoria Springs; Carol Frenkel, Recording Secretary – Olney Mill; Billy Becker, Past President – Ashley Hollow

GOCA Representatives and Alternates

Shane Hickey (Brookeville Farms), Paul Jarosinski (Cherrywood), Howard Greif (Lake Hallowell), Conrad Hocking (Lake Hallowell), Gervais Crouch (Norbeck Chase Townhomes), Ed Weisel (Norbeck Meadows), Matt Zaborsky (Norbeck Meadows), Ravin Howell (Oatland Farm), Diana Littlefield (Olney Acres), Jay Fineberg (Olney Oaks), Carolyn Knight (Olney Oaks), Curtis Chappell (Olney Square), Alden English (SEROCA)

Public

Larry Lauer (Olney Mill, member CR@), Terri Hogan (Greater Olney News)