

DRAFT
Representatives Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

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

Matt Zaborsky made a motion to accept the Agenda for the December 10, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

Amendments were suggested for the November 12, 2019 meeting and the December 5, 2019 special meeting. The corrections will be incorporated into amended versions that are posted and archived. Approval of the minutes as amended was passed.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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 nine members comprised of five District and four At-Large Representatives to nine District Representatives (eliminating the At-Large Representatives)
- GOCA will begin to hold its regular meetings at the Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department in the Oak Room starting at the February meeting. Our thanks to Alden English for making this possible.

STATE SENATOR CRAIG ZUCKER (DISTRICT 14)

- Senator Zucker gave a brief preview of the upcoming legislative session
- There has been tremendous turnover in the Senate
- Bill Ferguson is the new President of the General Assembly
- Montgomery County Public Schools—there is a \$2.2 billion plan for construction and renovations
- Kirwan Commission funding will include money for Special Education and Education Policy
- Sports betting could add revenue
- Cut wasteful spending and balance the budget
- Districts 14 and 19 will focus on capital money for local treasuries including the Olney Theatre and the Sandy Spring Museum
- There will be a community block party to focus on building a basketball court for an underserved area in the county

- Personal goals include finding out what's going on in our communities and delivering funding and public services

STATE SENATOR BEN KRAMER (DISTRICT 19)

- Olney is well represented by its District 14 and 19 Representatives; they are working hard
- Senator Kramer is particularly involved with Climate Crisis issues
- We have to make dramatic adjustments
- Maryland is second only to Louisiana in having more coastline than any other state in the country
- Major coastline erosion is occurring
- It is projected that we will lose \$9 billion in residential and business properties due to the effects of climate change
- We must reduce our carbon footprint
- Small cell 5G (5th Generation) Tower implementation is being pursued—Matt Quinn asked what are the health and safety concerns; who has jurisdiction of placement of the antennas?
- 5G is a very concentrated source of radiation
- 5G is much faster than 3G or 4G, so it is more concentrated
- We'll need more 5G towers to cover the same territory since it's more concentrated; there are not a lot of studies about its safety yet
- Who will control? FCC? State or local jurisdictions?
- There's currently a lobbying effort to deploy 5G
- The current technology in use is different from the newer technology and the County is using old information when talking about the newer technology
- December 12, 2019 there will be a Legislative Preview (free event) in the Oak Room at the Sandy Spring Fire Department
- Senator Kramer is working to create a Climate Crisis Council
- The council will map the Maryland response and will include scientists and economists
- Goal is to have a Zero Carbon Footprint by 2040
- Need to mitigate what's happening now
- What can we do about our coastlines?
- Explore energy efficiencies
- Nuclear power is not being embraced by large environmental groups
- How can we help businesses while accomplishing other goals?
- How do we grow businesses?

BUDGET REPORT

- 2020 dues will be the same as this year

TRAFFIC SURVEY

- 257 responses to Traffic Survey through Survey Monkey
- Mostly negative
- There's a lot of need in the Olney area

GOCA AWARDS AND NOMINATING

- Hilary Phillips-Rogers and Carol Frenkel will take charge of the committee for GOCA Awards
- Various categories are represented—can be found at the GOCA website
- there will one position open for GOCA Officers; nominations by January

Alden announced that Olney Help can provide up to \$500 if a person's home is uninhabitable after a fire (through the SSVFD Command Officer).

A motion was made by Carol Frenkel to adjourn at 9:17 PM. The motion was seconded and approved by acclamation.

The next meeting of GOCA Officers will be on Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Olney Library.

The next regular Representatives Meeting will be on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 from 7:30-9:00 PM at the MedStar Montgomery Medical Center in Room G21.

Respectfully submitted
Carol Frenkel, Recording Secretary

In attendance:

GOCA Officers

Matt Quinn, President – Cherrywood; David Miller, Executive Vice President – Norbeck Meadows; Carol Frenkel, Recording Secretary – Olney Mill; Ryan Martin, Corresponding Secretary -- Brookeville Knolls

GOCA Representatives and Alternates

Paul Jarosinski (Cherrywood), Conrad Hocking (Lake Hallowell), Leisa Sarecky (Manor Oaks), 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), Joe Corbett (Williamsburg Village)

Public

Terri Hogan (Greater Olney News), Ron Hoggard (Olney Oaks), Eugene Ficocco (Cherrywood), Paul Geller (Olney Oaks)