

DRAFT
Representatives Meeting Minutes
January 12, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Note: this meeting was conducted via Zoom and Live Stream You Tube due to the Coronavirus restrictions in place.

Matt Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

A motion was made by Carolyn Knight and seconded to approve the Agenda for today's meeting, January 12, 2021 (though not noted at the meeting, the Agenda needs to be corrected to show the proper spelling of Carol Frenkel under Officer Nominations) and the Minutes for the December 8, 2020 Representatives Meeting with corrections (under Calendar Items: first point should delete phrase in parentheses as it doesn't apply; second point, change date to reflect correct year for General Membership Meeting to 2021). It was seconded and approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dave Miller, who has been a stellar member of the GOCA Board for many years submitted his resignation to deal with some family issues. We thank him for his service and commitment and we will miss him greatly. This leaves an opening for a Vice Presidential position on the Board if anyone is interested.
- There is a Maryland vaccine dashboard available with information: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/vaccine>. We will be getting the Moderna vaccine. Two variants of the virus have been identified in the U.S.
- The County will maintain the Blue Mash trails.
- Some Olney community members were affected by the Riots last week. Meals were supplied to these families from local restaurants in conjunction with the Olney Chamber of Commerce.
- Howard Greif reported about the ongoing work on the Executive Order regarding playgrounds and pools. It has made the COVID requirements doable and affordable for HOAs.

2021 MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY GOALS (Slide presentation available at the GOCA website, GOCA.org)

DISTRICT 14

- District 14 members are: Craig Zucker, Pam Queen, Anne Kaiser & Eric Luedtke.
- Their Senate session starts January 13, 2021.

Delegate Eric Luedtke

- Safety will be very important as we deal with the pandemic.

- Much business will be conducted by phone, email, Zoom.
- All business will be livestreamed making it the most transparent session ever.
- Will be working to override many vetoes of the Governor.

Delegate Pam Queen

- Focus on COVID including racial disparities; outbreaks in nursing homes & assisted living facilities; and handling unemployment insurance claims.
- Education focus will continue to reduce achievement gaps; funding for school construction; increased funding for 3 historically black colleges & universities; virtual learning issues; and broadband connectivity.
- Police reform will focus on several proposals including a body camera mandate & use of force.

Delegate Anne Kaiser

- Continue working with the Olney Theater Center to help return to business with limited crowds.
- Speeding issues on the ICC.
- Local funding for a number of initiatives.

Senator Craig Zucker

- Goals focused on economic recovery from the pandemic.
- Funding for education.
- Mental health issues.
- Tax fairness.
- Reimbursing Montgomery County homeowners; issue brought forth by Louis Willen; Kramer & entire delegation on board.

Delegate Anne Kaiser

- Chairs Ways & Means Committee.
- Education funding & virtual learning issues.
- Updating election law procedures; using good things we learned from this election; new form of auditing.
- Reevaluating tax credits & improving tax sale process.
- Sports betting legislation.

Delegate Eric Luedtke

- Will work to strengthen our democracy by making it easier to register to vote & expanding access to early voting.
- Working on tax legislation including a number of tax credit programs.
- Exempting restaurants from licensing fees for alcohol taken off premises for a year.

Delegate Pam Queen

- Access to Justice Task Force—consumer protection.
- Wealth equity package. Food insecurity including summer SNAP funding expansion.
- Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) bills.
- Parole reform & firearm telematics study.

Questions:

- Ed Weisel asked for contact information to be shared. **Answer: It is available at the end of the slide presentation that can be found at the GOCA website.**
- Curtis Chappell expressed that technology is really a utility & should be treated as such. **Answer: Delegate Luedtke agreed and is pushing for broadband expansion & possibility of some Federal assistance to make it more affordable.**
- Ed Weisel asked if it was the intention to deny police union representation? **Answer: No, the Police Bill of Rights includes rights that other public employees don't have. The purpose is to have police rights match the rights of any other public employee without any extra rights.**
- Art Brodsky asked about last mile access. **Answer: Pam Queen will take it up again.**
- Diana Littlefield asked if Annapolis is being fortified. **Answer: Eric Luedtke said the Maryland State Police will be protecting it and they're the best of the best. He anticipates a safe session.**

DISTRICT 19

- Delegate Vaughn Stewart & Delegate Bonnie Cullison were present.

Delegate Cullison

- Spoke about vaccine availability. We don't have the infrastructure to support at this time & the County doesn't know how many vaccines it will receive in advance.
- Can sign up to receive text or email alerts at the Montgomery County website at: montgomerycountymd.gov/covid19/vaccine/
- Serves on the Health & Government Operations Committee.
- Will work to increase access to health insurance.
- Dearth of mental health experts.
- Telehealth will continue even after the pandemic. Need to define its parameters and who pays.
- Expanding school based health care to include families. Have schools & Health Department work together. The bill was vetoed this past session.
- Many have lost insurance. Working to help them get it back.
- Budget is a significant issue.

Delegate Vaughn Stewart

- Focus on the problems of racing & reckless driving. Need better enforcement. It currently is an offense to obscure a license plate to prevent getting caught, with a \$500 fine. Working to increase the number of points (up to 12 points), fines (\$1,000), and require to appear in court.
- Montgomery County bill to move speed enforcement out of the Police Department & into the Transportation Department. There is support from both departments for this move.
- Housing issues—how to keep people in their homes. Will work on a housing package.
- Hate Crimes Bill. Get to folks early, educating against hate & including anti-bias training that

has worked well in other areas.

Questions:

- Carol Frenkel asked how they would catch people who obscure their license plates. **Answer: They will be stopped for other offenses and then caught on the license plate issue.**
- Carol Frenkel asked who will deal with fines if Police no longer are responsible for speed cameras. **Answer: The Transportation Department will have the responsibility to monitor & collect fines.**
- Paul Jarosinski asked how to attend virtual legislative sessions. **Answer: Hearings will be held by Zoom. Written or oral testimony must be received 48 hours before a hearing. Can give virtual testimony or send letters stating why the bill is important to you. Can also email.**

ICC Safety Coalition Resolution (JOHN SENG)

- Resolution can be viewed at the GOCA website.
- John Seng made a motion to approve, Carolyn Knight seconded the motion.

Discussion: Carol Frenkel expressed concern about the amount (\$500) requested that GOCA contribute. She also noted that there should be no “strong arming” to persuade homeowners associations to contribute. Treasurer Bob Hambrecht stated that GOCA had \$500 it could spare. President Matt Quinn assured all that any contributions would be voluntary.

The question was called. The vote was unanimous in favor of supporting the resolution.

GOCA Officers Nominations for 2021 (voting will be at the February meeting)

- President – Hilary Phillips-Rogers (Victoria Springs)
- Executive Vice President – Curtis Chappell (Olney Square)
- 1st Vice President – Carol Frenkel (Olney Mill)
- 2nd Vice President – need a nominee
- Corresponding Secretary -- Ryan Martin (Brookeville Knolls)
- Recording Secretary – Karen Nordstrom (Individual Member)
- Treasurer – need a nominee

Openings for 2nd Vice President & Treasurer

APPROVAL OF 2021 BUDGET

- Curtis Chappell made a motion to approve. It was seconded & passed.
- Thanks to Bob Hambrecht who has faithfully served as GOCAs Treasurer.

CALENDAR ITEMS

- Next GOCA officers meeting date January 28, 2021, 7:00 PM via Zoom
- Next General Membership Meeting February 9, 2021, 7:30 PM via Zoom – election of officers

Ed Weisel made a motion to adjourn at 9:27 PM. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Carol Frenkel, Recording Secretary

In attendance:

GOCA Officers

Matt Quinn, President – Cherrywood; Hilary Phillips-Rogers, Executive VP – Victoria Springs; Curtis Chappell, 2nd Vice President -- Olney Square; Carol Frenkel, Recording Secretary – Olney Mill; Ryan Martin, Corresponding Secretary – Brookeville Knolls; Bob Hambrecht, Treasurer – Williamsburg Village

GOCA Representatives and Alternates

John Seng (Brooke Manor), David Sager (Brookeville Farms), Paul Jarosinski (Cherrywood), Louis Willen (Cherrywood), Howard Greif (Lake Hallowell), Conrad Hocking (Lake Hallowell), Gervais Crouch (Norbeck Chase), Ed Weisel (Norbeck Meadows), Jim Smith (Oatland Farm), Diana Littlefield (Olney Acres), Carolyn Knight (Olney Oaks), Kim Webster (Olney Oaks), Aleka Kapatou (Tanterra)

Presenters, Guests & Public

Pam Queen, Eric Luedtke, Irina Norrell, Craig Zucker, Ken Bradford, Ira Unger, Anne Kaiser, Bonnie Cullison, Art Brodsky, J. Church, Vaughn Stewart, Henry Hailstock, Amy K.