

DRAFT
Representatives Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2022

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

CALL TO ORDER

7:30, Hilary Phillips calls meeting to order.

Confirmation on November meeting minutes and updates are published live. Motion to approve minutes from November, approved via 9 approvals. Motion to approve tonight's agenda, approved via 10 approvals.

Next GOCA meeting will be Tuesday February 8th, covering the 2022 Officer Elections. Group is accepting nominations, express interest by emailing gocaofficers@gmail.com.

PRESENTATIONS

John Seng, covering new highway safety bill/resolution for MD 200 (ICC): MC22-22.

- Data shows an issue on our hands. Crashes are up in 2020, despite fewer highway miles driven.
- Avg speed on ICC is 67 MPH. Only major highway cutting through Olney.
- Speed limit started at 55 at start, now 60. John does not believe Olney was consulted on this change.
- MC22-22 legislation would place speed cameras between every exit in MoCo, not PG.
- \$40 file for exceeding threshold (over 60 MPH).

Links to resolution:

- <https://www.goca.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/ICC-Speed-Camera-Support-Draft-Resolution-GOCA-3.1.pdf>
- <https://montgomerycountydelegation.com/2022/MC22-22.html>

Questions/comments –

- Comment: Cameras will not pick up motorcycles with plate covers
- Comment: State budgets not being raised to increase road patrolling
- Question: Similar bill was introduced last year. Answer: bill did not make it through, hampered by COVID. Notes previous bills/attempts, they were heard in committee and testimony (did not advance beyond that). John states it is not unusual for bills to be introduced 3 years in a row.
- In summary, “it’s about 4 speed cameras on the ICC - limited, and focused with signage that “this is a speed corridor”
- Question: regarding the technology that tracks cars going on and off, between sensors. John

notes he knows information second hand, there are some issues w/ EZ pass billing. States the technology is there, but it cannot be used as expected – unable to use as an accountability tool. License plates would not be picked up via speed camera, said vehicles may be able to be tracked down based on car description. Comments that lower speeds are connected with lower noise.

Motion to support resolution, seconded by Carolyn Knight. Followed by discussion around phrasing of the last “whereas” “insert the word have.” Support “as amended,” Hilary calls vote – moves to vote on resolution (as amended). Second by Carolyn Knight. 13 in favor, 2 against - motion has passed.

Presentation by Jake Adler, Community Project Manager for Neighborhood Events Matching Fund.

- Jake states he can “act as an advocate, is here to help.”
- Community matching grants for events – Example, if an HOA wants to support recycling, put on an event, there is a cost associated – county can partner up to \$1K per event/group. Can help offset some of the costs, wants to put focus on something that is long lasting.
- Examples of events: ice cream socials, food distributions, food baskets, etc.
- Coverage would be for “anything that would promote community.”
- Question for other examples - lantern walks, food drives, sidewalk repairs.
- Summarized, if HOA wants to put together events, county can help fund/advocate.

Questions

- Question: how does it work / how do you apply? Answer: application with an email to Jake, he will send to regional service center director (midcounty). Then sent to the other 4 regional directors for another set of eyes. After first approval, states it is rare to see another director reject it. States payments can be delayed, per county processes.
- Question: scope still seems amorphous, is there a document that outlines the parameters? Answer: Jake will upload to the chat:
[https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/silverspring/Resources/Files/NEMF%20Fact%20Sheet%20Final%20Version\(1\).pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/silverspring/Resources/Files/NEMF%20Fact%20Sheet%20Final%20Version(1).pdf)
- Question: Clarification on the matching? Answer: You can submit the amount, document hours and can take those things into account, submitters can include a mix of receipts and “volunteer” times.
- Question: how long has the program been around? Answer: a few years ago.
- Question: is there a problem applying year after year? Answer: You can always apply, suggested applying every other year. Mid county does not fill up as much as downcounty (i.e, Silver Spring). Dollars are use it or lose it.
- Question: what agency are you in? Answer: Community Engagement Cluster
- Question: if we were matching for an event that would cover service to the community? Answer: Would think yes.
- Question about nonprofits & houses of worship and heating bills. MoCo has an energy tax. If they have a non-profit status, are they exempt? Answer: Jake will put Matt in-touch with person who is the liaison for the faith-based community.
- Question: How would you share with all faith-based communities? Answer: start with leader of faith-based consortium – county also has a database.
- Question: can Civic Associations/HOAs/groups like GOCA, Lion Clubs, and individuals apply? Answer: Yes, they can apply; higher chance of an HOA of civic associate vs. an individual

- getting the attention/funding.
- Question: what is the total pot? \$25K to give out, if you spread it around each region you can get to \$5K.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Jeff Duce's Treasurer's Report –
 - Mailing out 2022 membership form for renewals, due around March 1st
 - Rented out banner space for 73 days
 - Looking to upgrade banner space
 - Request for resolution to upgrade space – not to exceed \$200 for updated GOCA banner
 - Introduced Curtis Chapple; seconded by Ed Weisel & Jeff Duce
 - Forwarded member directed donations received
 - Vote of 12, motion has passed
 - Recap of spending:
 - \$850 to Olney Days
 - \$300 to Olney police sub-station
 - Noted a cost increase for PO BOX
 - Two new HOAs added, lost two members
 - Added: Forest Crossing HOA, Karen Nordstrom (an individual)
 - Lost: Bancroft + Brookeville Farms HOAs
 - Added small budget line item for education
 - Jeff wants to get the word out there, get more associations

New Business

- Send in suggested agenda items, looking for new topics to discuss
- Clarification question from Paul Jarosinski regarding GOCA annual report, answered by Hilary Rogers
- Reminder on Parks survey from Carolyn Knight: https://montgomeryparks.org/projects/public-input/?pd_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.opentownhall.com%2Fportals%2F260%2FIssue_11473#peak_democracy
- Reminder: Officer Elections are next month (nominations need to be made 30 days in advance)
- Open roles on ballot (at time of meeting): Recording Secretary and Second VP

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Michael Jozaitis, Recording Secretary

In attendance:

GOCA Officers

Hilary Phillips-Rogers, President – Victoria Springs; Carol Frenkel, Executive VP – Olney Mill, Curtis Chappell, 1st VP – Olney Square, Irina Norrell, 2nd VP – Norbeck Meadows, Jeff Duce – Treasurer – Norbeck Grove, Michael Jozaitis, Recording Secretary – Norbeck Meadows

GOCA Representatives and Alternates

Conrad Hocking (Lake Hallowell), Ed Weisel (Norbeck Meadows), Aleka Kapatou (Tanterra), Gervias Crouch (Norbeck Chase), Louis Wilen (Cherrywood), Maria Bender (Brookeville Knolls), Matt Quinn (Cherrywood), Paul Jarosinski (Cherrywood), Kim Webster (Olney Oaks) and Carolyn Knight (Olney Oaks), Helene Rosenheim (Highlands of Olney) and John Seng (Brooke Manor Estates).

Guests & Public

Terri Hogan (Greater Olney News), Judy Hruz (Greater Olney News), Jake Adler (MoCo Govt.), Vikki Garcia (Office of Congressman John Sarbanes), Billy Becker, Isaac Ray, Jamie Goad (Norbeck Meadows), Isaac Ray (Olney Acres), Kathleen Wheeler, Kelly Wasik, Paul Geller, and Gina Quinn.