



GREATER OLNEY CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
2024-11-12 Representatives Meeting
Minutes
APPROVED: January 14, 2025

The 2024-11-12 Representatives Meeting of the Greater Olney Civic Association (GOCA) was conducted in-person in the Oak Ballroom, Sandy Spring Fire Dept, Sandy Spring, MD and online via Zoom Web Teleconference. President Irina Norrell called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm EST.

A quorum was present.. Those attending virtually are denoted by a V:

Officers

- Irina Norell, President (Norbeck Meadows)
- Curtis Chappell, First Vice President (Olney Square)
- Matt Quinn, Second Vice President (Cherrywood)
- Tina Craun, Treasurer (Individual) - V
- Kristen Quinn (Norbeck Meadows)
- Helene Rosenheim, Recording Secretary (Highlands of Olney)

- Lee Kidd (Cherrywood)
- Carolyn Knight (Olney Oaks SF)
- Joe Krempasky (Brookeville Knolls)
- Diana Littlefield (Olney Acres) - V
- Juris Mohseni (James Creek)
- Bryan Notali (Forest Crossing)
- Mike Payne (Olney Oaks SF)
- Marlene Saulsbury (Forest Crossing)
- Ann G. Strain (Cherrywood)
- Kate Thorton (Brighton Knolls)
- Robert Zimmerman (Brooke Manor)

Members

- Anastasia Adams - V ?
- Bill Becker (Past President)
- Mary Lou Causway (Christie Estates)
- Alden English (SEROCA)
- Gary Fennel (The Preserves at Smalls Nursery)
- Mary Jane Geraci (Tall Timbers)
- Howie Greif (Lake Hallowell) - V ?
- Paul Jarosinski (Cherrywood)

Guests

- Judith Hruz (Greater Olney News)
- Aaron Kraut, Chief of Staff, Dawn Leudtke, Montgomery County Council, District 7
- Paul Mele - V
- Hilary Milla (Christie Estates)
- Kenneth Milia (Christie Estates)
- Darlene Saulsbury (Olney Mill)
- Craig Thorton (Brighton Knolls)

Approval of the November 12, 2024 Agenda - Agenda was approved as presented

Approval of October 8, 2024 Minutes - The minutes of the October meeting were approved with 4 corrections to list of attendees - Under Members: Carolyn Knight was present, not virtual, Mike Paye add (Olney Oaks SF) who was virtual, not present, Under Guests: correcting Ann Straw to Ann Strain and move her to Member..

Announcements - None

Discussion of Attainable Housing Strategies Initiative

Irina N. presented an overview of the Attainable Housing Strategies Initiative (AHSI) prior to opening the floor to the discussion of the draft letter the Officers proposed being sent to the Montgomery County Council.

The consensus of the discussion was that while the officers had worked hard on the draft letter that was presented, some felt it did not strongly enough state the objection to the proposed policy.

Paul Jarosinski moved that GOCA send a draft letter he proposed in conjunction with several of the member homeowners associations. The motion was seconded by Gary Fennel.

While some felt a decision about the letter needed to be made that evening, many were concerned that, since the letter was just being presented at the meeting, those present and on Zoom did not have sufficient time to review Paul's draft. Plus members not in attendance had not seen the draft letter. It was suggested that the letter be sent to all members for a quick review with an online vote by Friday, 11/15th.

Lee Kidd proposed an amendment to add 3 days for members to review Paul's draft and then vote online. The amendment was seconded by Mike Payne and passed.

Matt Quinn called the question, seconded by Robert Zimmerman. **The amended motion passed 13 -1.**

Matt Q. also moved that GOCA needs to continue to follow State Bill 2-25 because it appears it would allow County Zoning Text Amendments to override properly filed HOA covenants. Alden English seconded and the motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - No Report.

Transportation Committee Report

Mindy Biden, Transportation Committee Chair, reported:

- WSSC has announced a new Poop to Power program that converts poop to natural gas that will be used to power Ride-On buses and yields water that can be put back into the water system.
- Bill 14-24 Vehicle Noise Abatement Monitoring has been introduced to put out sound monitoring devices to measure vehicular sounds over 80 decibels and to increase fines for vehicles exceeding that level.
- Bill 11-23, Safe Streets Act of 2023 passed last year and the County Executive had to submit a plan that will increase red light fines from \$100 to \$140 and speed camera fines from \$50 to \$76.
- A No Right Turn on Red has been installed on Rte 28. Others are mostly being installed in Silver Spring. They can only be installed on County roads, but they need it to be permitted on State roads. The bill introduced in the State Legislature last year did not get out of committee. A question was asked about the possibility of having one installed on Morningwood Dr since speed humps are not permitted since it is a primary road.
- Students from Sherwood High School have been crossing Rte. 108 to get to the 7-11 at Rte 108 & New Hampshire Ave. Rte. 108 is not pedestrian friendly in that area. Councilmember Luedtke is working with 2 Sandy Spring/Ashton Associations to address this.
- October is National Pedestrian Safety Month. Mindy will speak about it before the County Council.
- There is a State bill to increase penalties for reckless driving.
- Mindy reminded everyone about the ease of use and usefulness of the Olney Road Report on the GOCA website for reporting things they see on the roads such as potholes, road signs needing maintenance, etc., to both Montgomery County Dept of Transportation and Maryland State Dept. of Transportation.

Adjournment

Adjourned: 9:03 pm EST

Submitted by Recording Secretary Helene Rosenheim