



oakland mills
we value connections

Oakland Mills Community Association

Village Board Meeting Minutes

The Other Barn ~ 5851 Robert Oliver Place ~ Columbia, MD 21045

Board Members: Bill McCormack, Jr., Co-Chair ~ Ginny Thomas, Co-Chair
Jonathan Edelson, Vice-Chair ~ Kay Wisniewski, AC Chair ~ Lynn-Steven Engelke
Judy Gottsagen ~ Paul Verchinski
Reginald Avery, Columbia Council Representative

October 25, 2016

OMCA Regular BoD Meeting

Ms. Thomas called the regular meeting of the OMCA Board of Directors to order at 7:03 pm.

Present: Ginny Thomas, Co-Chair; Jonathan Edelson, Vice Chair (arrived at 7:13pm); Kay Wisniewski; AC Chair, Lynn Engelke; Paul Verchinski, Reg Avery; CA Rep, Sandy Cederbaum, Village Manager; Brigitta Warren, Event & Administrative Coordinator

Absent: Bill McCormack, Co-Chair; Judy Gottsagen

Also Present: Phil Nichols; Howard County Office of the County Executive, Chris Eatough; Howard County Office of Transportation, See resident list.

Opening of Meeting

- **Ms. Engelke** motioned to approve the agenda for October 25, 2016 (ATTACHMENT "A"). **Mr. Avery** seconded and the motion passed (4-0-0).
- **Ms. Engelke** motioned to accept the October 6, 2016 OMCA Board meeting minutes (ATTACHMENT "B"). **Ms. Wisniewski** seconded and the motion passed (4-0-0).

Resident Remarks

- Resident Gloria Wharton was present to express her frustration with painting that has been continuously occurring on the 5700 block of Thunder Hill Road. **Ms. Thomas** responded that her discontent has been noted and Bob Bellamy, Covenant Advisor, will be following up with her.

New Business

Presentation of Options for Improvements for Pedestrian Bridge that crosses Route 29 from Oakland Mills to Town Center

- Chris Eatough, Howard County Office of Transportation, and Phil Nichols, Howard County Office of the County Executive, were present to give a slideshow presentation about the proposed design concepts for the pedestrian bridge that crosses Route 29 from Oakland Mills to Town Center. Mr. Eatough announced that this is brief preview presentation to the meeting that will be held on November 2, 2016 at 6:30pm in the George Howard Building. Residents are invited to come to the November 2nd meeting to give additional feedback regarding designs.
- The existing bridge has been found to be structurally sound, but is in need of some aesthetic and safety improvements. The proposed improvements to be made to the bridge are to replace the fencing and

improve the lighting. There were four different proposals shared: Alternate 1 – replace fencing with wire mesh, Alternate 1A – replace fencing and cage with wire mesh, 2 – replace fencing and cage with geodesic tube with a spiral and Alternate 3 – a space frame. The proposed cost for each of the designs will be available at the 11/2 meeting. Once the design is chosen, a lot of work has to be done on the structural engineering.

- **Mr. Verchinski** asked about an update regarding the Bikeshare program. Mr. Eatough responded that the Bikeshare program will provide residents the ability to pay to use a bike that will be locked in one of seven bike stations; five in downtown Columbia, one in Oakland Mills Village Center and one in Blandair Park. There will be 70 bikes available.
- **Ms. Wisniewski** asked what the status was regarding having possible transit on the bridge and if that was still being looked into.
- Mr. Nichols responded that the proposed updates to the bridge are the interim and the County is still working with Bridge Columbia to develop transit on the Bridge.
- **Ms. Wisniewski** asked what the timeframe was. Mr. Nichols responded that he cannot give a timeframe. He stated that the County Executive still supports the idea and is looking into funding. **Ms. Wisniewski** asked if the current updates qualify for matching state or federal funds. Mr. Eatough responded, no, the County is providing the funding.
- **Ms. Engelke** asked what the timeframe is for these upgrades to the Bridge to be made. Mr. Eatough responded that the hope is by next year, upgrades will begin.
- Resident Heidi Knott asked if maintenance of the Bridge was part of the budget considerations. Mr. Nichols responded that yes, maintenance was taken into the budgetary considerations.
- Resident Bob Bartolo stated that hopefully this upgrade is not a temporary interim solution that would be torn down when Bridge Columbia got built, but if this was installed and successful then we would be able to work the Bridge Columbia concept around this so it would remain permanent.
- Resident Pat Harrington asked if anything was going to be done with the surface. Mr. Nichols stated that he believes repainting is part of the costs.
- Resident Phil Engelke asked if there would be anti-graffiti painting. Mr. Eatough responded that they are looking into anti-graffiti painting, better security cameras, hardwire connections and enhanced lighting.
- **Mr. Verchinski** asked Mr. Eatough once the County hears community input and makes changes, will they be bringing the new proposed designs back to the OMCA Board and allowing more comments from the OMCA Board? Mr. Eatough responded yes.
- **Ms. Thomas** asked what the deadline to receive comments was. Mr. Nichols responded the end of November.

Discuss Donation Requests

- The summary document, “Donation Requests Received by October 15, 2016,” was distributed (ATTACHMENT “C”) along with supporting documentation.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** asked if there were any questions regarding requests. **Mr. Verchinski** asked about keeping some of the money to put towards the painting of the police trailer. **Ms. Thomas** stated that there would be other money in the budget for the painting. **Ms. Cederbaum** stated the painting of the police trailer was not put into the budget. **Ms. Thomas** stated that the donation line item is not the right place for the painting money to come from. **Mr. Verchinski** will look into the price of painting the police trailer.
- **Mr. Edelson** asked if the donation policy stated a total amount that groups could request. **Ms. Cederbaum** stated no.
- **Mr. Verchinski** stated that some groups did not request a specific amount. **Ms. Cederbaum** stated that they did not have to put a specific amount.
- **Mr. Edelson** asked if the donation policy stated that only one donation could be given per year per

group. **Ms. Cederbaum** stated that yes, only one donation per year per group was allowed.

- **Ms. Cederbaum** was going to follow up with OMHS PTSA and Forest Ridge regarding their requests.
- **Ms. Thomas** stated that the OMCA Board would vote on the donations on November 9th.

Old Business

Donation in Honor of Oakland Mills Volunteers

- **Ms. Cederbaum** informed the OMCA Board what she learned regarding the possibility of making the \$250 donation in honor of the Oakland Mills volunteers to the HC Recreation and Parks program scholarship for SFES students. It was decided that the donation in honor of the Oakland Mills volunteers will be made towards scholarships for the Howard County Recreations and Parks programs being offered after school at SFES. There will be a place card on each of the tables at the volunteer reception indicating who received the donation.

Board Co-Chair Remarks

- **Ms. Thomas** announced that there will be a Feasibility Study Community Meeting with Bolan-Smart consultants on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 7pm at the Oakland Mills Middle School. She is not sure if the meeting will include breakout sessions.

Columbia Board of Directors Report

- **Mr. Avery** stated that a representative from the Wilde Lake Village Board was present at the CA Board meeting and requested funds to renovate the bathhouse at Running Brook Pool. He also requested that there be a Property Standards Evaluation Program in place by CA by 2018.
- Michelle Wile from the Downtown Partnership has requested \$500,000 in funding from CA for the continuation of the building of Downtown. In 2017 the County funds for the downtown project will stop and additional funding will be needed.
- **Mr. Avery** stated that CA Board is looking at the current advisory committees to see if they are working and if they are functional.
- **Mr. Verchinski** suggested if the funding was going to be given for downtown, CA give it in the form of a loan, not as a grant. **Mr. Avery** stated that before any final vote is taken by the CA Board regarding this issue, more information is needed.
- **Ms. Engelke** asked for an update regarding the carillon. **Mr. Avery** stated that the plan is to take it out of the water and put it on the shore. It will not however, be restored by Columbia's 50th celebration.

Manager's Report

- **Ms. Cederbaum** distributed her report (ATTACHMENT "D") and asked if there were any questions.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** stated that since she typed her report, Kelly Cimino, Director, HC Housing Department has gotten back to her and stated that she would be meeting with Tom Carbo to discuss the issue with 6141 Commitment Court .
- **Ms. Cederbaum** stated that there should be a revised draft of the Architectural Guidelines revision by December.
- **Mr. Verchinski** asked for more information about the meeting with the HOA's. A discussion took place regarding some of the issues that were brought up during the HOA meeting.

Architecture Committee

- **Ms. Wisniewski** reiterated the work that has been done on the Architecture Guidelines. She also spoke

briefly regarding the campaign signs around Oakland Mills.

Arts Advisory

- **Mr. Verchinski** stated that he has been focusing on the police trailer. He has met with the OMHS Art teacher, Ms. Bram, and discussed repainting the trailer. HCPD stated that they would repaint the trailer in a neutral color, but **Mr. Verchinski** has not heard anything further. Ms. Bram stated that the volunteers would have to be volunteering for OMCA as opposed to OMHS. The earliest that this could be done would be the spring. OMCA would have to pay for the painting.
- **Mr. Verchinski** stated that the County is currently seeking Request for Proposals for Bikeshare.
- He stated that he will be attending a meeting in Linthicum regarding BWI Noise on October 27th.
- **Mr. Verchinski** gave an update as the CA Senior Advisory Representative. The Senior Advisory Committee put together a 20 year plan in 2014. The advisory committee is required as an advisory board to make budget recommendations to CA which they do every year. Some of the major items requested were:
 1. Expanding of transportation option for seniors through Howard County;
 2. Dedicated indoor court for pickle ball;
 3. Develop and information Program on Aging in Columbia, what you need to do;
 4. Have CA continue to fund the health survey jointly with the County and the Horizon Foundation; work with members of the Ericson School to update the survey in time for Columbia's 50th Birthday;
 5. Electric exterior door accessibility at all CA facilities that currently do not have them, especially Haven on the Lake.

Education

- ATTACHMENT (E'')
- **Mr. Edelson** spoke about the elementary school model and its importance in the Oakland Mills community.

NEAC

- **Ms. Engelke** reiterated the progress with the AC Guidelines. She stated that the proposed guidelines will be up on the Oakland Mills website by 1/2/17 for residents to view and there will be a public hearing on 1/22/17.
- She stated that the next workshop of the Renew, Rehab, Replace series will take place on January 7th and will include an architectural representative, a representative from the HC Office on Aging and a PR marketing representative from the Village in Howard.
- The committee is reviewing the proposal for the Property Standards Evaluator.

Safety and Security Committee Report

- ATTACHMENT (F'')

Board Bulletin Board

- **Ms. Warren** provided a wrap up of the Fall Festival which took place on October 8th.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** reminded everyone about the Volunteer Reception that will take place on November 4th at 6:30pm.
- **Mr. Edelson** thanked everyone who helped to put on the Festival. He also recognized **Ms. Cederbaum** for the letter of thanks that was received from the Village in Howard regarding all the work she did to help them get into their new space.
- **Ms. Wisniewski** stated that **Ms. Gottsagen** has asked Weis about the need for improved lighting in the parking lot.

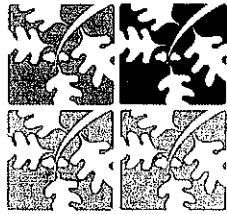
The OMCA Board meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Brigitta Warren, Event and Administrative Coordinator

Action Items from October 25, 2016 OMCA Board Meeting

FOR BOARD MEMBERS:

**FOR STAFF: Ms. Cederbaum, follow up with Ms. Cimino
Ms. Cederbaum, follow up regarding donations with OMHS PTSA and Forest Ridge Afterschool program**



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**Oakland Mills Community Association
Village Board Meeting AGENDA**

The Other Barn ~ 5851 Robert Oliver Place ~ Columbia, MD 21045

Board Members: Virginia Thomas, Co-Chair; Bill McCormack, Co-Chair,
Jonathan Edelson, Vice Chair; Kay Wisniewski, Architecture Chair
Lynn-Steven Engelke, Judy Gottsagen, Paul Verchinski
Reginald Avery, Columbia Council Representative

Tuesday, October 25, 2016

**Oakland Mills Board of Directors Meeting
7:00 p.m.
The Other Barn**

- 7:00 p.m. Opening of meeting**
Approve the agenda for tonight's meeting
Approve the minutes from the October 6, 2016 meeting
- 7:05 p.m. Resident Remarks**
- 7:10 p.m. New Business**
- 7:10 p.m. Presentations of Options for Improvements for Pedestrian Bridge
that crosses Route 29 from Oakland Mills to Town Center, Howard County
Office of Transportation**
- 7:40 p.m. Discuss Donation Requests, Full Board Discussion**
- 8:00 p.m. Old Business**
Donation in Honor of Oakland Mills Volunteers, Board Discussion
- 8:10 p.m. Board Co-Chair Remarks, Virginia Thomas and William R. McCormack**
- 8:20 p.m. Columbia Board of Directors Report, Reginald Avery**
- 8:30 p.m. Manager's Report, Sandy Cederbaum**
- 8:40 p.m. Architecture Committee, Kay Wisniewski**
Arts Advisory: Paul Verchinski
Education Committee, Jonathan Edelson and John DiTomasso
Housing Committee, William R. McCormack
Neighborhood Enhancement Advisory Committee, Lynn Engelke
Safety & Security Committee, Judy Gottsagen and Steve Gottsagen
- 8:55 p.m. Board Bulletin Board**
- 9:00 p.m. Adjourn**

Upcoming Events: for details on all events visit: oaklandmills.org

All events listed below are held at The Other Barn, 5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, MD 21045

Oct. 25, 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., OMCA Neighborhood Enhancement Committee

Oct. 25, 7:00 p.m., OMCA Board Meeting

Oct. 28, 10:00 a.m., Lively Arts For Little Ones

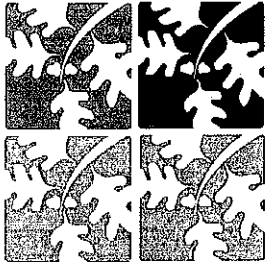
Nov. 4, 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Oakland Mills Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Nov. 9, 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., OMCA Education Committee

Nov. 9, 7:00 p.m., OMCA Board Meeting (new date in lieu of 11/8)

Nov. 11, 10 a.m., Lively Arts for Little Ones

Nov. 15, 7:00 p.m. Feasibility Study Community Meeting on the OM Village Center and Surrounding Area, meeting to be held at Oakland Mills Middle School



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Oakland Mills Community Association Village Board Meeting Minutes

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Board Members: Bill McCormack, Jr., Co-Chair ~ Ginny Thomas, Co-Chair
Jonathan Edelson, Vice-Chair ~ Kay Wisniewski, AC Chair ~ Lynn-Steven Engelke
Judy Gottsagen ~ Paul Verchinski
Reginald Avery, Columbia Council Representative

October 6, 2016

OMCA Regular BoD Meeting

Ms. Thomas called the regular meeting of the OMCA Board of Directors to order at 7:01 pm.

Present: Ginny Thomas; Co-Chair, Jonathan Edelson; Vice Chair, Kay Wisniewski; AC Chair, Lynn Engelke, Judy Gottsagen, Sandy Cederbaum; Village Manager, Brigitta Warren; Event & Administrative Coordinator, Bill McCormack; Co-Chair arrived at 7:15pm

Also Present: See resident list.

Absent: Paul Verchinski, Reginald Avery; CA Rep

Opening of Meeting

- **Ms. Gottsagen** motioned the agenda for October 6, 2016 (ATTACHMENT "A") be approved. **Ms. Wisniewski** seconded and the motion passed (5-0-0).
- **Ms. Wisniewski** motioned to accept the September 27, 2016 OMCA Board meeting minutes (ATTACHMENT "B"). **Mr. Edelson** seconded and the motion passed (5-0-0).

Old Business

Donation in Honor of Oakland Mills Volunteers

- **Ms. Gottsagen** suggested donating money as a scholarship for one student who would like to attend the Stevens Forest ES Recreation and Parks afterschool program That is currently being offered.
- A discussion of the process of donating the money towards the scholarship took place.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** will look into what the process and criteria is for giving a scholarship to a SFES student to participate in the afterschool Recreation and Parks program.
- **Ms. Thomas** stated that more research will be done and the OMCA Board will vote on this matter at the October 25th OMCA Board meeting.

Board Co-Chair Remarks

- **Ms. Thomas** announced that the County is hosting a community meeting on November 15, 2016 at Oakland Mills Middle School at 7pm with the Bolan-Smart Consultants. The consultants will be giving an update on the feasibility study. Once more information is available, **Ms. Thomas** will inform.
- **Ms. Engelke** asked if this was the final presentation. **Ms. Thomas** responded that the final presentation will take place in January. Howard County and the Columbia Association will be given the final results first since they put up the funding for the study.

- **Ms. Cederbaum** will send out a task list prior to the November 15th community meeting.

(**Mr. McCormack** arrived at 7:15pm).

(**Ms. Wisniewski** left the meeting at 7:20pm to attend the RAC meeting).

Manager's Report

- **Ms. Cederbaum** distributed her report (ATTACHMENT "C") and asked if there were any questions.
- **Mr. Edelson** asked about the process to have the trash cans removed.
- **Ms. Engelke** asked what recourse the OMCA Board has regarding Tom Carbo and 6141 Commitment Court. **Ms. Cederbaum** gave an update with regard to **Mr. Bellamy** visiting the property very recently. A discussion regarding this issue took place.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** will follow up with Ms. Cimmino, Director of Housing to find out who has oversight and information regarding MIHU properties and ask specifically about 6141 Commitment Court.

Education Committee Report

- **Mr. Edelson** gave an update regarding the Howard County Board of Education Candidates Forum that will take place on Thursday, October 13, 2016 at 7pm at The Other Barn. Candidate responses to pre-forum questions have been received and will be posted on the website and distributed to the OM email list on Friday 10/7.
- **Mr. Edelson** gave a breakdown of how the forum will be run.
- **Mr. Edelson** thanked **Ms. Cederbaum**, **Ms. Warren** and the Education Committee members for their work on putting the forum together.
- **Mr. Edelson** spoke about the SFES PTA Evening of Excellence. He thanked **Ms. Gottsagen** for speaking on behalf of the OMCA Board and he thanked **Ms. Wisniewski** and **Ms. Cederbaum** and **Mr. Avery** for being present.

Housing Committee Report

The Housing Committee is working on pursuing housing committee goals.

NEAC Committee Report

- **Ms. Engelke** distributed her report (ATTACHMENT "D").
- **Ms. Engelke** gave feedback on the workshop she attended on October 4th at CA that discussed sustaining diversity in the community; integration versus inclusion.
- **Mr. DiTomasso**, who was also present at the workshop, suggested the OMCA Board write a press release about Oakland Mills to follow its prominence in the Money magazine article ranking Columbia the #1 place to live.

Safety and Security Committee Report

- **Ms. Gottsagen** distributed her report (ATTACHMENT "E").
- Officer Buchanan will be present at the November 9th OMCA Board meeting.

Board Bulletin Board

- **Ms. Warren** invited everyone to the OMCA Fall Festival on Saturday for a great time!

The OMCA Board meeting was adjourned at 7:51pm

Architecture Committee

Ms. Engelke called the Architecture Committee meeting to order at 7:52pm.

- **Mr. Edelson** motioned to send the 15 day notice to CA and if no response from the owner a resolution to CA regarding 9409 Farewell Road. **Mr. McCormack** seconded and the motion passed (5-0-0).
- **Mr. Edelson** motioned to send the 15 day notice to CA and if no response from the owner a resolution to CA regarding 9349 Kilimanjaro Road. **Mr. McCormack** seconded and the motion passed (5-0-0).

The Architecture Committee meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted: Brigitta Warren, Event and Administrative Coordinator

Action Items from October 6, 2016 OMCA Board Meeting

FOR BOARD MEMBERS:

**FOR STAFF: Ms. Cederbaum – find out who and how a donation to Park and Rec should be sent to for a SFES student to receive a scholarship for the Park & Rec program at SFES.
Ms. Cederbaum- contact Ms. Cimmino about MIHU and 6141 Commitment Court
Mr. Bellamy – send 15-day notices to two property owners.
Ms. Cederbaum- prepare and send to Co-Chairs task list for 11/15/16 meeting**

October 20, 2016

Donation Account: Budgeted Amount: \$4,000
 Amount Spent: \$ 100.00 (flood victims/Ellicott City
 Balance: \$3,900

Total Requested Amount: \$4,964 plus two requests with no specified amount
 (detailed below)

Donation Requests Received By October 15, 2016

School and School Affiliated Groups

Thunder Hill Elementary School - Principal

Requestor: Mr. West, Acting Principal

Amount: \$500 to support SOAR/PBIS program (School wide behavior & rewards)

Thunder Hill Elementary School - PTA

Requestor: Abby Wedeking, PTA President

Amount: \$464.00 to offset costs associated with holding Family Movie Nights and the End of the Year Picnic

Stevens Forest Elementary School - PTA

Requestor: Quiana Holmes, President

Amount: \$500 funds will be used to fund the 2017 Books for Bobcats Program which allows each child to pick a book to take home during the spring book fair

Talbott Springs Elementary School – Principal

Requestor: Nancy Thompson, Principal

Amount: \$500 to be used to purchase more ipads for the Pre K classrooms

Oakland Mills Middle – PTSA

Requestor: Alan Romack, President

Amount: \$500 to offset the speakers fee for an Arts related event at OMMS bringing in an author to engage in the writing process.

Oakland Mills High School – Fine Arts Boosters

Requestor: Heather Barham, President

Amount: no amount specified but donation to be used to upgrade the stage and equipment in the auditorium and provide new instruments for students unable to afford their own

Oakland Mills High School – PTSA After Prom Committee

Requestor: Jennifer Atkins & Mary Ann Carroll, Co-Chairs After Prom Committee

Amount: no amount specified, funds will consider the After Prom event, a FREE fun, safe, drug

and alcohol free alternative for students who attend the prom

Oakland Mills High School – PTA

Requestor: Bonnie Anderson, President

Amount: \$500 for after school tutoring for students who take AP courses and scholarships for students who will attend a 2 or 4 year college who attend a technical or specialty school

Howard County NAACP Youth Council

For Forest Ridge Apartments After School Child Enrichment Program

Requestor: Dr. Rhonda Jones, Co-Advisor, HC NAACP Youth Council

Amount: \$1000 for the program to resume servicing elementary and middle school children at Forest Ridge. (read letter)

Community Action Council of Howard County

Requestor: Blta Dayhoff, President

Amount: \$1000 help properly stock the Howard County Food Pantry and keep it running efficiently

Manager's Report

Submitted by Sandy Cederbaum on October 21, 2016 for the October 25, 2016 Oakland Mills Board Meeting

Pending and Resolved Issues

Tom Carbo – 6141 Commitment Court –No follow-up letter received-April 28, 2016 – Letter from Board to Mr. Tom Carbo relating to 6141 Commitment Court

We requested that the Housing Commission notify the board in writing about the exact terms of the MIHU status and the terms that will govern any resale of the property.

Ms. Cederbaum followed up by email with Mr. Carbo on May 11, June 13 and June 23.

*Ms. Cederbaum followed up by sending 2 emails w/the letter to Mr. Carbo to Ms. Kelly Cimino, Dept. of Housing – to date has not heard back from Ms. Cimino.

Committee Follow Up

Education Committee – BOE form was extremely successful.

100 attendees, room setup/mic worked well. Ground rules handed out to each person helped maintain civility in Q & A session. MCRC and entire education committee were very helpful as was MC Jonathan and Brigitta. Attendees from all 10 villages. Candidate's extremely grateful for the well fun program and opportunity to speak to community.

AC Guidelines: Review underway.

Event Summary:

Oakland Mills Fall Festival- Despite the indoor event it was well planned and extremely well executed in every regard – Thank you Brigitta Warren! Estimated attendance 250, vendors, entertainment, food vendors all had a good day.

Upcoming HOA Presentation

Tuesday, October 15, 7:00 p.m. - HOA Presentation

Bob Frances presented to the HOA boards. Boards from Holly Court, Shadow Oaks and Emerson Hill in attendance. Focus on rental units.

Volunteer Dinner, Friday, Nov. 4, 6:30 p.m.

Dinner and Entertainment, invitations have been sent out via email.

Daily Issues that Manager is working on:

Employee Handbook –

Process moving forward. Received first draft and reviewed w/HR Strategies.

Facility Related:

Facility issues in last week:

Had annual walk through w/CA visiting all four facilities.

Looking into a handrail for the 3 steps up into silo on the window side – working w/CA

Bookkeeping, payroll, daily facility and HR issues.

**Education Report
October 25, 2016**

Based on feedback from attendees and candidates themselves, last week's BOE Candidates' Forum was successful. We estimated about 90 people in attendance from throughout Columbia. The format worked well and we were able to devote an hour and 15 minutes to audience Q & A and give everyone who lined up an opportunity to ask a question.

Many thanks to the members of the education committee who put a lot of thought and effort into this since we committed to doing it back in the spring. They generated a lot of ideas and good discussion, and they also had important suggestions on ground rules and format.

Thanks also to the other villages and Village Managers who got the word out to their residents.

Special thanks to Sandy and Brigitta for managing the logistics, developing the communications, staying on top of the candidates, staying on top of me (I was a bit tardy on a few of my promised contributions), and having everything ready to go without a hitch last Thursday night.

The HCC MCRC once again provided excellent facilitation. As you may know, these are volunteers and they provide the service free of charge. Much as we do with the OMHS band at the fall festival, we will give them a \$100 donation, paid from the event fund, as a token of our appreciation for the hours they spent preparing for and facilitating the forum.

Based on what I heard at the forum, I also charged the committee with a next step. I think we need to discuss the Elementary School Model here in Oakland Mills since two of our three Elementary Schools have it, and our middle school and high school will be impacted as a result. Most of the candidates are questioning parts or even the whole. One even questioned whether we should be treating schools more equally. ESM aside, I believe in equitable over equal. If various policies lead to poorer and richer schools, then the funding decisions need to help correct for that, so putting an more expensive program into a poor school may not be equal, but it may very well be equitable.

Regardless, the candidates said they want data and feedback on ESM, but as far as we know, they have not actually come to either of our schools for feedback. The SFES PTA supports ESM. I've asked the TSES and OMMS representatives to get back to me with where their school stand so we can determine whether we can have a united group voicing its support for this program.

Safety and Security Committee

October 25, 2016

- We have met with the manager of Weis, Patty Beale, concerning the lack of lighting and the amount of loitering.
- After I met with Sandy Cederbaum, she contacted the property manager of the Village Center, Tim McNally, who is aware of the lack of lighting, and is working on correcting the problems with the canopy lights of the Oakland Mills store.
- Ben Davis is exploring the possibility of purchasing solar motion lights in bulk at a discounted rate.
- Luke Buchanan will be presenting information on the organization of A Neighborhood Watch during our Nov. 9 Board Meeting.
- A meeting has been set up on Nov. 16 with residents on Our Time Lane, and Luke Buchanan to discuss vandalism and burglary concerns that have occurred on their street.

Next Safety and Security Committee Meeting: December 20 at 7 PM.

If you have any concerns or safety issues, send them to safety.omvc@gmail.com