



oakland mills
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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**