



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

oakland mills
we value connections

January 10, 2017

OMCA Regular BoD Meeting

Mr. McCormack called the regular meeting of the OMCA Board of Directors to order at 7:05 pm.

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

Also Present: See resident list.

Absent: Reginald Avery; CA Rep

Opening of Meeting

- **Ms. Wisniewski** motioned to accept the January 10, 2011 agenda (ATTACHMENT "A"). **Mr. Edelson** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).
- **Mr. Edelson** motioned to accept the December 13, 2016 OMCA Board meeting minutes (ATTACHMENT "B"). **Ms. Gottsagen** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).

Mr. McCormack stated that on December 13, 2016 the OMCA Board voted (6-0-0) to go into closed session at 8:53pm to discuss matters pertaining to employees and personnel and for consultation with staff personnel, consultants, attorneys, or other persons in connection with pending or potential litigation. The closed session adjourned at 9:50pm.

Old Business

Police Trailer Art Mural Discussion (ATTACHMENT "C")

- **Ms. Gottsagen** stated that she and Mr. Gottsagen researched and found that there was no plan by the County to remove the police trailer
- **Mr. Edelson** stated that if we need to be careful what we ask for if we ask for the trailer to be removed. It could lead to the loss of the OM community police officer.
- **Ms. Thomas** stated that community policing is here to stay county and nationwide. If a developer comes in with a plan and it includes the removal of the trailer than possibly the trailer can be moved.
- **Mr. Verchinski** asked whether the wording on the art survey was okay and should the survey be sent out.
- **Ms. Engelke** asked if the HCPD was okay with the art mural, what the parameters are, what about the clean up before and after the project, supervision during the project, and estimate of what the cost is for everything. She also asked about the willingness to commit as far as OMCA Board time, staff time and

volunteer time.

- **Mr. Verchinski** responded that he has had discussion with the police department and they are interested in having the art mural done. He stated the issues that are being brought up should have been brought up months ago.
- **Ms. Engelke** stated that she thought the issue was still in the discussion phase and not in the final stages. **Ms. Engelke** gave suggestions as to other ways we might utilize the students' art work.
- **Ms. Thomas** thanked **Mr. Verchinski** for all of his work.
- A discussion regarding whether this should be volunteer work or a paid commitment took place as well as issues of liability.
- **Mr. McCormack** also thanked **Mr. Verchinski** for his work and stated that there has already been a unanimous vote to go forward with this project.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** raised a question regarding what on the trailer was going to be painted.
- **Mr. Verchinski** responded that he had given the art teacher pictures of all four sides of the trailer who stated she could make it work. He also stated that he had spoken with Officer Buchanan and he thought it was a good idea.
- Further discussion took place.
- **Mr. McCormack** suggested meeting with the art teacher.
- **Mr. Verchinski** made a motion to have the art survey go out to Oakland Mills residents.
- **Ms. Thomas** stated her concern with the wording of the survey.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** asked if the art teacher gave artwork that was specific to the various sides of the trailer. **Mr. Verchinski** responded yes.
- **Mr. Verchinski** suggested putting in a disclaimer stating "Please note, this project will take place in stages."
- **Mr. Edelson** referred back to **Ms. Engelke's** concern regarding future maintenance.
- **Ms. Engelke** put forth a counter motion to delay voting on the survey until the OMCA Board meets with the OMHS art teacher.
- **Mr. Edelson** seconded **Mr. Verchinski's** motion.
- **Mr. Verchinski** stated that it is his understanding that the survey will go out with an added disclaimer. **Mr. Edelson** responded yes.
- After further discussion, **Mr. Verchinski** withdrew his motion and stated **Ms. Engelke** can proceed as she would like. **Mr. Edelson** withdrew his second of **Mr. Verchinski's** motion.
- **Ms. Engelke** made a motion to delay the sending of the art survey until we get more information.
- **Mr. McCormack** stated that **Ms. Engelke's** motion received no second so **Mr. Verchinski** will proceed with sending out the art survey with the disclaimer language added.

New Business

Employee Handbook

- **Ms. Cederbaum** distributed hard copies to the OMCA Board members of the proposed revised Employee Handbook. She gave background information regarding the development of the handbook.
- Suggestions were made regarding possible changes to the handbook.
- **Ms. Wisniewski** motioned to accept the employee handbook. **Mr. Edelson** seconded.
- **Ms. Thomas** asked what the cost was to put together the handbook. **Ms. Cederbaum** responded \$2200.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** requested that any suggested changes to the handbook be sent to her in writing.
- A discussion regarding the "References" section of the handbook was discussed. **Ms. Cederbaum** will follow up with CA regarding this issue.
- **Mr. Edelson** stated he would like to see the handbook passed aside from a few minor edits.
- **Ms. Thomas** stated that suggestions should be given to **Ms. Cederbaum** by January 24th and the OMCA Board should plan to vote on the Handbook with the suggested changes at the February 14th

OMCA Board meeting.

- **Ms. Wisniewski** amended her original motion to approve the Employee Handbook at the February 14th OMCA Board meeting. **Mr. Edelson** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).

Board Co-Chair Remarks

- **Ms. Thomas** suggested that we reinstate the Personnel Committee to look at the donation policy and staff bonuses along with other personnel issues.
- **Ms. Wisniewski and Mr. Edelson** stated they were not in favor. **Mr. Edelson** stated that we already have the OMCA Board to do that. He also stated that we have already discussed and revised the donation policy three times.
- A discussion regarding whether or not a personnel committee to look at these issues is necessary and a brief discussion of the budget process took place.
- **Ms. Thomas** suggested that she would like the Board to be more proactive.
- **Ms. Wisniewski** motioned that **Mr. Edelson and Ms. Engelke** take the lead providing a proactive budget review, including but not limited to specific personnel policies relating to the budget. **Ms. Gottsagen** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0).

Manager's Report

- **Ms. Cederbaum** distributed her report (ATTACHMENT "D").
- **Ms. Cederbaum** also distributed a copy of a memorandum from Susan Krabbe, CA, regarding the "Village Board Input with Staff responses for the FY 2018 Conditional Budget." (ATTACHMENT "E"). **Ms. Cederbaum** stated she had just received this information at the end of the day today and will be looking at it and reviewing. She did point out the information regarding funding for a Property Standards Evaluator. She asked that the OMCA Board to review and suggest a response.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** also relayed information regarding the village signs that will be brought out for Columbia's 50th Celebration. She stated that the signs will become a permanent display in the new "Kennedy Gardens". The villages have requested \$10K of the village contingency funds to be used to pay the artist who will be fixing the signs to complete the project. Contingency Fund request is pending.
- **Mr. Edelson** asked about the individual village signs in the villages and if anything had happened regarding them. **Ms. Cederbaum** stated we should ask CA as to what the timeline is for this project.

Committee Reports Safety and Security

- **Ms. Gottsagen** distributed her report (ATTACHMENT "F").
- **Ms. Gottsagen** stated that there have been 3 recent accidents at the Stevens Forest/ Farewell Road proposed roundabout location. She also announced there would be a Consumer Protection Presentation on May 17, 2017 at 6:30pm at The Other Barn led by the Howard County Office of Consumer Affairs and an officer from HCPD
- **Ms. Gottsagen** stated that there had been a fire on Rocksparkle this past Sunday evening. She suggested donating a small gift card to the family.
- **Ms. Gottsagen** motioned to donate a \$100 Visa gift card to the family. **Ms. Thomas** seconded and the motion passed (7-0-0). **Ms. Cederbaum** stated she would purchase the gift card and bring to Mr. Diaz, SFES Principal.

NEAC

- **Ms. Engelke** had her NEAC meeting this evening.
- She stated the January 7th workshop was well attended and went off great. She thanked **Ms. Cederbaum and Ms. Warren** for their assistance with the event. The next workshop will be on April 8th.
- The revised Architecture Guidelines have been completed and are posted on the OM website and available at The Other Barn for people to come and review and make comments until January 24th. At the January 24th OMCA Board meeting there will be time allotted for community input. She stated that the Guidelines will be submitted to the Board with changes to vote on at the February 14th, pending legal review. The guidelines will take effect on March 14th pending legal review.
- The committee is looking at the property standards evaluation and figuring out strategies to resubmit to the OMCA Board.

Housing

- **Mr. McCormack** will be working with **Ms. Thomas** on the Public Nuisance Bill.

Education

- **Mr. Edelson** stated that the Education Committee postponed their meeting from this evening due to lack of attendance.
- **Mr. Edelson** will be inviting Dr. Bess Altweger, Howard County School Board representative to the OM School cluster, to the March Education meeting.
- **Mr. Edelson** attended a meeting with other representatives from schools using the ESM pilot program. He will be working on developing a family survey to be distributed towards the end of January or early February.
- **Mr. Edelson** acknowledged the story of a student from SFES who dressed up as Ruth Bader Ginsburg for a Superhero day at SFES. Her story reached Ms. Ginsberg who in turn wrote her a handwritten personal note in return. The story has gone viral and was even featured on the Facebook page of Good Morning America.
- **Ms. Thomas** asked **Mr. Edelson** if he would be interested in inviting Dr. Altweger to a regular Board meeting with the community. He stated both ways have been done, the education committee meeting or the regular Board meeting.

Arts Advisory

- **Mr. Verchinski** asked when the OMCA Board would like to vote on the survey results. **Mr. Edelson** asked if we had an estimate cost from the art teacher on costs. **Mr. Verchinski** responded that he was with the understanding that OMCA would pay for whatever is needed. He also stated that cost would depend on which renderings were selected.
- **Mr. Edelson** suggested that the OMCA Board vote on the renderings at the February 28th Board meeting.

Architecture Committee

- **Ms. Wisniewski** distributed her report (ATTACHMENT "G").

Board Bulletin Board

- **Mr. Edelson** congratulated the Kaplan and Cederbaum family on their new arrival.

The regular OMCA Board meeting was adjourned at 9:21pm

The OMCA Board went into a closed session meeting at 9:23pm.

Respectfully submitted: Brigitta Warren, Event and Administrative Coordinator

Action Items from January 10, 2017 OMCA Board Meeting

Board Action Items:

- **Edelson and Engelke** to take the lead on providing a proactive budget review, including but not limited to specific personnel policies relating to the budget.
- OM Board to Vote on Art Mural Selection on February 28, 2017
- Board to hold hearing on proposed AC guidelines on Jan. 24 and vote on Feb. 14, pending legal review
- **Edelson** will invite Dr. Altwerger to either a March Education Committee Meeting or March OMCA Board Meeting.

Staff Action Items:

- Warren to send art survey w/added language
- Cederbaum to check w/CA regarding “reference wording” in Employment Handbook
- Cederbaum will review CA comments to OMCA CA FY18 budget requests
- Cederbaum will gather board edits to Employment Handbook by Jan. 24 and circulate revised draft to board for Feb. 14 discussion and vote.
- Cederbaum will find out timeline for new village identification signs
- Cederbaum will purchase a gift card for the family displaced by fire

Board and Staff Action Items:

- Board to submit suggested edits to Employment Handbook to Sandy by Jan. 24
- Board to read through CA comments to OMCA FY18 budget requests