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# Oakland Mills Community Association Village Board Meeting Minutes

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

**Board Members:** Jonathan Edelson, Chair ~ Chris Esoldo, Vice-chair

Lynn-Steven Engelke, Architectural Committee Chair

Liz Crammond ~ Bill McCormack Jr. ~ Larry Pretlow II ~ Paul Verchinski

Virginia (Ginny) Thomas, Columbia Council Representative



**October 9, 2018**

## OMCA Regular Board Meeting

**Mr. Edelson** called the regular meeting of the OMCA Board of Directors to order at 7:10 p.m.

**Present:** Jonathan Edelson, Board Chair; Chris Esoldo, Vice-chair; Lynn Engelke, Architectural Committee Chair; Ginny Thomas, Columbia Council Representative; Bill McCormack Jr.; Sandy Cederbaum, Village Manager; Amy Carpenter, Administrative Assistant.

**Absent:** Larry Pretlow II; Paul Verchinski (Attending BWI Roundtable Meeting)

**Quorum present:** Yes

**Also present:** See resident list.

## Opening of Meeting

- **Mr. Esoldo** motioned to approve the September 25, 2018 minutes (ATTACHMENT "A"). **Mr. McCormack** seconded, and the motion passed (4-0-0).
- **Mr. McCormack** motioned to accept the October 9, 2018 agenda (ATTACHMENT "B"). **Ms. Engelke** seconded, and the motion passed (4-0-0).

## Resident Remarks

- Phil Hale and Heather Barham of the Oakland Mills High School Fine Arts Boosters spoke about the need for a lighting and electrical upgrade for the auditorium at OMHS. They said HCPSS and the County had repeatedly refused to fund an upgrade. A discussion ensued regarding funding at other schools, fundraising ideas, and whether to seek donations or hold the County responsible. **Mr. Edelson** requested that people come to Board of Education and County meetings to make their voices heard. He also recommended that people attend the Board of Education Candidates Forum on October 15<sup>th</sup> and ask questions regarding this and other issues OM schools face. **Ms. Thomas** suggested appealing to state delegates as well. **Ms. Barham** pointed out that other organizations, including the school district, used OMHS facilities and that outside usage sometimes prevented OMHS programs from holding practices and events.
- Residents Patrick and Brawnlyn Patterson asked about several issues: loitering behind Sam's Mart, possible activities for Hispanic Awareness Month, and Bridge Columbia and the Patuxent Branch Trail Easement. **Ms. Thomas** she would follow up and send him information about the easement. **Ms. Engelke** asked for Mr. Patterson's email so she could forward him maps and information from the County.

**The regular OM Board meeting ended at 7:33 p.m. The Architecture Committee convened at 7:34 p.m.**

The Architectural Committee Board considered an appeal on the property on 9206 May Day Court. A discussion ensued. **Ms. Engelke** motioned to uphold the RAC's decision. **Mr. Edelson** seconded. The Board voted 0-3-1 (**Ms. Engelke** abstained), and the motion did not pass. The alteration was approved.

**The Architectural Committee adjourned at 7:51 p.m., and the regular OMCA Board meeting reconvened at 7:52 p.m.**

The Board agreed to write a letter to the County and State about the mess at the entrance to Oakland Mills at the Thunder Hill (south)/175 intersection.

## **Old Business**

### ***OMCA Board Vacant Seat***

**Mr. Edelson** reviewed the rules regarding a tie vote. He presented three options for the Board to consider. The Board agreed on the option to have the subcommittee (Mr. Edelson, Ms. Engelke, and Mr. Pretlow) meet and discuss the candidates and suggest one candidate to the Board to vote on at the October 23, 2018 Board meeting.

### ***New Merchant Welcome Initiative***

**Mr. Edelson** reported that he was only able to talk to one OM merchant, but that the merchant was interested in partnering with the Board and other merchants to work on the village center. The merchant said he wanted to focus on better signage. The Board agreed to table the discussion until **Mr. Edelson** could get in touch with more OM merchants.

### ***Howard County Council Bill CB76-2018***

**Mr. Edelson** reviewed Mr. Verchinski's concerns about the bill. He explained that many communities were not allowing exterior electrical vehicle charging stations when there was no garage. On Mr. Verchinski's behalf, **Mr. Edelson** asked if the Board would like him (Mr. Verchinski) to testify before the County Council in support of eliminating this problem. **Mr. Edelson** motioned that Oakland Mills Community Association testify in favor of expanding County Council Bill CB76-2018 to ensure that electric car charging facilities cannot be blocked by Homeowners Associations on existing properties governed by HOAs. **Mr. McCormack** seconded, and the motion passed (4-0-0).

### ***Jordan Overlook Update***

**Mr. Esoldo** updated the Board on the new Jordan Overlook 55+ development proposal. He said he would continue to monitor the proposal. The Board tabled any action until more information could be obtained.

### **Board Chair Report**

- **Mr. Edelson** reported on the County's Planning Board session. He presented testimony for and against the school system's capital improvement budget 10-year plan.
- **Mr. Edelson** gave an update on the Village Center, including the incoming LA Mart and other spaces that might be rented soon.
- **Mr. Edelson** reported that he presented his CA budget testimony. He said the Board would need to be creative about problem solving issues with the Columbia Ice Rink.

## Columbia Council Representative Report

### *Patuxent Trail Easement*

**Ms. Thomas** referred to the printed attachment (ATTACHMENT “C”). A discussion ensued. **Ms. Engelke** motioned to authorize Ms. Thomas to represent the Oakland Mills Board in supporting CA giving the easement to the County. **Mr. McCormack** seconded, and the motion passed (4-0-0).

### Village Manager Report

- **Ms. Cederbaum** referred to her printed manager’s report (ATTACHMENT “D”).
- **Ms. Cederbaum** reviewed donations for the Oakland Mills Volunteer Dinner Reception. She asked that the Board contact her with suggestions of a local non-profit that the Board could consider making a monetary donation to in honor of Oakland Mills volunteers.

### Committee Reports

#### *Education Committee*

**Mr. Edelson** thanked Ms. Cederbaum for compiling and sending out responses from the Board of Education candidates for the Board of Education Candidates’ Forum. He reviewed preparation and plans for the forum.

#### *Safety and Security Committee*

Refer to printed report (ATTACHMENT “E”)

### Bulletin Board

- **Mr. McCormack** discussed OMHS and OMMS renovation issues. He also reported on a housing issues meeting he had with Director of Howard County Housing & Community Development Kelly Cimino and Executive Director of the Howard County Housing Commission Peter Engel in which they reviewed Oakland Mills Housing Goals and Plans. He said no decisions were made but that they would meet again in one month to discuss progress. **Mr. McCormack** also gave an update on the Castile Court tot-lot, stating that he met with Mr. Plummer and Mr. Boswell from CA
- **Ms. Thomas** discussed property around the Robinson Nature Center that might include affordable housing units. She also said Blandair Park was having some issues that the County was seeking to address.
- **Mr. Edelson** thanked Ms. Cederbaum, OM Events Planner Brigitte Warren, and other staff of The Other Barn for a successful OM Fall Festival.
- **Mr. Esoldo** reported that the St. Vincent de Paul Chili Kick-off would be held on October 21<sup>st</sup> at the Oakland Mills Interfaith Center. He said he would send details to Ms. Cederbaum.
- **Ms. Cederbaum** commented on the success of this year’s OM Fall Festival and thanked Ms. Warren. She said that a key to the County had been presented to the Board in honor of Oakland Mills’ 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The regular OMCA Board open meeting was closed at 8:55 p.m.

**Closed meeting of the Architectural Committee began at 8:57 p.m.**

**Ms. Engelke** moved to go into a closed session of the Architectural Committee for consultation with staff personnel, consultants, attorneys, or other persons in connection with pending or potential litigation. **Mr. McCormack** seconded, and the motion passed (4-0-0).

The topic discussed was resolutions to close five property cases with CA. A decision was made to remove flags from the five properties. The votes on all five properties were 4-0-0.

**Ms. Engelke** ended the closed session of the Architectural Committee at 9:02 p.m.

**Closed meeting of the OMCA Board began at 9:03 p.m.**

**Mr. Edelson** moved to go into a closed session of the OMCA Board to discuss matters pertaining to employees and personnel. **Mr. McCormack** seconded, and the motion passed (4-0-0).

The topic discussed was the village manager's annual appraisal. The Board reached a consensus regarding the appraisal.

**Mr. Edelson ended the closed session of the OMCA Board at 9:17 p.m.**

**Mr. Edelson** went into closed session again and adjourned the OMCA Board meeting at 9:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Amy Carpenter, Administrative Assistant

October 9 Action Items:

Board: Mr. Verchinski to testify at County Council hearing in support of CB76-2018

Mr. Edelson to contact Ms. Engelke and Mrs. Pretlow about vacant board seat issue

Staff: Ms. Cederbaum to draft testimony on CB76-2018

Ms. Cederbaum to contact Officer Lopez about Sams Mart loitering, Blandair Park, and vehicle theft uptick in Stevens Forest

Sept. 25 Action Items:

Board: await Mr. Mattey's follow up on OM Tot Lot 18 – costs to repair and alternatives to keeping OM18 open.

~~Mr. Edelson – testify at 10/4 Planning Board hearing~~

~~Mr. Esoldo – follow and report back new development proposal for Jordan Overlook~~

Mr. Pretlow – schedule a Community Together committee meeting

Board – bring suggestions on volunteer donation back to next board meeting

Action Items:

~~Board: Ms. Thomas and/or Mr. McCormack obtain dollar costs involved for CA to cover costs of erosion issue at 5258 Hayledge Court~~

~~Staff: Ms. Cederbaum – send CA email regarding Castile Court Tot Lot and board request~~

~~Ms. Cederbaum – prepare and send BWI noise petition and cc's~~

~~Ms. Cederbaum – make sure Ms. Warren schedules the HS band performance to begin at 11 to coincide with the advertised opening of the Fall Festival~~

~~Ms. Carpenter – amend 7/10/18 minutes per board vote~~