



Oakland Mills Community Association
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May 22, 2018

Oakland Mills Community Association Board of Directors
Annual Report - Board Actions and Activities May, 2017 – April, 2018
Board Members: Jonathan Edelson, Chair; Kay Wisniewski, Vice Chair; Lynn-Steven Engelke, Architecture Chair; Chris Esoldo, Judy Gottsagen, Bill McCormack Jr., Paul Verchinski; Virginia (Ginny) Thomas, Columbia Council Representative

- Annual reimbursements to residents for street beautification and block parties
- Hosted CA Aquatics Director and Oakland Mills pool staff for overview of season
- Discussion with Chris Eatough, HC Bike & Pedestrian Coordinator for discussion of bike lanes to be added to Thunder Hill Road, South and Mellonbrook Road.
- Discussed and voted on “Board Standard”
- Discussed BWI Noise Issues w/Paul Verchinski, OMCA Board member and liaison to the BWI noise roundtable dealing with noise issues
- Discussed Village Assessment Share proposal from CA and testified at CA Board meetings
- Discussed concern with broken and damaged cable and utility boxes and lack of oversight
- Held a second meeting of the membership at which time change to the Articles of Incorporation (Article EIGHTH) was voted on and passed by the membership
- Discussed proposed school redistricting and Education Committee spend entire summer following the various proposed redistricting scenarios
- Drafted items for Oakland Mills to submit to CA for the CA FY19/20 budget
- Revised OMCA Board member covenant compliance policy
- Hosted HC DPZ Planner Randy Clay to discuss the county’s option for the proposed Streetscape on for Whiteacre to Basket Ring Road.
- Discussed alternate transportation means during the closure of the pedestrian bridge
- Hosted CA Board Chair Andy Stack for an CA update and discussion
- Hosted John McCoy and Danielle Bodner from CA to discuss the planned collaboration between CA and the Community Ecology Institute for an interfaith forest grove in OM
- Reviewed and approved the draft
- Had quarterly Complaint Violations Updates from Covenant Advisor of Property Concerns, quarterly updates from Covenant Advisory for Application and yearly update from Covenant Advisor for Letters of Compliance
- Hosted a discussion with OM HOAs on ownership issues with HOA driveways and roadways

- Discussed and voted on donations to be directed to OMHS, OMMS, SFES, TSES, HCPD Police Officers Association for a community chess program, OMHS Fine Arts Boosters
- Approved the performance plan and timetable for the Village Manager
- Hosted presentations from Chisha Johnson, the Jacaranda Center for Family & Youth Development and an overview of the study being conducted in OM
- Discussed results of the Thunder Hill “Climbing Wall vs. Diving Board Facebook survey
Hosted a discussion with Peter Engel, Executive Director of Howard County’s Housing Commission regarding the housing commission owned Verona apartment complex, current and future plans and the architectural covenant process and maintenance process
- Provided testimony at two County Executive FY19 budget hearings, two CA FY19/20 Budget Hearings, CA Assessment Discussion meetings, HCPSS BOE hearings on redistricting and the replacement of Talbott Springs Elementary School, County Council hearings on CB 20-2018 (Landlord/Tenant) legislation
- Discussed street sweeping, bike lanes and the persistent “gum ball” issue
- Appointed members to the Election Monitor Committee, EMC Chairs, and Election Calendars
- Supported the formation of a CA Climate Change & Sustainability Committee
- Met and hosted a presentation with Bridge Columbia, committee continues to advocate for a public transit component to the pedestrian bridge and advocates for a Columbia Transit way from HCGH through Downtown, Bridge Columbia, OM, LR to Gateway
- Discussed and reaffirm support of the OMCA Housing Committee’s Goals & Plans
- Hosted presentations from OMCA’s Open Space Advisory Committee and CA’s Watershed Advisory Committee, BWI Roundtable, CA Senior Advisory and CA Tennis Committee
- Selected OM Resident Carol Brain as OMCA’s Volunteer of the Year for 2018 and hosted a reception in her honor.
- Hosted a presentation from Bikeway/Bike Howard members Warren Wortman and Kevin McAliley
- Discussed and approved the OMCA FY19 Budget
- Hosted a “Meet the Candidates and CCR” from Oakland Mills
- Held annual election for OMCA Board and since neither the OMCA Board nor CCR Seats were contested board appointed the new board and CCR with term of May 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019
- Approved monetary donations for PTAs at OMHS, OMMS, SFES, TSES, THES

Bridge Columbia

- Continue to work closely with the Bridge Columbia committee. County Office of Transportation working with Friends of Bridge Columbia on a transit route that could potentially go from Howard County General Hospital through Oakland Mills, Long Reach and to the Gateway Business Area utilizing established right-of-ways
- Supported the improvements to the pedestrian bridge and asked that it be named Bridge Columbia.

Traffic and Roadways

- Discussed County streetscape plans for Whiteacre to Basket Ring. Advocated for 1st streetscape priority to be Santiago to Whiteacre and to extend Whiteacre streetscape to Thunder Hill Road. No commitment, not timetable.
- Received commitment from County that roundabout for Farewell/Stevens Forest would be constructed in late spring/early summer 2018

Architectural Committee and Covenant Issues, Lynn Engelke

- Collaborated closely with our covenant advisors and the RAC to assist residents, promote a positive view of the covenants and their value, and strengthen the effectiveness of our revised Covenant Process and Architectural Guidelines
- Worked with the OMCA Board, acting as the Architectural Committee, to submit non-compliant properties to CA ARC for action and to remove properties from CA ARC when issues were resolved
- Furthered covenant compliance by commercial properties and bank-owned foreclosed residences
- Interviewed and voted on applicants for the position of Covenant Advisor for Property Concerns to fill vacancy in May 2017 and again in March 2018
- Continued leading a series of *Renew.Rehab.Replace* workshops focused on preserving and reinvigorating our housing and community with two events: New Life for Older Homes (20 June 2017, Central Library) and Conserving Columbia's Tree Canopy (28 October 2017)
- **In FY18 the following covenant activity occurred:**
 - New Complaints/Violations: 173
 - New Complaints/Violations Cleared: 135
 - Outstanding Violations: 38

Calendar Year 2017

Request for Letters of Compliance: 101
Properties that were Compliant: 74
Properties that were Non-Compliant: 27

Exterior Alteration Applications Processed FY18

Applications Received: 252
Applications Approved: 217
Applications Denied: 11
Applications Tabled: 39
Applications Withdrawn: 23
Applications Appealed: 1

Board Chair, Jonathan Edelson

- Wrote and delivered testimony for the Howard County budget process.
- Wrote and delivered testimony for the CA budget process.

- Hosted CA Aquatics annual update
- Hosted CA Chairperson's annual update
- Hosted county presentation of Whiteacre Streetscape
- Represented OMCA at pre submission meeting for Talbott Springs Elementary.
- Represented OMCA at grand opening of Blandair Park baseball fields.
- Represented OMCA at Oakland Mills Middle/Giant Food food pantry
- Moderated new OMCA Board of Directors Facebook discussion group for interaction with the community.

Education, Jonathan Edelson, Chair

- Developed and shared with residents, the BOE, Superintendent, and Area Attendance Committee more equitable alternatives to the redistricting feasibility study.
- Organized local PTAs for a redistricting town hall hosted by Councilmember Ball.
- Hosted public meet and greet with OM school administrators.
- Hosted public meeting with PTA Council of Howard County President.
- Met with OM school administrators to discuss school needs and partner in sharing information with residents.
- Testified on HCPSS operating and capital budgets.
- Created an OM schools Facebook discussion group to inform the community of school events and issues and to promote discussion among all schools in the OM cluster.

Housing, Bill McCormack Jr., Chair

- Presented the Oakland Mills Housing Goals and Plans to Enterprise Community Partners as a means to deconcentrate subsidized housing as outlined in the Enterprise's presentation of "Undesign the Red Line." Offered to partner with Enterprise in this endeavor.
- Presented Oakland Mills Housing Goals and Plans to County Housing Authorities to begin a collaborative working arrangement to deal with housing issues that affect Oakland Mills and the rest of the county.
- Testified before the County Council to present "Public Nuisance" ordinance amendments to CB20-2018, the Landlord Tenant Bill, to deal with bad landlords and tenants.
- Researched the issue of costly private driveway replacement for town home Home Owners Associations and facilitated the process of finding viable solutions.

Safety and Security, Judy and Steve Gottsagen, Co-Chairs

- Liaison between the Oakland Mills Outreach Officer and the community to identify safety and security issues, and to find resolutions through neighborhood meetings, and active communication with the HCPD.
- Initiated Coffee with a Cop programs and Bike with a Cop events.
- Attended Hands Only CPR and AED, and How to Keep Your House of Worship Safe in order to share the information and resources through our Committee reports.
- Initiated the program Fire and Fall Risk with Rachel Barlas from HCFRS
- Arranged for the HCPD to attend the Oakland Mill Fall Festival.

- Researched and compiled resources and internet sites to enhance the safety and security in our community by having this information distributed through the Oakland Mills newsletter.

OMCA Community Events

- Sponsored six “Lively Arts” for little ones performance
- Sponsored four “Jazz in the Mills” performance
- Sponsored the annual Oakland Mills Fall Festival
- Sponsored the annual Breakfast with Santa and Gingerbread House Making
- Hosted a Fire/Fall Prevention workshop
- Sponsored a Renew/Rehab workshop
- Co-Sponsored Family Bingo along with Stevens Forest Elementary School
- Sponsored the annual Plant Sale
- Created the Oakland Mills 50th Birthday Planning committee, had OM 50th logo designed and purchased OM 50th flags/banners/magnets
- Co-sponsored villages Searching for Spring event