Oakland Mills Community Association

Village Board Meeting Minutes

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

**Board Members:** Jonathan Edelson, Chair ~ Lynn-Steven Engelke, Architectural Committee Chair

Bill McCormack Jr., Vice-chair ~ Rebecca Bryant ~ Paul Verchinski

Bageshwar Verma ~ Virginia (Ginny) Thomas, Columbia Council Representative

**February 8 & 9, 2021**

**Link to YouTube recording of the February 9, 2021 OMCA Board Meeting:**[**https://youtu.be/M\_LtPGFPH2Y**](https://youtu.be/M_LtPGFPH2Y)

**February 8, 2021**

**OMCA Board Vacancy Interview (held February 8, 2021)**This meeting was conducted via Zoom remote virtual conferencing due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Mr. Edelson** called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

**Present:** Jonathan Edelson, Board Chair; Bill McCormack, Board Vice-chair; Lynn Engelke, Architectural Committee Chair; Ginny Thomas, Columbia Council Representative; Rebecca Bryant; Paul Verchinski; Sandy Cederbaum, Village Manager.

**Absent:** Bageshwar Verma

**Quorum Present:** Yes

**Ms. Thomas** motioned to open the interview meeting. **Mr. McCormack** seconded, and the motion passed (5-0-0).

The candidates, Rena Ross and Rashida George, introduced themselves, and the Board conducted the interview.

**Mr. Edelson** adjourned the Board vacancy interview at 7:00 p.m.

**February 9, 2021**

**OMCA Regular Board Meeting**

This meeting was conducted via Zoom remote virtual conferencing due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Mr. Edelson** called the regular meeting of the OMCA Board of Directors to order at 7:02 p.m.

**Present:** Jonathan Edelson, Board Chair; Bill McCormack, Board Vice-chair; Lynn Engelke, Architectural Committee Chair; Ginny Thomas, Columbia Council Representative; Rebecca Bryant; Paul Verchinski; Sandy Cederbaum, Village Manager; Amy Carpenter, Administrative Assistant

**Absent:** Bageshwar Verma

**Quorum Present:** Yes

**Also Present:** Columbia Association Aquatics Director Marty Oltmanns; Howard County Council District 2 Aide Ashley Alston; Samuel Hahn, Executive Director of Oakland Mills United; Michael Golibersuch, Owen Brown Board Chair; **s**ee resident list

**Opening of Meeting**

* **Mr. McCormack** motioned to approve the January 26, 2021 OMCA Board meeting minutes (ATTACHMENT A). **Ms. Thomas** seconded, and the motion passed (5-0-0).
* **Mr. McCormack** motioned to approve the February 9, 2021 OMCA Board meeting agenda (ATTACHMENT B). **Mr. Verchinski** seconded. **Mr. Edelson** asked that the agenda be amended. The Board voted to approve the amended agenda (5-0-0).

**Resident Remarks**

Resident Alex Hekimian spoke regarding proposed CA outdoor pool summer closures. He asked that CA open all 23 outdoor pools and suggested strategies for re-opening all outdoor pools. He asked that the Board support reopening all pools.

Howard County District 2 Aide Ashley Alston provided updates on Board requests.

Owen Brown Board Chair Mike Golibersuch said he was visiting other CA village board meetings to observe and find ways to work together as villages. He asked that anyone looking for funding or advocating for Oakland Mills schools to reach out to the Owen Brown Board since many students from Owen Brown attended OM schools. Mr. Golibersuch answered Board questions about Owen Brown’s position on CA outdoor pools.

**New Business**

***CA Aquatics Discussion***

CA Aquatics Director Marty Oltmanns updated the Board on CA Aquatics. The CA Board would decide on how many pools to open with the CA Staff recommendation of opening 15 outdoor pools for the 2021 season. There was a projected lifeguard shortage. Pool users would need sign in online to register for pool time due to Covid-19 capacity limitations. A discussion ensued.

***Vacant Board Seat***

**Mr. Edelson** said **Mr. Verma** would be moving out of the village and would be resigning his position on the Board, effective February 28th. **Mr. Verchinski** then announced that he was resigning from the OMCA Board, effective after the February 9th OMCA Board meeting. **Mr. Edelson** discussed options, and members of the Board thanked Mr. Verchinski for his service to the community.

**Old Business**

***CA Proposed Summer Pool Openings***

The Board discussed CA’s proposed summer pool openings and closures (ATTACHMENT C). After discussion, the Board agreed to table the issue until the February 23rd Board meeting. **Ms. Bryant** volunteered to write a draft letter for the Board to discuss.

***Board Vacancy Discussion***

**Mr. Edelson** shared options for the vote, given the additional Board vacancy announced by Mr. Verchinski earlier in the meeting. **Mr. Edelson** motioned to appoint Rashida George and Rena Ross to fill two vacant Board seat positions, effective February 10, 2021. **Mr. McCormack** seconded. The vote was conducted by electronic secret ballot, and the motion passed (5-0-0).

***OMCA Board Elections Candidate Nomination Petitions***

**Mr. McCormack** motioned to include a proposed by-law amendment, if the 2021 OMCA Board election was contested, on the ballot to eliminate the requirement of candidate nomination petitions and replace with a Candidate Application Form. **Ms. Engelke** seconded, and the motion passed (5-0-0). **Ms. Cederbaum** said she would work on the wording for the by-law amendment and present it to the Board for approval.

***Oakland Mills United***

The Board agreed to become a partner with Oakland Mills United.

**Board Chair Report**

**Mr. Edelson** reported that Oakland Mills High School Principal Jeffrey Fink would be contacting Howard County Public School System Grounds personnel and the Watershed Stewards Academy to find ways to address erosion, invasive species, and aesthetic concerns on the hill behind OMHS located along Thunder Hill Road. **Mr. McCormack** requested Board involvement and asked to be included in the process.

**Mr. Edelson** updated the Board on village center business vacancies.

**Columbia Council Representative Report**

**Ms. Thomas** discussed County subsidies of CA programs. **Mr. Edelson** suggested that Ms. Thomas bring the subject back to the board as New Business at a future Board meeting and include specific details.

**Village Manager Report**

**Ms. Cederbaum** gave an update on operations, rentals, and elections. She reported that OMCA would be conducting a monthly food donation drive for the OMHS Food Pantry.

**Committee Reports**

***Architecture Committee***

**Ms. Engelke** gave an update on RAC meetings and thanked Ms. Cederbaum for ensuring that RAC meetings were streamlined and effective.

**Board Bulletin Board**

**Ms. Cederbaum** thanked Mr. Verchinski for his service on the Board.

**Ms. Carpenter** also thanked Mr. Verchinski.

**Mr. Edelson** also thanked Mr. Verchinski. He welcomed new Board Members Rena Ross and Rashida George.

**Mr. Verchinski** reported on airport noise dome updates and the BWI Roundtable. **Mr. Edelson** asked that Mr. Verchinski contact him about continuing in his OMCA committee roles.

**Mr. Edelson** adjourned the regular OMCA Board meeting at 9:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Amy Carpenter, Administrative Assistant