

# *Olney Town Center*

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

Olney Town Center Advisory Committee  
Tuesday, March 25, 2008 – 7:30 p.m.  
Olney Library, Large Meeting Room, Olney, Maryland

**Olney Town Center Advisory Committee (OTCAC) members in attendance:** Jim Smith-Chair, Sunita Batra, Bob Beard, Eileen Cahill, Mark Feinroth, Joe Fritsch, Paula Kahla, Dorothy Kane, Walter Lee, and Helene Rosenheim.

**Others present:** Khalid Afzal, OTCAC's Park and Planning liaison; Sue Barry, Buffington RE/MAX Realty Centre; Bette Buffington, Buffington RE/MAX Realty Centre; Dr. Joe Buffington, Sr; Joe Buffington, Jr, Buffington RE/MAX Realty Centre; Ellen Coleman, Olney Chamber of Commerce/Olney Bagel Bakery; Michael & Luke Colliton, BS troop; Jenni Davies; Joseph Eagan, Olney Library Manager; Sandy & Bobby Fletcher, Fletchers BP Service Center; Terri Hogan, Gazette; Matt McShane; Jeannette Mendonca, State Senator Rona Kramer's Office; Sudhir Malik Karen Rollings, Olney Station; Lee Spencer; DeVance Walker, Mont. Co. Dept. of Economic Development; Bill Wanatosky

### **Call to Order/Acceptance of Agenda/Approval of Minutes/Announcements**

Chair Jim Smith called the meeting of the OTCAC to order at 7:40 pm. The agenda was accepted with a change to New Business – reviewing comments received since last meeting. The minutes from the February meetings were approved with no additions and 2 corrections -2 corrections clarifying language in Response on pg 1, and changing Committee on Montgomery to Committee for Montgomery, pg 3.

Jeannette Mendonca noted that she was happy to be at meeting on behalf of Senator Kramer. She thanked Jim for the copy of the plan and noted she will be briefing Senator Kramer on this at a meeting the next day. Jim thanked Khalid for providing the copy to the Senator and noted that we appreciate her interest.

The Greater Olney Civic Association is planning to have an Olney Town Meeting on the Saturday during Olney Days from 12-3. The draft Illustrative Concept Plan for the town center will be one of the four topics being discussed. It will consist of a panel discussion covering the four topics, breakout sessions on each topic, and then possibly a wrap up session. The location is still being determined, possibly the Ross Boddy Center or Oakdale Emory Church.

At the last GOCA meeting, Joe Eagan gave a presentation on the plans for renovation of the library. It will be closed for a year beginning Sept 2009, so we will have to relocate our meetings during the closure.

Mike Reilly will be submitting a nomination form for Kim Damion to represent the Freeman Companies. Jim had hoped to have in time for this meeting, so the Committee will vote on that at the next meeting.

## **Nomination of Officers**

Jim noted that terms of Committee officers are up at the end of the meeting in April. To date, Jim is running for Chair again, Helene is running for Recording Secretary, and there is no candidate for Vice Chair. Bob Beard offered to run for Vice Chair. Nancy Delalio also offered to serve for Recording Secretary. Any others interested in running were asked to let Sunita know before the next meeting. The balloting will occur at the April meeting.

## **Subcommittee Reports**

**Rules Subcommittee** – Jim noted that we had heard at the last meeting that there was a strong interest in adding a representative for small property owners. Action was tabled so the Rules Subcommittee could review the Committee Rules to see if we needed to make any changes to the Rules of Procedures. Jim gave a brief overview of the Rules and then presented two changes:

- Sunita Bhatia was resigning from the Committee because the Olney Coalition has dissolved and effectively merged their interest with GOCA. Since GOCA is already a member, this gave us the opportunity to move that position to the Business Group category so that we can add a representative for small property owner.
- Initially, we had been rotating the duties of recording secretary, but found that not very efficient. So, we would now like to create a permanent officer position of Recording Secretary to record and distribute the minutes of each monthly OTCAC meeting for a 2 year term.
- Eileen proposed the following changes to rules:
  - Each page should reflect the date revised
  - Pg 2, Membership and Public Participation should be changed to reflect a membership consisting of 4 local organizations instead of local civic organizations and 3 County services agencies instead of social service agencies, and 3 business groups
  - Pg 2, Officers, Duties, and Term of Office, adding the office of Recording Secretary.
  - Pg 2, Immediate Past Chair—change to “in the event none of the other officers” instead of “that neither the Chair nor the Vice-Chair”
  - Pg 3, Section B be changed to state that recording secretary distribute the minutes.
  - Pg 3, Section C be changed to reflect a permanent recording secretary.

In the discussion, it was suggested that the minutes should still be distributed by the Chair.

**Mark Feinroth moved that the Committee approve the rules change as amended. Dorothy Kane seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

**Committee for Montgomery** – No report.

**Outreach Subcommittee** – Bob Beard reported that Dr. Joe Buffington has joined the Subcommittee as of the previous week and Bob welcomed him. He noted, too, that at the last subcommittee meeting, Joe Jr. had raised several concerns that Bob went over.

Under the current Outreach Plan, the next date for a presentation will be Wed Apr. 30<sup>th</sup>.at 7:30 pm in the Buffington RE/MAX Olney Community Room. It is expected to be an exhaustive question and answer period with a half hour presentation of the plan and then 2 ½ hours of Q&As. Then, on May 17<sup>th</sup>, the draft Illustrative Concept Plan will be part of the Olney Days Town Meeting. The new one panel display board will be on display at the Olney Library, in the lobby of the Sandy Spring Bank, in the Community Room of the Buffington Building, Chamber, and possibly the Post Office,

Bob outlined the plan for advertising these two meetings, including mailings to the Chamber membership and GOCA membership, articles in the Gazette and a press release to the editor for her column and calendar, listing in community calendars, hand delivery to all businesses in the town center, on the OTCAC website.

**Mark Feinroth moved that the OTCAC adopt the Subcommittee's Outreach Plan for the April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup> presentation. Dorothy Kane seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

Bob noted that we would also consider any other meetings people would like to have.

**Website** – Helene noted that there were no current changes. She will add Dr. Buffington to Outreach Subcommittee membership.

#### **Illustrative Concept Plan Subcommittee**

It was suggested that we may want to soften the language to eliminate a feeling that we are imposing anything on anyone. The one-page display is available for distribution. The latest changes were noted.

#### **High Priority Pedestrian Crossings Subcommittee**

Helene noted that the next meeting will be on March 26<sup>th</sup> at which they will talk with Joe Fritsch and Dave Eskenazi on their info on intersections.

#### **NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There will be a Special Election Primary on April 15 in Council District 2 to fill the seat vacated by the passing of Marilyn Praisner.

Several changes have been made to the OTCAC Fact Sheet and it was suggested that we show the version date. Khalid suggested may want to use the drawing from ICP on the Fact Sheet and will probably do that after June. It was also suggested that we add revision numbers to other drawings.

**Small Property Owner Definition** – Jim distributed a list of the property owners in the town center. There was discussion of what the nomination process should be. There was a consensus that we should have a process similar to the original process for inviting members. We will promote for a short period of time that we are looking for small property owners to fill a vacancy for a small property owner.

**Mark Feinroth moved that the OTCAC open and advertise an application process to fill a new seat on the Committee for a small property owner. The application process will close on April 16th. The nominating committee will receive the applications and nominate a small property owner for OTCAC membership at the April meeting. Dorothy Kane seconded the motion that passed unanimously.**

Three public comments were received since last meeting and have been distributed to committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Submitted by Helene Rosenheim