

# *Olney Town Center*

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

Olney Town Center Advisory Committee  
Tuesday, July 22, 2008 – 7:30 p.m.  
Olney Library, Large Meeting Room, Olney, Maryland

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

Others present: Dr. & Mrs. Joe Buffington; Joseph Eagan, MCPL Olney Library; Tony Macaluso, President, Hallowell HOA, Laura Ryland, RTKL, Inc.

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

Chair Jim Smith called the regular meeting of the OTCAC to order at 7:40 pm. The agenda was accepted with 1 addition, Membership to Old Business. The minutes of the May and June meetings were approved as amended.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Membership**

Tony Mascaluso, President, Hallowell HOA expressed concerns about the OTCAC changing its description of its HOA members as being “representative” of those associations to being “nominated by” those associations. In the discussion with Mr. Mascaluso it was noted that this change did not reflect a change in approach or procedures. It was more that the Committee had used the term incorrectly and the change in the wording was a more accurate reflection of the process of inviting members to serve on the Committee. Rather than representing a specific homeowners association, these members generally represent the residents of the greater Olney area, both in or abutting the town center and from the larger Olney area. The goal was to have a balance in the make up of the committee of residents, the business community, developers, and government/civic aspects of the community.

Mr. Mascaluso also felt there was a conflict of interest with her membership on the Committee and her company doing pro bono work for the Committee if that company later were contracted with by a developer. The Committee will ask Khalid Afzal to look into this question.

Jim noted that Kim Damion, the member from the Freeman Companies, is no longer employed at the Freeman Companies. There was a brief discussion of inviting her to serve as a resident, but the consensus was that this was not necessary. If Ms. Damion was interested in continuing to participate, she could serve on one of the OTCAC’s subcommittee. Also, Ms. Cahill and Mr. Smith will look at the Committee’s Rules relative to membership and send a draft to the members of any changes they suggest.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Executive Report** – Jim reported that several people still need to get in their comments on the draft Illustrative Concept document

**Illustrative Concept Plan Subcommittee** – Nancy noted that Laura will continue to work on the draft Plan with a goal of the Committee voting on approval of the draft at the September meeting so that it can be presented to the Planning Board in the Fall.

**Rules Subcommittee** – Eileen Cahill noted that she plans to rewrite the OTCAC's current Rules and Procedures versus redlining and inserting changes into the existing document.

**Outreach Subcommittee** – Bob Beard reported that the members of the Committee will appear in future episodes of the Olney Loop. This is a community-created program about things happening in Olney aired on the Montgomery Access channel which is Channel 21 both on Comcast and Verizon. He also noted that the Mid-County Regional Center will share their table with the OTCAC at the upcoming National Night Out event in the Olney Town Shopping Center and asked any members who were able to staff the table.

**Website Subcommittee** – No report.

**High Priority Pedestrian Crossings Subcommittee** – Helene Rosenheim report that an ad hoc committee formed by Joe Buffington is looking at the issue of the hazardous nature of the Rte. 108 entrance to the Olney Shopping Center. He invited all the affected parties in the area of the entrance to work together to propose some possible solutions. The group had come up with 5 recommendations that they would like to send to the State Highway Administration, with copies to the District 19 State delegation and the County Executive, in a joint letter signed by all the interested parties. The consensus of the OTCAC was that the Committee should be a signature on that letter.

**PROGRAM OF REQUIREMENTS** – Discussion of the Program of Requirements was tabled until the next meeting. Jim noted that this would be the next product he would like the Committee to complete once the Illustrative Concept of the Olney Master Plan is completed.

**NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS** - None

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm

Submitted by Nancy DeLalio