

MINUTES

Olney Town Center Advisory Committee
Monday, June 5, 2006 – 7:30pm
Montgomery General Hospital, Denit Board Room

Members in attendance: Jim Smith, Sunita Bhatia, John Lyons, Dorothy Kane, Walter Lee, Nancy DeLalio, Mark Feinroth, Paula Kahla, Tom Gallagher and Helene Rosenheim. Visitors were Barbara McClayton, Sharon Dooley, John Austin, and Joe Fritsch. Also in attendance was Khalid Afzal, OTCAC's liaison from Park and Planning.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Jim Smith at 7:40 pm (approximately)

Following introductions and approval of last meeting's minutes, Jim verified that the OTCAC was approved by the Planning Board on Thursday, May 4, 2006.

Jim then told the group about his attendance at "Thriving and Sustainable Communities" sessions in May. Topics at the sessions included demographic trends, centers (areas like Olney town center) & boulevards (multimodal, e.g., bike- and pedestrian-friendly). The materials for the session can be found at:

http://www.mcparkandplanning.org/strategic_planning/centers/index.shtml and include the summary document "[Framework for Planning in the Future.](#)"

John raised some questions regarding the OTCAC Rules and Procedures draft.

Following discussion, four changes were made to the draft:

1. I. Background: third paragraph, first sentence will now begin "The committee was established on May 4, 2006 ..."
2. III Rules and Procedures – 1)Membership and Public Participation: third paragraph, last sentence will now conclude "... at least two of the four committee members preferably will be from associations adjacent to the town center."
3. and 4. III Rules and Procedures – 3)Conducting Meetings – d)Voting: "important items" will be changed to "non-procedural items" on both page 3 and 4 of the draft.

The Rules and Procedures were approved as amended.

Nominations sub-committee recommended that the opening on the OTCAC be filled by Joe Fritsch, current chair of the Mid-County Recreation Advisory Board. In the future, the committee recommended that openings be filled via a nominating process and Sunita and Dorothy are working on a nominating/application form.

Jim informed the committee that, due to a pending move out of the Olney area, Jim Wallace had resigned from the OTCAC. Khalid suggested that the Mid-County Citizen's

Advisory Board, the group that Jim Wallace represented, should be asked to nominate a replacement. John said that the replacement ought to be an Olney resident, and suggested that anyone resigning the committee should offer a nomination for his/her replacement.

Discussion regarding the web site followed with a reminder from Jim that the committee had yet to decide if the web site should be available for public access or limited to access by the OTCAC members only. Walter suggested that the site be accessible to the public; Tom agreed. The committee concluded that the web site should be accessible to the public, but that questions and comments from the public would need to be made to the committee during meetings and not via the web site.

Joe Fritsch arrived and, following a self-introduction and question and answer session, was nominated to the OTCAC. His nomination was unanimously approved.

Helene Rosenheim informed the committee that she was able to secure meeting space from the Sandy Spring Bank for the third Monday evening of the month. The committee agreed that future OTCAC meetings would be held at the bank on the third Monday of each month beginning with Monday, July 17, 2006.

Khalid continued with his presentation of the MXTC Zone.

Trips to the Market Common in Clarendon and the Bowie Town Center were discussed. Khalid suggested that Bowie Town Center might serve as something of a model for an Olney Town Center side street, while its street furniture, lighting, facades, and other design elements would be worth seeing. He suggested that the Clarendon location could provide a model for creating a successful transition from retail to town home to single-family residences, as well as incorporating parking in a less-obtrusive manner. Members felt that it would be difficult to plan formal group visits, but that they would be interested in going either individually or in small, informal groups.

Khalid briefly reviewed the proposed development on Hillcrest. The developer has to address some technical problems before presenting to the OTCAC.

Jim will include OTCAC Work Plan Draft in an email to the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 p.m..