

OCA Board Meeting Agenda – Tuesday August 22, 2023

Venue: In-person

September 12 OCA Community meet

Officers:

President *Melissa Davis*

VP *Rebecca Loumiotis*

Treasurer *Brent Ceryes*

Secretary *Martin Nibali*

Board members: *Doris Poling, Cory Scott, Carol Stover, Caitlin Ceryes, Jess Loveless, Martin Nibali, Debi and Tom Brocht,*

Present: Savannah, Cpt Keith precinct commander, Matt Wilking, asst commander, Alonzo Williams, Executive Office Balt County community engagement, Ted van Pelt, Kim King, Bill Tata, Tim & Mary Susa, Heather Cummings, Mark (Linover Improvement Association), Joe McSherry,

Committee Leaders:

Newsletter Content Committee: Martin Nibali (martin@noumeno.us)

Newsletter Delivery Committee: (vacancy: help would be appreciated)

Overlea Farmer's Market: Liz Mullan (overleafarmersmarket@gmail.com)

Overlea Artfest: Carol Stover (carolstover@comcast.net)

Welcoming Committee: Johanna Miller (Jlkraft@gmail.com)

Overlea Tree Lighting: Brent Ceryes/Joe Allen

Martin – minutes

Brent – Grants received: \$27,237, \$20k-ish restricted, \$7300 flowerpots, \$3000 from Rosedale Fed, \$10,))) CRAG grant for signage, OFM \$10K plus CRAG funding. Since July 1 \$37 in membership revenue. Some expenses include National Night Out, Newsletter expenses, Etc.

Doris – 57 Members about halfway to our total last year. Good neighbor and renewing memberships

Police – Graffiti: contacted by Doris. Notify us through outreach, notify Code Enforcement, abandoned property is a challenge, difficult to investigate, call if you see suspicious folks at night. **Doris:** I can tell you what's going on. We will call code enforcement directly. Problem that comes in waves. Extra patrols? Sure, a bit of a crapshoot. Cameras would be helpful. Recording on your phone even.

Alonzo: Communication between City and County police? Not really. But we can initiate a conversation to help triangulate, identify known offenders. Digital photos are sent to gang unit, but tags locally don't appear to be gang related. **Kim:** Some graffiti cleans off easily, but lately different marker, more difficult to clean. Familiar with the area (Capt Keith). Has patrolled since 2010's. Team of detectives will look at it. **Doris:** These aren't artists, just a poor troubled soul, kid trying to get his name out in the neighborhood. "I should be medicated. I get so upset about it." A tag even on Rosedale Federal door. **Melissa** symptom of a larger issue. Abandoned buildings, burned out, vacant, invites this kind of nuisance crime.

NeighborSpace – Cherry Heights Woodland Garden at end of E. Elm. Pocket Park. Sign has been added. Original design included hardscaping to delineate the line between the original neighborhoods. The back side of park butts up against private property, terminates at in front yard. Paper road never made it connecting E. Elm to 3rd Street. Probably needs weeding. Lots of Ivy, English and Poison, so be careful if you decide to go cleanup. Handover to community caretaking... neighborhood centerpiece.

Alonzo Williams – County Executive Office Deputy Director Community Engagement. New in the role. Community Leaders Summit. Community Heroes Press release has gone out, Awards will be received at the Summit. Agency heads will be in attendance. Code Enforcement talk. Can contact County as well. **Doris:** Cleaning up the Willow Ave lot, hard to nail down an agency to take care of it. Public Works said, "Not us." Alonzo says Code Enforcement will clean it up (not cite the County)

Tim & Mary Susa – How can we see what's going on with abandoned properties, particularly on Linden. **Doris:** Code Enforcement web site can look up actions for specific address. **Tim:** Assuming reporting has been done but would like to look up status. **Mary:** Some properties sketchy and scary even to approach.

Heather Cummings: Elmwood Tavern (Kenwood) burned down: What's going on with that? **Melissa:** reporting gets attention. It's the only way to get things moving.

Mark: Asked for a team to drive around. Code Enforcement said they'd be out in December. Rat problem. **Alonzo:** They can see the rat holes? (No, can't walk on the property to see the holes. Can't do eradication if they can't see the holes.) **Melissa:** Trash cans should have lids. You can report uncovered or loose trash from your neighbors.

Carol – Holt Park Center for Arts: Grants for major renovations and maintenance and upkeep, County will have meeting for community input, September 27, 6:30, at Elmwood Elementary. recparks@baltimorecountymd.org 15 acres trails, woods, cabins, nature programs, art classes, home-schooling activities

Rebecca – What does the OCA do? Events like National Night Out, Christmas Tree Lighting, Fullerton Fireworks, ArtsFest, Farmers Market, etc. Other things we are up to. Clean up events, reporting graffiti to code enforcement, work with both City and County, apply for grant money (for example flower pots along Belair Road), C.O.P., requesting action from public officials, attending hearings, bugging the right people to get things done, working for sustainable development, opposing apartments across the street, fought 7-11 at corner of Fullerton and Belair, beautification projects, traffic calming on Northern Pkwy,

Melissa: Sustainable Community Meetings Balt County is putting plan together. Hillendale/Overlea/Parkville, Belair road corridor a focus, encouraging sustainable growth along Belair Road, wider sidewalks, façade improvements, planning stages for making Belair Road safer ran out of funding, we have applied for grant money again this year, SHA is pursuing the project on their own hand in hand with OCA.

Joe – Renovations are happening here. Working with architects. March of next year bidding. \$1.5 M from County, more from State. Outside of the building will be upgraded and changed. Will look like a real museum, landscaping, doors, etc. If funded, end of 2024, inside of building will be completely redone. Mammoth skeleton is coming. October 11th: will be up. www.marylandnature.org join the Woolyverse to help with funding, National Fossil Day, reveal the Mammoth! Join the Herd!

Carole: When the OCA is doing work on these different efforts, does it discourage developers? NoRoFo Hamilton, other community groups,

Mary: Stats on accidents at RoFo? **Mark** Lots of unreported accidents. Daily happening. Always accidents happening there. Was supposed to have a turn lane, but they did us dirty.