



Oakland Mills Community Association

Village Board Meeting Minutes

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

Board Members: Jonathan Edelson, Chair ~
Bill McCormack Jr., Vice-chair ~ Andrew Mark Fried, AC Chair ~
Paulette Pettiford-Thomas ~ Dr. Daniel Pierce ~
Karin Emery, Columbia Council Representative

September 8, 2026

OMCA REGULAR BOARD MEETING

This meeting was held on Zoom and at The Other Barn.

Mr. Edelson called the regular meeting of the OMCA Board of Directors to order at 7:03 p.m.

Present: Jonathan Edelson, Chair; Bill McCormack, Vice-chair (arrived 7:10 p.m.); Andrew Mark Fried, AC Chair; Paulette Pettiford-Thomas; Dr. Daniel Pierce (left 7:55 p.m.); Karin Emery, Columbia Council Representative; Brigitta Warren, Village Manager; Amy Carpenter, Administrative Assistant.

Quorum Present: Yes

Also Present: Howard County Council District 2 Aide Ashley Alston; see resident list.

Opening of Meeting

- **Mr. Fried** motioned to approve the August 25, 2026 OMCA Board Meeting minutes (ATTACHMENT A). **Ms. Pettiford-Thomas** seconded, and the motion passed (4-0-0).
- **Mr. Fried** motioned to approve the September 8, 2026 Board Meeting agenda (ATTACHMENT B). **Dr. Pierce** seconded, and the motion passed (4-0-0).

Resident Remarks

OM's representative for CA's Aging Well in Columbia Advocacy Committee, Helen Cooke, spoke about the committee, which meets every two months. She asked about ways to promote the committee's meetings.

Resident Doris Morgan spoke on behalf of Kilimanjaro Road neighbors about issues concerning Oakland Mills Middle School construction that affected their properties. She said residents were not informed beforehand about changes made to road patterns and parking, especially the cut-through in the median. The cut-through's flow of traffic now brings vehicles directly into the path of one resident's driveway access. She asked that parking still be allowed on the road. **Mr. Edelson** addressed her concerns, referring to the school's construction plans. Street parking that had been allowed prior to the construction was not intended to be limited permanently.

Resident Tish Vaughn shared her frustration with her townhouse HOA's lack of mowing and inattention to overhanging trees in the parking lot. The HOA had established a mowing schedule, but the tree issue remained. **Ms. Warren** explained the covenant complaint process and that the issue was being addressed by OMCA.

New Business

Upcoming CA Budget Testimony

Ms. Warren shared last year's budget testimony for reference (ATTACHMENT C). The Board discussed updates to the testimony.

Donation Policy Review

Mr. Edelson reviewed OMCA's donation policy (ATTACHMENT D).

Board Chair Report

Mr. Edelson reported that he had sent a response to the Banner and had received a thank you from them.

CCR

Ms. Emery reported that the Columbia Council would hold a special meeting of the membership on September 17. The meeting would be public, and CCRs would be able to vote that night.

CA would be holding a town hall meeting on September 24. **Ms. Emery** encouraged residents to attend and ask questions.

Ms. Emery said the CA board will be voting on splashpads soon. Currently, there are six members of the CA board, and four of them are in favor of replacing a village's swimming pool with a splashpad. According to CA's proposal, villages will still be able to choose whether they want the replacement.

Village Manager Report

Ms. Warren shared her manager's report (ATTACHMENT E). She spoke about OM's tree giveaway. CA will provide the trees. Sign up is first-come, first-serve. Residents should email manager@oaklandmills.org if they would like a tree.

Bulletin Board

Ms. Carpenter said the Special Olympics' 25th annual Inspiration Walk, which raised funds for Special Olympics athletes, would take place on September 12.

Mr. Edelson adjourned the regular OMCA Board meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Amy Carpenter, Administrative Assistant



Oakland Mills Community Association

Village Board Meeting Minutes

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

Board Members: Jonathan Edelson, Chair ~
 Bill McCormack Jr., Vice-chair ~ Andrew Mark Fried, AC Chair ~
 Paulette Pettiford-Thomas ~ Dr. Daniel Pierce ~
 Karin Emery, Columbia Council Representative

August 25, 2026

OMCA REGULAR BOARD MEETING

This meeting was held on Zoom and at The Other Barn.

Mr. Edelson called the regular meeting of the OMCA Board of Directors to order at 7:03 p.m.

Present: Jonathan Edelson, Chair; Bill McCormack, Vice-chair (arrived 7:23 p.m.); Andrew Mark Fried, AC Chair; Paulette Pettiford-Thomas; Dr. Daniel Pierce; Karin Emery, Columbia Council Representative; Brigitta Warren, Village Manager; Amy Carpenter, Administrative Assistant.

Quorum Present: Yes

Also Present: Columbia Association Community Project Programs & Services Projects Manager Marty Oltmanns; Howard County Executive's Office Community Outreach Coordinator Vikki Garcia; see resident list.

Opening of Meeting

- **Mr. Fried** motioned to approve the July 28, 2026 OMCA Board Meeting minutes (ATTACHMENT A). **Dr. Pierce** seconded, and the motion passed (3-0-1).
- **Mr. Fried** motioned to approve the August 25, 2026 Board Meeting agenda (ATTACHMENT B). **Ms. Pettiford-Thomas** seconded, and the motion passed (4-0-0).

Resident Remarks

Ginny Thomas shared her frustration with the ongoing Columbia Council Representative issue and expressed concern about the democratic process. She asked the Board to educate residents and others about the process of selecting a new CCR and why OM cannot appoint a new CCR.

Old Business

CA Liaison Update

CA Community Project Programs and Service Projects Manager Marty Oltmanns shared his CA liaison report (ATTACHMENT C).

Board Chair Report

Mr. Edelson reported that Business Monthly had published an article about Columbia village centers.

Mr. Edelson also reported that the Banner had asked him about the CCR issue. He was waiting until the Board met in closed session before deciding how to respond.

CCR

Ms. Emery reported that the CA board would be holding a town hall in place of its board meeting on September 24.

Ms. Emery said Kings Contrivance appointed a new CCR, but the CA board still needed to meet to vote them onto the board.

Ms. Emery said Kilimanjaro residents were having difficulty with school/road construction. Trees had been removed, parking spaces blocked, and large equipment left on their yards, with no notice. Howard County Executive's Office Community Outreach Coordinator Vikki Garcia said she would follow up about the issue. An additional issue was cars using the new bus-only cut-through in front of the school.

Village Manager Report

Ms. Warren shared her manager's report (ATTACHMENT D).

Committees

Education Committee

Mr. Edelson said he would be scheduling an education committee meeting soon.

Public Space

Earlier in the meeting, Ms. Garcia gave an update from the County on issues with parking at Blandair Park. She said the park rangers give out tickets but that many of the violations occur outside of their jurisdiction. An overflow parking lot is expected in 2027. The parks department also lacks authority to direct traffic on Oakland Mills Road, but they were planning to explore potential solutions. The parking access at Timesweep is only for authorized personnel, with onsite staffing. The team is meeting ahead of the November tournaments to develop mitigation strategies. Organizers will be asked to take greater responsibility for participant behavior during events.

Mr. Edelson noted that a few years ago, park rangers were allowed to announce that they would start ticketing those who parked improperly on school land/roads. Such land was considered a temporary extension of the park lands during events.

Mr. Fried motioned to go into closed session at 8:06 p.m. for consultation with staff personnel, consultants, attorneys, or other persons in connection with pending or potential litigation. **Mr. McCormack** seconded, and the motioned passed (5-0-0).

The Board came out of closed session at 8:34 p.m. **Mr. Edelson** announced that the Board had received updates concerning pending cases and discussed a potential response to the Banner. **Mr. Edelson** would send a draft of his proposed response.

Mr. Edelson adjourned the regular OMCA Board meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Amy Carpenter, Administrative Assistant



Oakland Mills Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Board Members: Jonathan Edelson, Chair, Bill McCormack Jr, Vice-Chair; Andrew Mark Fried, Architecture Chair, Paulette Pettiford-Thomas, Daniel Pierce; **Columbia Council Representative:** Karin Emery

Tuesday, September 8, 2026

7:00 p.m. Hybrid Meeting

In-person at The Other Barn

5851 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia, MD, 21045

OR Online via Zoom (participation not guaranteed due to possible tech issues):**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88639888004>

Meeting ID: 886 3988 8004

One tap mobile

+16469313860,,88639888004# US

+19294362866,,88639888004# US (New York)

Oakland Mills Board of Directors

7:00 p.m.

Opening of Meeting (5 min)

- Approve Minutes from August 25, 2026 Board Meeting
- Approve Agenda for September 8, 2026 Board Meeting

Jonathan Edelson, Board Chair

7:05 p.m.

Resident Remarks (3 minutes per resident, 10 minutes)

Please note that meeting attendee's audio is muted. If you wish to participate in Resident Remarks please "raise your hand" which is one of the options available for participants and appears as an icon on the screen.

7:15 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Discuss Testimony for Upcoming CA Budget,** Discussion (10 min)
- **Review Donation Policy (10 min)**

7:35 p.m.

Board Chair Report, (10 min)

Jonathan Edelson, Board Chair

7:45 p.m.

Columbia Council Rep Report (10 min)

Karin Emery, CA Rep

7:55 p.m.	Village Manager Report (10 min)	Brigitta Warren, Village Manager
8:05 p.m.	Board Bulletin Board	
8:10 p.m.	Adjourn	

8:10 p.m.	Board Closed Session	8:30 p.m.
-----------	-----------------------------	-----------

Consultation with staff personnel, consultants, attorneys, or other persons in connection with pending or potential litigation.

Upcoming Events	Jazz in the Mills 20 th Anniversary Featuring Lavenia Nesmith, 2 shows	Sunday, September 13 th , 5 pm to 8:30 pm
		Sunday, September 20 th , 5 pm to 8 pm
	Oakland Mills Fall Festival	Saturday, October 3rd, 11am to 3pm
	Lively Arts for Little Ones Presents Tony M	Friday, October 16 th , 10:30 am to 11:15 am



Oakland Mills Community Association
The Other Barn • 5851 Robert Oliver Place
Columbia, MD 21045
 410-730-4610 • oaklandmills.org



October 21, 2025

The Oakland Mills Board of Directors has compiled the following list of budget requests for the CA Conditional FY 27 budget.

OMCA Budget Requests – list is not in priority order

Excess Cash Reserves – Based on the current Management Contract, OMCA requests that CA continue to reinvest the excess 20% cash reserves back into the village that the reserves were submitted from and continue to use the funds on environmental sustainability projects. Such projects would benefit the contributing village and, due to the nature of the projects, provide environmental benefits beyond the village. Request CA continue to provide an update on past excess cash reserve money that was to fund environmental projects.

Play Area Repurposing and Redesign – Continue to fund village-based policy as passed by CA Board for Play Area Repurposing and Redesign. Recreate some existing play areas to provide recreational opportunities for all ages and for multi-generational connections.

2026 Pool Season - CA FY27 budget should include funding for CA Aquatics so that all CA lifeguards can be paid appropriate and competitive salaries; and ensure that all 23 outdoor pools can open and be fully staffed for the duration of the FY27 pool season. Fund a multi-lingual recruitment initiative. Include Play Membership to all residents in good standing for no extra charge. Conduct a study to see what it takes to make Talbott Springs Pool ADA compliant.

2nd Sheet of Ice at the Columbia Ice Rink - Add a second sheet of ice to the Columbia Ice Rink; work in partnership with Howard County to create a state-of-the art ice arena.

Preserve Tree Canopy - Please follow, per the CA Policy, for 1 to 1 tree replacement where possible. Prioritize preserving trees before removing them.

Removal of Invasive Species on Tree of Heaven - CA to focus open space invasive species removal on Tree of Heaven (*ailanthus altissima*) to minimize the impact that the lanternfly has on our area.

Path from Orchard Green Tot Lot to Red Branch Road - Funding for the CA portion of a proposed path from the Orchard Green tot lot to Red Branch Road. Work with the State Highway Administration and Colonial Pipeline to design and build a pedestrian/bike path from the Orchard Green tot lot along Route 108 to the light at Red Branch Road

EV Charging Stations - Funding for visible EV charging stations at the Columbia Ice Rink and CA Neighborhood Centers in Oakland Mills and at prominent locations at all CA facilities or work with Howard County and/or other entities to install through their partnership program.

More/Better Quality Bike Racks at CA Facilities - Install additional bike racks at CA facilities, avoiding wave or grid style racks which do not maximize available secure space.

Flowers for Signage at Stevens Forest Road and Broken Land Parkway – Remove rocks in front of the Oakland Mills sign at the corner of Stevens Forest Road and Broken Land Parkway and replace with flowers similar to what all other signs have.

Other Signage - Replace the Thunder Hill Neighborhood sign at the entrance to Mellonbrook and Route 108.



Oakland Mills Community Association
The Other Barn • 5851 Robert Oliver Place
Columbia, MD 21045
 410-730-4610 • oaklandmills.org



Oakland Mills Community Association Donation Policy

The Oakland Mills Community Association, Inc. may contribute funds as donations to non-profit organizations, if such funds are used to benefit the common good of the Oakland Mills community.

Donation requests should be submitted in writing to the Oakland Mills Board of Directors no later than October 15 of each year.

The Oakland Mills Board will review all requests at one time at a Board meeting. The Board will then vote on requests at a board meeting following the one that the requests were reviewed. This process allows time for board members to consider the requests.

Donations will be made in a fair and equitable manner.

The Oakland Mills Community Association, Inc. may raise funds or collect donated items at any time for the purpose of addressing the needs of Oakland Mills and the greater Columbia community. The Oakland Mills Board, at its discretion, may amend the rules of this policy on an as needed basis.

Procedure for Requesting a Donation from the Oakland Mills Community Association:

Donation request should be submitted in writing to the OMCA Board of Directors no later than October 15 of each year.

Request should indicate the **name of the organization requesting funds**, the donation **amount requested** along with a short description of exactly **how the funds** will be used and **how the donation will benefit the Oakland Mills community**. **A copy of the organization's IRS Non-Profit Tax Exempt Determination Letter should be submitted with the request.**

Request should include the entity to which the donation check should be payable and the name and address of where the donation should be mailed.

OMCA will reply that we received your request within 5 business days. If you do not hear from OMCA after 5 business days please email Brigitta Warren, manager@oaklandmills.org to make sure your request was received.

**Manager's Report
Oakland Mills Community Association
September 8, 2026**

Accountant/Bookkeeper

- Met with the new bookkeeper last Wednesday and we are working through the transition.
- Hoping to have the FY27 Quarter 1 Financial reports ready for review and approval by September 22nd Board Meeting

Event Update:

- Jazz in the Mills 20th Anniversary Celebration featuring Lavenia Nesmith will be held on Sunday, September 13th and September 20th. Both shows have sold out.
- Amy is working on the Fall Festival and is accepting vendor applications. The date of the festival is Saturday, October 3rd. If you are available to help, please let Amy know.
- The first Lively Arts for Little Ones concert will be held on October 16th. Tickets are on sale online at Eventbrite but are available day of as well.

Talbott Springs NC

- CA has begun demolition and renovations of Talbott Spring NC. The renovation is scheduled to be completed by the end of November.