

OLNEY CROSSING NEIGHBORS MEET-UP

Some are new, several have lived here for many years, and a few have been here since the beginning. Regardless of their tenure, Olney Crossing neighbors enjoyed each other's company at the OCHOA meet-up on September 10 in the grassy common area on Hines Road.

The first-time event was a modest affair, with BYO chairs and snacks. Homeowners learned of the get-together via slips of paper in their front doors and hand-made signs posted on Hines Road. The goal was to build community by bringing together residents who don't already know one another and who might have common hobbies or interests. And, yes ... to interest people in the Homeowners Association.

To that end, Board members Eric Wenocur (Monitor Drive) and Audrey Partington (Monitor Court) encouraged homeowners to attend the annual board meeting on November 1 and run for a board position.

"We need more community involvement on the OCHOA Board to better represent homeowners," said Partington. "With greater participation, we could create committees to focus on a variety of issues. Homeowners can also volunteer to form committees without joining the Board."



Those who came out enjoyed playing games and chatting. The Smith and Smigocki families challenged each other in corn hole and tossed frisbees. Long-time homeowners compared notes on changes in the neighborhood since they first arrived. A few original owners had settled here in the early '80s when the Hines chicken hatchery occupied the land where Pogo's landscaping is currently, and when

Georgia Avenue was only two lanes wide.

"I definitely met a few people I didn't know," said Linda MacNeill of Singers Glen Drive. "I appreciated meeting Larry Rublee (Monitor Place) who picks up the garbage on Hines Road. I was able to thank him for keeping the neighborhood litter-free."

Eric Wenocur said he was glad to meet neighbors from other areas of the neighborhood. "The dog owners seem to know each other, but for the rest of us it's not easy to meet neighbors who aren't on your street." Several attendees suggested that the meet-up become an annual event, and to involve more people in the planning.

The events committee, headed by Michele McLeod (Monitor Drive), is looking for input and assistance from residents to plan future events. To offer event ideas or to volunteer to help plan them, send an email to events@olneycrossingmd.org.

OCHOA ANNUAL MEETING TO BE HELD VIA ZOOM ON NOV. 1

The Olney Crossing Homeowners Association will hold its annual meeting via Zoom at 7 pm on Tuesday, Nov. 1. The proposed 2023 budget will be presented and Board Elections will be held.

Use one of the following methods to access the Zoom meeting:

Send an email in advance of the meeting to webmaster@olneycrossingmd.org and request the Zoom link.

Or key this URL into your browser: <https://bit.ly/OCHOA1101>

Or

Go to zoom.us, click "Join Meeting" and enter meeting ID (595 563 0249) and Passcode (912254)

Or



Or

Call in (1-301-715-8592) and enter Meeting ID and Passcode (see above).

BOARD ELECTIONS

Nominations are being sought for OCHOA Board officer positions (President, Vice President, Secretary) as well as "At-Large" positions. (OCHOA employs an outside Treasurer). To nominate yourself or someone else to serve on the Board, send a brief bio to webmaster@olneycrossingmd.org.

The following incumbents are running for re-election:

Ann Metayer (Vice President, 2021-2022), has also been fulfilling the duties of HOA President (a position which has been vacant since July 2021). Ann is an attorney for a federal agency.

Audrey Partington (Secretary, 2021-2022). Audrey is retired from the Library of Congress, where she worked as a writer/editor. She is a contributing writer to the Greater Olney News and serves as Secretary for a number of local area nonprofits.

Eric Wenocur (At-Large, 2021-2022, and OCHOA webmaster). Eric is the principal owner of Lab Tech Systems, serving as a consulting engineer for broadcast, television production, and commercial and residential audio-visual systems design and installation.

Julie Jenkins (At-Large, 2021-2022). Julie is an original owner of her home in Olney Crossing. She has been picking up and distributing OCHOA mail and depositing incoming checks for many years and is willing to continue to do so as an At-Large member of the Board.