



**Wilde Lake Village Board Meeting Minutes  
November 6, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:** A hybrid meeting of the Wilde Lake Board was called to order by Kevin McAliley, Chair; at 6:35 p.m. Members present were Kevin McAliley, Chair, Tina Horn, Vice Chair, Brandon Cogdell, Kondi Walters-Smith, Chuck Yarbrough, Bill Santos, Wilde Lake Rep to the CA Board; and Sharon Cooper-Kerr, Executive Director/Village Manager.

**GUESTS IN ATTENDANCE:** Anne Johnson, Director of Resource Development and Maria Torres (student – Scholarship Recipient), Howard Community College. Dr. Elizabeth Sapp Jones and Alice Harris, Lead Equity Fellow, Horizon Foundation, Shan Huangfu, Finance Committee Lead & Current Parent and Rachel Wilson, Director, Bryant Woods Children’s Montessori House.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** *Mr. Yarbrough made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Cogdell seconded the motion. All in favor.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Mr. Yarbrough made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of October 2, 2023. Ms. Walters-Smith seconded the motion. All in favor.*

**RESIDENT SPEAKOUT:** Tracey Manning presented on behalf of Wilde Lake CARES and mentioned the Clean Up activity at Snowy Reach. Tracey mentioned the Witner Bird Walk scheduled for December 2, 2023.

**COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION UPDATE:** Robin Stimson, Community Engagement Manager, Columbia Association shared that CA has attended Back-to-School Nights, Open Houses, tabled at the HoCo Pride Festival, Howard Community College’s 5K event and partnered with the Howard County Public Library, the Howard Hughes Corporation and Howard County Government for the Native American Heritage Festival. CA hosted a Truck or Treat on October 28<sup>th</sup> which was attended by more than 1,000 guests. Ms. Stimson gave an update on the community quilt and mentioned that the Wilde Lake square was the only submission that was hand quilted. She referenced Wilde Lake Village Board Vice Chair, Tina Horn for creating the square. The quilt will be unveiled during a reception on November 16<sup>th</sup> at the Columbia Arts Center and on display until November 28<sup>th</sup>. The next Change in Columbia event is scheduled for November 29<sup>th</sup> at Claret Hall and will focus on sustainability and what we can do to improve our environmental impact.

**Howard Community College Endowment** – Anne Johnson Director of Resource Development and Scholarship Recipient, Maria Torres shared updates on Howard Community College. Ms. Johnson mentioned that the College’s 5K event raised \$110,000 this year. This was the 10<sup>th</sup> year the event has been held. Ms. Torres is completing her third semester at HCC and thanks the board for her scholarship. She is studying world languages and aspires to be an interpreter at a hospital or an ESOL teacher.

**Horizon Foundation Healthier Choices Coalition** – Dr. Elizabeth Sapp Jones, Advancing community Advocacy Fellow and Alice Harris Lead Equity Fellow presented information about health school food options. The Coalition has created a survey for parents and students to provide their thoughts about school lunches. A mobile farmer’s market will be introduced to the community in Spring 2024. The food will be sold at a 50% reduction in cost to residents. The coalition, comprised of thirty-three organizations, meets twice a month on Thursdays and is currently seeking new members. They will continue to engage the faith community and area PTA and the PTAC to further disseminate the survey.

The Village in Howard County – Pete Bruner shared information about the Village in Howard County. The Village currently has two hundred members. The group is focused on keeping the seniors in our community happy and at home. The Village offers programs to keep this population engaged. The organization seeks financial support currently. Columbia Association was instrumental in the creation of the Village by providing \$10,000 in seed monies to establish the organization. Mr. Bruner referenced state funding received to date. The funding request was tabled to the next Wilde Lake Village Board meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

Bryant Woods Montessori Children’s House – Shan Huangfu, Parent and Finance Committee Lead presented a request for rent reduction to the Board. The Board of the school previously sent a letter to the Wilde Lake Village Board for consideration of a monthly rent reduction. Several concerns were outlined which attributed to the school’s current financial status including the pandemic, low student enrollment, staff shortages, a staff work outage and the establishment of a new Board of Directors. Rachel Wilson, Director of the school discussed the current enrollment of thirteen students and shared that nineteen students are needed to break even. The school has held open houses, tabled at preschool fairs, and advertised on social media. Ms. Wilson cited that the school is eligible to accept vouchers. The Board agreed to continue the discussion in a closed session to be held at a later date.

## **REPORTS**

### **Wilde Lake Representative to the Columbia Association Board of Directors - Bill Santos:**

Mr. Santos mentioned the budget process is well underway with a second round of resident surveys occurring now. Capital projects being considered are the Supreme Sports Club renovation, watershed projects. Mr. Santos mentioned that Bryant Woods Pool has the lowest attendance of all CA pools over the past five years with 4,000 guests visiting on average. All other CA pools experience 10,000+ visitors annually. Community members are encouraged to provide testimony at the next CA Board meeting.

### **COMMITTEES:**

**Education - Tina Horn, Chair:** Ms. Horn mentioned that she plans to present testimony at the next Columbia Association Board meeting.

**Health and Wellness – Kondi Walters-Smith, Chair:** Ms. Walters-Smith discussed conducting a survey to learn more about the demographics of Wilde Lake. She shared concerns about fentanyl overdoses and suggested that Narcan be available at Slayton House for community members to acquire and to have Narcan distribution at the Earth Day Festival and major Wile Lake Community events.

**Neighborhood Reps - Chuck Yarbrough:** Mr. Yarbrough mentioned that currently twenty-six neighborhood reps are on the roster. A new member was secured during the Fall Festival. Plans are being discussed for opportunities for the group to get together periodically.

**A/C Liaison - Chuck Yarbrough:** See report from Covenant Advisory, Lexi Milani in the meeting drive, The committee is considering an alternate date for meetings. Additional members are needed on the RAC Committee. A 15-day letter was sent by CA to the property owners at 10305 Daystar Court regarding covenant violations.

**Executive Director/Village Manager - Sharon Cooper-Kerr: Youth Advocacy** – Ms. Cooper-Kerr provided an update on teen advocacy initiatives occurring at Slayton House. Up to twenty-five teens have been on site on Wednesday afternoons meeting with various members of the community as they share their wishes for a teen center and activities they would like to see in the community. The group is facilitated by Barnabas Shakur of Footed Soldiers. Mr. Shakur has been holding facilitated discussions to learn more about the students and developing a since of community. The group plans to meet with village merchants soon.

**Chairman's Report – Kevin McAiley** – Mr. McAiley responded to Mr. Santos' question about draft legislation proposed by Maryland State Delegate, Terri Hill related to Columbia Association's Annual Charge. Mr. McAiley suggested that Delegate Hill attend the next Wilde Lake Village Board Meeting to discuss her proposed bill.

Mr. McAiley called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Walters-Smith moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Mr. Yarbrough seconded the motion. All in favor.