



**Wilde Lake Village Board Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER: A hybrid meeting of the Wilde Lake Board was called to order by Kevin McAliley, Chair at 6:33 pm. Members present were Kevin McAliley, Chair, Tina Horn, Vice Chair, Brandon Cogdell, Kondi Walters-Smith, Bill Santos, Wilde Lake Rep to the CA Board and Sharon Cooper-Kerr, Executive Director/Village Manager.

Guests in Attendance: Robin Stimson, Community Engagement Manager, Columbia Association

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ms. Horn made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Cogdell seconded the motion. All in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Ms. Horn made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 5, 2024. Ms. Walters-Smith seconded the motion. All in favor.

RESIDENT SPEAKOUT: No one provided comments.

COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION UPDATE: Robin Stimson, Columbia Association Community Engagement Manager, spoke about the upcoming Change Inspired, Courage Ignited event co-sponsored by the Howard County Public Library, Howard Community College, and the Columbia Association. The event will be held on Tuesday, March 5th, at 3:30 pm at Howard Community College. Andres Gonzalez, CEO of the Holistic Foundation, will be the keynote speaker. The Columbia Art Center will feature the Women’s Visionary Art exhibit this month in honor of Women’s History Month. Columbia Association will participate in various Earth Day celebrations including Green Fest. The team is currently planning the Lake Front Live and Juneteenth celebrations.

CLUB WILDE LAKE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMMING – Mr. Cogdell shared that Howard County Government will provide \$50,000 for youth initiatives in the Wilde Lake community. The managing partner for youth initiatives is the Y of Central Maryland who will provide programming for up to thirty teens in the Wilde Lake community. The programs will occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays at Slayton House beginning in April. There is also an opportunity to provide programming on Saturdays with a focus on workforce development including paid employment opportunities for teens. Anchors Up will continue to provide programming on

healthy relationship habits and the UEE (Ultimate Education Experiences) program will continue at Running Brook Elementary School helping young males of color avoid the school to prison pipeline. The program is held on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays at the school.

Wilde Lake Village Board Election: Ms. Cooper-Kerr shared that the election process has opened under the leadership of Susan Tucker, Election Chair for Wilde Lake. Applications for Wilde Lake Village Board will be accepted through Wednesday, March 6th at 5:00 pm. Five Village Board and one Columbia Council seats are up for election. The election has been scheduled for Saturday, April 20th, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm.

Columbia Association Update by Columbia Council Representative: Mr. Santos shared that the annual budget for FY25 has been approved. The staff continues to work on the strategic plan. The search for the President and CEO is ongoing and has been narrowed down to a few candidates. The process is running on track. Changes related to the easement policy will be discussed at the next Columbia Association board meeting. The Board voted on a policy regarding charitable funding which ended in a tie and did not pass. The Board agreed to provide \$30,000 in funding to be used at the discretion of the President and CEO for charitable giving to non-profit organizations.

REPORTS

COMMITTEES:

Education – Tina Horn and Brandon Cogdell: – Ms. Horn shared the next community circle which will be held on May 2nd at the high school. The Wilde Lake High School theatre department will present Putnam County Spelling Bee this weekend. The High School's cheerleaders won first place in the cheerleading competition. Board members were encouraged to participate in Back-to-School Nights, spring fairs, and the Simulated Congressional Hearings scheduled as follows: May 10th: Running Brook Elementary School; May 20th Longfellow Elementary; and May 28th: Bryant Woods Elementary School.

Health and Wellness – Ms. Walters-Smith congratulated Mr. Cogdell and the team for securing the funding needed to begin after school programming for Wilde Lake youth. Ms. Walters-Smith shared that Dr. Mohammed Shafeeq Ahmed, President, Johns Hopkins Howard County Medical Center met with community members recently at Slayton House to discuss the vision for health care in Howard County. Dr. Ahmed shared operational elements of running a hospital and addressed emergency room wait times. Ms. Walters-Smith shared she will not run

for candidacy on the Wilde Lake Village Board due to time constraints and thanked the Board for all that they are doing in and for the Wilde Lake community.

Neighborhood Reps – Sharon Cooper-Kerr for Chuck Yarbrough: Mr. Yarbrough was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Cooper-Kerr shared that the Neighborhood Reps coffee hour is scheduled for Friday, March 8th. The event will serve as a recruitment tool to identify additional neighborhood reps. All Board Members were encouraged to attend.

A/C Liaison – Sharon Cooper-Kerr for Chuck Yarbrough: Ms. Cooper-Kerr mentioned that the RAC has drafted suggested revisions to the architectural guidelines which may be found in the board drive for review. Kimco Realty recently applied for storefront signage and the changing of the entrance to the new Grocery Outlet store. This topic will be discussed at the next RAC meeting on March 12th.

Executive Director/Village Manager - Sharon Cooper-Kerr: Ms. Cooper-Kerr shared that conversations are underway for two churches to bring their congregations to Slayton House this year. These rentals will begin in the spring and in the fall. The Earth Day Festival will be held on Saturday, April 20th, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Shades of Black and White II will be installed in the Bernice Kish Art Gallery this week. An opening reception will be held on Sunday, March 10th, 3:00 – 5:00 pm and the gallery talk is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13th at 10:00 am. The art exhibit includes the photography of seven artists and is led by Charles Levie.

Chairman’s Report – Kevin McAliley – Mr. McAliley thanked everyone for their participation this year and encouraged Board Members to run for re-election. He shared that he is enjoying working to find solutions for Wilde Lake youth via Club Wilde Lake. Mr. McAliley recently attended a forum hosted by the African American Roundtable, the Howard County Chapter of the NAACP, St. John’s Baptist Church, and other community partners about “The State of Black Affairs in Howard County.” The Planning Board is currently reviewing the draft budget.

Mr. McAliley called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm. Ms. Horn moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Cogdell seconded the motion. All in favor.