



**Wilde Lake Village Board Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2025**

CALL TO ORDER: A hybrid meeting of the Wilde Lake Village Board was called to order by Kevin McAliley, Chair, at 6:31 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair: Kevin McAliley; **Vice Chair:** Tina Horn; Brandon Cogdell, Katharine Rathbun, Bill Santos, Kondi Walters-Smith, and **Executive Director/Village Manager:** Sharon Cooper-Kerr

Announcement: A closed meeting was held on December 2, 2024 to discuss matters of personnel. Pursuant to the Maryland Homeowners Association Act, the Wilde Lake Village Board voted to meet in closed session or adjourn an open session to a closed session in order to discuss matters pertaining to employees and personnel.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Ms. Horn made a motion to adopt the agenda. Ms. Rathbun made a motion to amend the agenda to include a discussion about the email she sent to the Board and association's attorney on Sunday, January 5th. The motion was seconded. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the December 2, 2024 meeting were approved.

Resident Speakout: None

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Governance

The process for community donation requests was outlined by Ms. Cooper-Kerr. Requests for donations by non-profit organizations should be sent in writing to the Village Manager for discussion at the Board meeting. Those requesting donations are encouraged to attend the Village Board meeting to speak about their initiative/need.

Mr. McAliley presented a recap of the December meeting 2nd Quarter financials which included discussion of the Legal Expense Line being over budget. The Board agreed to not incur further legal expenses unless preapproved.

Due to misuse of board legal expenses, a motion was made by Ms. Horn. The motion was seconded. The board voted and the motion passed 4-1 to remove Ms. Rathbun from the Wilde Lake Village Board for fiscal malfeasance after she engaged the legal team without approval after the December meeting.

Wilde Lake Election Committee – Steve Campbell and Linda Odum were introduced as co-chairs for the 2025 Wilde Lake Village Board Election Committee. Both Steve and Linda have served in various roles with WLCA, on the Wilde Lake Village Board, and currently serve on the Resident Architectural Committee.

Update: Columbia Association, Robin Stimson, Community Engagement Manager provided updates on the following activities:

- Columbia Association partnered with the Community Action Council to collect new winter coats for all of the children enrolled in the agency's Head Start and Healthy Families initiatives, as well as for the children of the teen parents enrolled in the agency's Job & Education Center. The donation drive supplied ninety-six coats this year. More than just a new coat, the program is intended to alleviate the burden of purchasing a new coat for our vulnerable families, while preventing children from getting sick, missing school, and thus causing parents to miss work or school themselves.
- Conducted an Adopt-a-Family Drive – Provided toys, and clothes to two dozen families early in December.
- The Community Quilt remains a visual representation of the power of partnership and will be on display soon. Plans for the quilt are being made to display at Slayton House in late April. ***Ms. Horn made a motion to offer Ms. Stimson three more minutes to speak. The motion was seconded. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion carried.***
- CA is planning two Change in Columbia events and is exploring future opportunities for community conversations and volunteer events.

Presentation: Francisco Abate, Community Navigator, Community Action Council of Howard County did not attend the meeting. Ms. Cooper-Kerr stated she spoke with Mr. Abate who shared, he's looking to help individuals who have special human needs and tabled outside Slayton House in December. Ms. Cooper-Kerr will follow up and ask about operation home front and veterans.

CA – OLD BUSINESS

Jason Heath –Returned to hear question and comments that arose since his presentation (along with Steve Boswell) at the last Board meeting related to Tot Lot improvement. During that meeting the Wilde Lake-03 Running Brook play area improvement was shared which outlined the following: Brief historical background of the Play Area Cluster Program, Implementation flow chart, cluster play area overview, Isochrone GIS analysis, and the proposed play area improvements. ***Ms. Horn made a motion to approve renovations. The motion was seconded. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion carried.***

REPORTS

Wilde Lake Representative to the Columbia Association Board of Directors – Mr. Santos provided an update on the CA Board of Directors meeting and reported that the allocation for capital funding and assessment rate cap will remain the same. The Board held a discussion about making CA's tennis facilities free to use the motion was not passed. Gateway Property – The planning process is anticipated to begin in 2024 and conclude by spring 2025, and testimonies are being taken now. The next meeting will be held on January 23rd to discuss the FY25 Strategic Plan. The CA Board approved the draft strategic plan and vision and mission statements.

Committees

- CARES – Mr. McAliley stated many of the trees on Governor Warfield Parkway are covered in non-native English Ivy. Routine maintenance is necessary in order to prevent this invasive weed from spreading, which will eventually kill the trees if left unaddressed.

- Education – Mr. Cogdell stated, a meeting will be held with Wilde Lake High School Principal, Michael Brown to discuss marketing of Club Wilde Lake in the coming weeks.
- Outreach and Engagement Committee – None

AC Liaison – Can be found in the Board packet submitted prior to the meeting.

Executive Director/Village Manager – Ms. Cooper-Kerr thanked everyone for attending, and stated the following:

- Slayton House was closed for the holidays from December 20th 2024 – January 1, 2025, and reopened on Thursday, January 2nd for normal business.
- Breakfast with Santa at Slayton House, held on December 7th, was a wonderful event. Attendees enjoyed a delicious breakfast, watched classic holiday cartoons, sat for photos with Santa, and visited the Santa shop for festive shopping. 125 attended the event. Ms. Cooper-Kerr thanked the Board members that attended and shared information about event to the community.
- Bernice Kish Gallery Art reception will be held on Sunday, January 12, 2025 from 2:00 – 5:00 pm. The current exhibit “H-E-R: Art in Five Voices” includes the works of five local artists: Anne Barney, Barbara Lawson, LUSMERLIN, Malynda Madzel and Dora Diaz Strobe.
- Blossom of Hope will be here in March for two months, stay tuned for more information.

Chair – Mr. McAliley thanked everyone for attending. He mentioned several community events being sponsored this month related to racial profiling and service programs in recognition of the Martin Luther King Day celebration.

ADJOURNMENT - *Mr. McAliley called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Horn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:47pm. The motion was seconded. All in favor. None Opposed. Motion carried.*

NEXT MEETING – Monday, February 3, 2025 at 6:30pm