

**Minutes of Special Call Meeting of  
Oyster Harbor Citizens Association  
February 2, 2008**

President Brooke Doswell called the meeting to order at 9:20 am. Twenty-five community members, a quorum, were present. The OHCA Constitution requires a 30 day written notice to community members for a Special Call meeting with a vote on the Master Plan, and such notice was given.

The question before the meeting was read by Kathy Burk: The community and the Board are no longer held to implement the Master Plan as approved on October 28, 1997.

Kathy then gave a summary history of the Master Plan from 1997, when it was approved by the community, to the present. She pointed out the shift in goals from the Master Plan to the present State and County approach to storm water management. A Yes vote on the above proposition would release the community from the 1997 Master Plan decisions and enable adaptation of the plan to the new environmental requirements.

Norman MacLeod, Board member and Chair of the Roads Committee, took the floor to explain recent and current maintenance and repair work on the community drainage system. Using maps and overlays, he showed what has been done to conform to Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) requirements for the 14 storm water outlets in the community. The requirements are to slow the passage of storm water into the Bay. Norm said that all 14 outlets have been dealt with. Some further work – maintenance, repair and revision (new pipes) – is still in progress. In answer to a question, he said that basic maintenance will be finished soon.

President Doswell further explained the gap between the 1997 Master Plan and the present State and County approach to storm water management. The Master Plan would add asphalt throughout the community. On Ellis Road, it would require taking out trees, portions of yards and landscaping. Dan Craig, Board member, asked whether the Master Plan was up to code regarding the building of paper roads. Doswell said it was not, and the paper roads are a separate issue.

Joe Butcher, Board member, asked whether Cross Road was to be relocated, as per the Master Plan. Brooke explained why it should not be relocated, though the road does need rebuilding. She also explained the purpose of repairing swales with rock, which is to slow the passage of water and support the swales. Rock-filled swales can also support emergency vehicles if needed.

There followed discussion of the way forward in the absence of the Master Plan. There was general agreement that the community should not be left to acting ad hoc. Brooke said we should review the results of the past year and a half of work on the roads, and then make a larger plan. Ian MacKinnon, Board member, suggested that we get out of the Master Plan and develop a new plan over the next year.

Ian MacKinnon moved, and Rhodes Whitehill seconded the motion, to release the community from the Master Plan and require the Board to come back in a year with a new plan. The motion passed with a large majority.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Anne MacLeod, Acting OHCA Recording Secretary*