

Oyster Harbor News

CITIZENS ASSOCIATION



UPDATE

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OHCA Annual/Elections Meeting: Tuesday, September 22, 2026, 7:30 p.m. at the Eastport Fire Station, 914 Bay Ridge Avenue; registration and check-in will begin at 6:45. *Voting must be done in person.*****

2026 COMMUNITY ELECTIONS INFORMATION AND REPORT OF THE OHCA NOMINATING COMMITTEE September 12, 2026

OVERVIEW

OHCA's annual election meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 22 at 7:30 p.m. inside the Eastport Fire Station's conference room, 914 Bay Ridge Avenue, Annapolis, Maryland (enter on Jefferson Street). OHCA is an Anne Arundel County Special Community Benefit District (SCBD; also known as a Special Tax District). All SCBD property owners pay a small surtax on their annual property tax bills to cover the costs of maintaining and running our community. OHCA's Board of Directors is legally responsible for the budget, land, and infrastructure of Oyster Harbor while Officers use Board-approved funding to implement specific capital projects and maintain our community. All Board Members and Officers must comply with OHCA's Constitution (as well as local, state, and federal laws) and take an oath to do so upon their election. PLEASE COME AND VOTE FOR OHCA'S FUTURE LEADERS ON SEPTEMBER 22.

Voter registration begins at 6:45 p.m. and members of the Oyster Harbor Citizens Association may vote at any time during the evening by dropping a ballot – one for Officers, another for Board Members—into the appropriate ballot box. [\[1\]](#) Owning multiple lots in Oyster Harbor does not give an individual multiple OHCA memberships or ballots. Note that you must vote personally on September 22 by written ballot—under our Constitution, there are no proxies, absentee ballots, or electronic voting. The sole purpose of this annual meeting

is to conduct elections, and the meeting will not consider other items that might normally be on the agenda for regular community meetings (as defined by Articles XIII and XIV of our Constitution).

[1] Article II of OHCA's Constitution specifies that "Every adult owner, and/or spouse, joint or otherwise, of any real property, in the aforesaid Oyster Harbor, shall be considered a member and eligible to vote in the affairs of the Association."

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The creation of Oyster Harbor's Nominating Committee is required by OHCA's Constitution (Article III-Section 2). The Committee consists of five OHCA members appointed by the President to nominate a slate of candidates for OHCA's annual elections (one person for each available Board and Officer position). On August 19, 2026, OHCA's President publicly announced the appointment of five community members to form the Nominating Committee for 2026: Dan Craig, Chair; Lee Downing, Carolyn Dunkley, Shayna Foote, and Benny McCottry. The Nominating Committee has completed its work as required by the Constitution and is filing this written report with the Oyster Harbor community by US Mail and e-mail in advance of the election. The Committee will also formally submit its report to OHCA members at the annual election meeting on September 22.

The Nominating Committee met multiple times by zoom and several times in person to review 13 applications for 11 elective offices. There were 7 applications for 5 Board seats of varying terms (3 for three years; 1 for two years, and 1 for one year). There was also one application for each of the six available Officer positions. The committee wishes to thank all 13 candidates for their interest and encourages them to continue their proactive efforts in the community whether they appear on the final slate for 2026 or not. There will always be future vacancies, and there exist multiple opportunities to serve on OHCA's standing committees (see below) and help with ad hoc projects in the community.

OFFICER CANDIDATES

Under our Constitution, all OHCA Officers serve one-year terms. For the September 2026 to September 2027 term, members of the Nominating Committee talked to all six officer candidates either by Zoom (3), telephone (1), or in-person (2). Based on these discussions and a careful review of their applications and past achievements, the Nominating Committee is pleased to recommend the following six OHCA members for executive office (all are incumbents and all received majority votes from members of the Nominating Committee):

Heather Ludwig for President (ex officio a member of the Board)

Don Krause for Vice President

Carol Swan for Special Tax Treasurer (SCBD)

Stephanie Orr for Association Treasurer (Piers & Harbors)

Elaine Goldberg for Recording Secretary (also a sitting Board member)

Trisha Thomas for Corresponding Secretary (also a sitting Board Member)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CANDIDATES

This year, there were five vacancies for OHCA's Board of Directors. Normally there are three each year, but in 2026 we had two Board resignations that were too late in the year to be filled by special elections. The terms for these five vacancies vary, but the Nominating Committee—following OHCA's Constitution, Roberts Rules of Order, and OHCA precedent—nominated five people for the five available slots without trying to subdivide candidates into one, two, or three-year terms. All the candidates for Board agreed in their interviews to accept whatever term OHCA's membership decided, with the three-year terms going to the three people with the most votes, the two-year term going to the person with the fourth-greatest number of votes, and the one-year term going to the successful candidate with the fewest votes (out of the top five vote-recipients).

The Nominating Committee interviewed all seven Board candidates in person whether they were incumbents or not. When deciding on the recommended slate for Board positions, the Nominating Committee prioritized a candidate's ability to attend meetings and follow-through on the development of needed policies and projects. Additionally, the Committee sought a diversity of perspectives and backgrounds to ensure that the Board and our Officers reflect and serve the broader community. There were many strong applicants who outlined a persuasive vision for OHCA's future and how they would help the community get there. Unfortunately, not everyone could be accommodated this year and the Committee urges candidates to reapply for elective office in future years.

After a thorough review of their interviews, resumes, and questionnaires, we recommend the following five candidates for OHCA's Board of Directors in 2026:

- Walter Jernigan
- Joe Madron
- Winston Dunkley
- Curtis Morehead
- Tom Cagle

The slate's biographical information is summarized in the body of this report; the original applications of all seven Board candidates are attached as Appendix A.

Note that after her husband Winston Dunkley filed for a Board position on September 3, Nominating Committee member Carolyn Dunkley recused herself from voting on any and all Board candidates, including the final slate for Board of Directors. To avoid any possible conflict of interest, Mrs. Dunkley also did not attend the Committee's in-person interview of her husband, but she did vote with the rest of the Committee on the slate for OHCA's Officers.

PROCEDURE FOR ADDITIONAL NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

Following OHCA's Constitution, community members may nominate other candidates from the floor for both Officer and Board positions. Candidates who submitted an application but were not selected by the Nominating Committee

can be nominated for their desired office without being present at the election meeting. Individuals who have not applied for office this year may self-nominate for any position or be nominated by others from the floor. However, in order to stand for election, a new nominee must be physically present at the September 22 meeting so that they can accept their nomination for a specific vacancy.

Please note that, in addition to elected positions, there are many other opportunities to help serve our community by volunteering for a committee. Please contact the Nominating Committee at ohcanominations@oysterharbor.org if you wish to volunteer for any of the following standing committees and we will pass along your name to the President and relevant committee chair:

- (1) Beach
- (2) Community Property
- (3) Roads and Drainage
- (4) Benevolence
- (5) Social
- (6) Piers & Harbors
- (7) Finance
- (8) Security, and
- (9) Audit

CONCLUSION

This Report provides the Oyster Harbor community with our recommendations for how best to fill the five vacant Board seats and six available Officer positions at our forthcoming elections on September 22, 2026. We thank everyone for turning out and urge you to bring friends and neighbors from Oyster Harbor when you come to vote.

Respectfully submitted by
OHCA's 2026 Nominating Committee

Dan Craig, Chair
Lee Downing
Carolyn Dunkley
Shayna Foote
Benny McCottry

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Brief profiles drawn from the applications for Board and Officer nominees follow. Please note that the information summarized here may not mirror the actual language of material submitted by each candidate for their desired position. The original applications submitted by all candidates—including those not on this year's slate—are available on OHCA's website and in Appendix A of this Report.

The Recommended Slate for Board of Directors:

Walter Jernigan

I am running to serve on OHCA's Board because I love this neighborhood and want to help preserve it. I first came to Oyster Harbor as a child and bought a home here eight years ago. Professionally, I retired in 2013 following a 28-year career with the District of Columbia Fire & EMS Department (FEMS). In retirement, I continued my public service as a COVID-19 Community Outreach Specialist and CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Coordinator for Prince George's County. My vision is an Oyster Harbor that remains safe, structurally resilient, and fiscally sound for generations to come. I envision a board that operates with absolute transparency and quiet efficiency—one that listens carefully to residents' concerns, handles covenant enforcement with empathy and fairness, and aggressively protects our shared waterfront infrastructure so that the community retains the exact same charm I fell in love with as a child.

Joe Madron

I have lived in Oyster Harbor with my family since 2021 and am currently on OHCA's Board of Directors and serve as both Chair of the Piers & Harbors Committee and as Harbormaster. Over the past year, I have focused on completing overdue projects and implementing positive changes for our community, including much-needed updates to the community piers and surrounding parks. Professionally, I have extensive experience serving on boards and managing projects, facilities, and personnel across the US and Europe; I also serve as the president of the National Institute of Packaging Handling and Logistics Engineers (NIPHLE). I am seeking a longer term Board position to help move our community forward and complete open projects that will provide lasting benefits to the community.

Winston Dunkley

Having lived in Oyster Harbor for nearly 30 years, I have seen our community through many challenges. Most recently, during my years of community service, I was part of the Cross Road remediation team to reclaim our wetlands, as well as spearheading a forensic audit of the community's finances. I've served as OHCA's President, Vice President, and as both Chair and Vice Chair of OHCA's Board of Directors; I also served many years as Co-Chair of Oyster Harbor's Benevolence Committee. Professionally, I have more than 40 years of experience in strategic supervisory planning and operations management. I recently retired from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, where I served as head of operations, overseeing the completion of hundreds of projects in order to keep the museum's facilities running smoothly.

Curtis Morehead

With multi-generational family ties to this community since 1955 and 22 years of property ownership on Harbor Road, I care deeply about OHCA's long-term preservation and success. I want to support ongoing projects, assist with board initiatives, and ensure our community operations run smoothly and transparently. Professionally I have worked as a Union electrician for 48 years, served as an electrical apprenticeship instructor for 28 years, and currently help run our family-owned union electrical contracting business, now in its 18th year. OHCA's top priority should be practical, fiscally responsible stewardship that focuses on maintaining our physical infrastructure and shared community assets, managing our budget transparently in strict accordance with the OHCA Constitution, and fostering a welcoming, open environment where every neighbor feels heard, respected, and valued.

Tom Cagle

Tom has lived in Oyster Harbor since 1999 and agrees with the "project manager" style of community involvement, helping the Board to make informed choices about needed projects, then stepping up to help see that they get done in a timely fashion. He is a retired policeman and has served recently with the Annapolis Office of Emergency Management. He has also been the president of a Baltimore HOA and is committed to community service, including volunteer work with Oyster Harbor, his church, local non-profits, and the City of Annapolis, where he plays a crucial role in staffing the annual Eastport--Annapolis Tug of War. His goal if elected is "to help make Oyster Harbor the best place to live."

The Slate for OHCA Officers:**President:**

Heather Ludwig, a resident of Oyster Harbor for five years, is running again for the office of OHCA President. She believes it is the position in which she can make the greatest positive impact and best give back to our community. She has volunteered as a board member of several non-profit entities and as Vice President of a large non-profit in D.C. Heather brings 15 years' experience as a practicing attorney in International Criminal Law (prosecution) and International Trade/Business Law litigation, both in private practice and government roles, as well as nine years of experience advising high-level C-suite officers and a variety of board members on complex and technical problems related to business and trade. Please refer to her bio and questionnaire to learn more about qualifications and goals for the community.

Vice President:

Don Krause, a resident of Oyster Harbor for eight years, is running again for Vice President. Don's primary focus for the coming year is to maintain the community, and he believes our main challenges are roads and drainage, and maintenance of our parks, and finishing numerous construction projects, including replacement of the Harbor playground shed, installation of a catering gate at the north end of the beach by the BBQs, and creation of a new access ramp to our beach. Don is a registered architect, landscape architect, former real estate agent and also did construction. Please refer to Don's questionnaire to learn more about qualifications and goals for the community.

Special Tax Treasurer:

Carol Swan has lived in Oyster Harbor for 29 years and is seeking reelection for the position of Special Tax Treasurer. Carol brings a strong background in financial management and a deep understanding of the OHCA Constitution. As an attorney with extensive knowledge of state and local government, she is well-equipped to navigate the challenges ahead. Please refer to Carol's questionnaire to learn more about her qualifications and goals for the community.

Association Treasurer:

Stephanie Orr has been a resident of Oyster Harbor for 10 years and is seeking re-election as Association (Piers & Harbors) Treasurer, a role she has held for the past 3 fiscal years. With experience managing the finances of a \$6,000,000 company, she brings strong financial oversight skills and a commitment to transparency and accountability. Please refer to Stephanie's bio and questionnaire to learn more about qualifications and goals for the community.

Recording Secretary:

Elaine Goldberg, a resident of Oyster Harbor for five years and a current member of our Board, is running for reelection as Recording Secretary. Elaine wants to be more actively involved in the inner workings of the community and collaborate with neighbors. She has been on boards and active in professional groups related to health care and mental health services in the Washington Metro area for most of her adult life. She has particular concern and interest for environmental issues and supporting wildlife. Please refer to Elaine's bio and questionnaire to learn more about qualifications and goals for the community.

Corresponding Secretary:

Trisha Thomas, a resident of OHCA for 21 years, is seeking reelection for one year as Corresponding Secretary. She has served in the role for the past three years and has worked with ProCom to handle Constant Contact (our mass marketing tool for sending member email notices). She also drafts and sends OHCA's periodic newsletters and posts community notices on OHCA's Facebook page. In addition, Trisha serves on OHCA's Board and has actively participated in nearly all Board and community meetings this past year. Her vision of OHCA is one where members support each other and where community events and projects continue to bring members together.

APPENDIX A – Applications and CV/Biographies submitted by all candidates to follow

[Victoria Barron Candidate Questionnaire 2026](#)

[Victoria Barron Bio](#)

[Tom Cagle Questionnaire](#)

[Tom Cagle Photo](#)

[Winston Dunkley Questionnaire](#)

[Winston Dunkley photo and bio](#)

[Elaine Goldberg Questionnaire](#)
[Elaine Goldberg Resume](#)

[Barrett Hill Questionnaire](#)

[Walter Jernigan Questionnaire](#)
[Walter Jernigan Bio](#)

[Don Krause Questionnaire](#)

[Heather Madron Questionnaire](#)
[Heather Madron Resume](#)

[Joe Madron Questionnaire](#)
[Joe Madron Resume](#)

[Curtis Morehead Questionnaire](#)
[Curtis Morehead Resume](#)

[Stephanie Orr Questionnaire and Bio](#)

[Carol Swan Questionnaire](#)
[Carol Swan Bio](#)

[Trisha Thomas Questionnaire and Bio](#)

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