



Wyman Park Community Association General Meeting Minutes April 7, 2026

Quick Recap

The Wyman Park Community Association April meeting covered a variety of topics. Amy provided details about the upcoming Happy Hour and House Tour event on April 25th, which will feature 10 hosts creating signature drinks and hors d'oeuvres, with expanded timing from 2 to 3 hours (4-7 PM). Sergeant Modesto Olivo and Major Saunders from the Baltimore City Police Department addressed community concerns about ICE operations, clarifying that police have limited interaction with ICE unless specific legal requirements are met. Odette updated the community on several infrastructure projects, including Roland Avenue resurfacing with new bike facilities and the Druid Hill Park deer remediation project. The Association voted to approve a new secretary and bylaw updates, including changes to general meeting frequency and treasurer responsibilities. The conversation ended with discussions about implementing a welcome packet system for new neighbors, with plans to create printed materials or digital resources to help integrate new residents into the community.

Summary

Community Meeting Agenda Review

The meeting began with Andrea welcoming attendees and reviewing the agenda, which included a neighborhood happy hour crawl, a discussion with Councilwoman Odette Ramos and Sgt. Modesto Olivo from Baltimore City Police Department, community solar possibilities (not addressed due to speaker absence), voting for a new WPCA secretary, updating WPCA bylaws, bridge updates, and any other business.

April House Tour Happy Hour

The team discussed plans for a happy hour and house tour event scheduled for April 25th, which will run for 3 hours instead of 2. Ten hosts will create signature drinks and hors d'oeuvres, with maps to be distributed either in advance or at the participants' homes. While 6 people have signed up so far, there are two ticket buyers whose registration status needs verification. The group briefly discussed the need for promotional materials, though they noted the challenge of balancing advertising within the Wyman Park community with broader outreach to the local community.



Northern District Crime Statistics Update

Sergeant Olivo provided crime statistics for the Northern District, reporting that crimes including homicide, shooting, rape, robbery, and theft were down compared to 2025, with only one larceny reported so far in 2026.

BPD-ICE Interaction Policy Discussion

Major Keira Saunders explained that the Baltimore Police Department has no formal role with ICE and only engages with them under specific circumstances, such as receiving federal court documents or when there's an immediate threat to safety. She noted that BPD's policy regarding ICE interactions is publicly available on the department's website under policy 1021. When asked about potential increased ICE presence in the city, Major Saunders confirmed that ICE does not communicate with BPD about their activities.

Infrastructure and Neighborhood Updates

Odette provided updates on several infrastructure projects affecting the neighborhood:

- Roland Avenue from 34th to 40th Street will be resurfaced, triggering a bike facility improvement under the Complete Streets Ordinance. A Baltimore DOT representative will be sharing information about the repaving and potential addition of a bike lane on Roland at the next Hampden Community Council meeting (April 13th). The group agreed to look into inviting DOT representatives to present at an upcoming WPCA general meeting and Karen Pfarr suggested forming a committee to gather community views on the proposal.
- Deer remediation is being conducted in certain City parks, including Druid Hill (through April 9), though Wyman Park is not currently included.
- The broken water main issues have been resolved.
- Rec and Parks will host a public meeting to discuss decisions regarding the dog park situation, which will be coordinated with Andrea.

Sisson Street Drop-Off Center Closure

Odette provided an update on the Sisson Street task force's decision, explaining that after 6 months of study, they unanimously voted to close this recycling/waste drop-off center if 7 specific conditions are met by Baltimore DPW. The conditions include fully opening the Reedbird and Bowleys Lane residential drop-off sites, upgrading facilities at both locations, implementing a hazardous household waste program in a low environmental justice area, and improving worker conditions. The task force's decision was part of a broader effort to address Baltimore's solid waste infrastructure challenges, given the limited remaining life of the landfill and the need to implement zero waste



goals. A new facility will be ready in 5-7 years, after which they would implement a major public education campaign and eventually introduce curbside composting.

Community Updates

Andrea reminded the group about the neighborhood happy hour crawl on April 25 and announced that the annual community picnic is scheduled for June 6th.

Secretary Position Election

Eileen Gillan has stepped down due to health reasons. Lara Boeck volunteered for the role and was elected with 13 votes in favor. A brief discussion about communications focusing on the listserv followed, and Demere said she has been moderating and catching spam messages before they reach the community.

Bylaws Update

Eric Piccirelli led the bylaws review on behalf of Tim St. Clair, who was unable to attend. The group reviewed and approved suggested removal of several COVID-related articles of the bylaws, as well as modifications to the general meeting schedule, treasurer responsibilities, and the nominating committee. The changes were approved with 13 votes in favor, and the board will review again next year.

Stony Run-JHU Bridge Project Updates

Updates on the Stony Run-JHU bridge project were shared, indicating that design plans for stream work are being finalized and construction is expected to begin in June, but temporary repairs will make the current bridge passable while a permanent solution is developed. Lara asked about pathway conditions and Andrea confirmed that the Lower Stoney Run strategic plan includes resurfacing and regrading of the pathway on both sides of the pedestrian bridge, with Hopkins providing funding support.

Remington Avenue Flooding

The group discussed flooding issues near the Remington Avenue bridge, where Ryan observed sandbags and rocks being used to block water flow. Andrea suggested contacting Hopkins contacts to investigate if this is related to construction.

Board Elections

Karen Pfarr announced that board elections would take place after summer, with nominating committees forming in June or July, and encouraged interested members to reach out about becoming more involved.



Other Business

The group discussed several updates and action items. Andrea mentioned ongoing efforts to address overly bright streetlights in residential areas, noting that Lake Walker had successfully had their lights replaced after sending a specific letter to the city. Regarding the dog park, Andrea reported that Park and Rec will convene a community meeting to discuss decisions, though the specific details and timing are still unknown. The group also discussed implementing welcome packets for new neighbors, with Rachel bringing up the need for printed materials and Demere offering to help identify new residents through the listserv. The conversation ended with plans to discuss the welcome packet implementation further that week.

Next steps

- **Amy/Andrea:** Resolve sign-up/ticket discrepancies for the April 25th event
- **Andrea:** Follow up with Odette to coordinate a meeting with DOT about Roland Avenue bike facility and Keswick updates
- **Andrea:** Forward information about the Hampden Community Council meeting on April 13th to Rosewin and the whole list
- **Andrea:** Send information about the April 25th neighborhood crawl to Odette
- **Odette:** Coordinate with Andrea on scheduling a public meeting about the dog situation in the park
- **Andrea:** Work with Rachel and Demere to coordinate distribution of welcome packets to new neighbors and look into budget/options for printing magnets with welcome information for new residents
- **Demere:** Help identify new residents moving in via the listserv
- **Andrea/Demere:** Set up a resource page/wiki for welcome packet information
- **Andrea:** Send digital welcome packet to Rachel's new neighbor for piloting
- **Andrea:** Continue working with other neighborhood associations on street lighting issue and send updates to the group
- **Andrea:** Coordinate with Odette to invite DOT to present at the next meeting about bike facilities and Keswick updates
- **Andrea/Demere:** Meet this week to coordinate new neighbor welcome process
- **Lara:** Begin role as new secretary