



# OBserver

Official newsletter of the  
Owen Brown Community Association



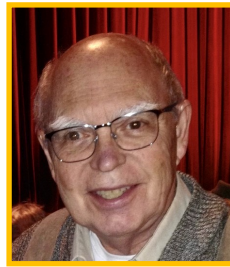
Friday, March 19, 2021 was the deadline for declaring candidacy for the 2021 Owen Brown Village Board of Directors election. Residents Robert Golibersuch, Mae Beale and Brad Butler all declared their candidacy for the three open seats on the Village Board. When there is an uncontested election (meaning: the number of qualified nominees is lesser than or equal to the number of Board vacancies to be filled), the Board of Directors is authorized to elect, on behalf of the members, the qualified nominees as Directors. Therefore, at the **Annual Meeting of Members** on **May 4, 2021**, the Village Board will appoint the above-named candidates to a two-year term. Residents are encouraged to attend the **Annual Meeting**, which will be held via Zoom starting at 7:00 p.m. For meeting access information, contact Craig Barton at [manager@owenbrownvillage.org](mailto:manager@owenbrownvillage.org)

**The candidates' statements and photos are below.**



**Mae  
Beale**

My family and I have resided in Owen, (OB) where I have been an active community member for over 40 years. I am looking forward to playing a formal and significant role in ensuring that OB remains a great place to live, work, and play. Serving on the village board would give me an opportunity to utilize my key assets, the ability to build and sustain relationships, serve the community, be the voice of residents in effort to safeguard the welfare of all. If elected, I will make certain that OB continues to promote a diverse and inclusive environment. I am a dedicated servant in Columbia that actively volunteers on numerous boards and organizations. Maintains a stellar record that demonstrates strong leadership and commitment. I am committed to serving within our thriving community. I strongly believe my time is now to serve you as we move onward and upward.



**Robert  
Golibersuch**

I moved to Columbia in 1973 and am an Owen Brown resident of 44 years. Three generations of my family now reside here. We love Owen Brown, its people, and its amenities. My children prospered in the schools here, and I want to help make them better for my grandchildren. My wife and I make good use of county libraries and 50+ centers, but it is time for a great 50+ center here and I will continue to work for the planned, but delayed, East Columbia Center. The paths, tot lots, woods, streams, and lakes in Columbia are great, but open space needs constant attention. I will continue to work with CA and Howard County to maintain and improve them. Finally, our board must remain the best village board in Columbia in financially supporting causes for school-aged and disadvantaged residents. Please support me so I can help you.



**Brad  
Butler**

I'm proud of what the Owen Brown Community Association has accomplished in the two years since I joined the board. We've invested directly into the community by renovating the Cradlerock traffic circle and our community center, donating and planting hundreds of trees, and supporting local organizations including the OB Barracudas, One Month's Rent, "The 3<sup>rd</sup>" business incubator, and OMHS & LEMS booster organizations. Through a difficult year due to the pandemic, the Village maintained a strong financial position while continuing investment in the community. We've advocated for Owen Brown's interests at CA and Howard County, including supporting the East Columbia 50+ Center, provided input to the planning and zoning process including the county's General Plan Update, as well as supported green space, expanded and updated multi-use paths, and the HoCo Complete Streets Initiative. If re-elected, I look forward to continuing our Association's advocacy for and enhancement of our community.

## OB DATES TO REMEMBER

OB Board Meeting	April 6, 7pm
OB RAC Meeting	April 14, 7:30pm
<b>Free Plants Event</b>	<b>April 23, 5-7pm</b>
OB RAC Meeting	April 28, 7:30pm
<b>Columbia Clean-up</b>	<b>May 1, 10am-12</b>
<b>Annual Meeting</b>	May 4, 7pm
OB RAC Meeting	May 12, 7:30pm
OB RAC Meeting	May 26, 7:30pm

## OWEN BROWN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

### Office Hours

Monday-Friday	9:00a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

### Village Office Staff

	410-381-0202
Craig Barton	Village Manager
Susan Sloan	Covenant Advisor
Meghan Pierce	Event Planner
Kelly Kalal	Facility Coordinator
Tanajah Hairston	Asst. Covenant Advisor
Kelly Carney	OBserver Editor
Joann Allen	Facility Assistant
Elliot Hefty	Facility Assistant

### Village Board Members

Michael Golibersuch	Board Chair
Brad Butler	Board Vice-chair
Vince Miller	Board Member
Robert Golibersuch	Board Member
Douglas Fox	Board Member
Patrick Weed	Board Member
Andrew Stack	CA Board Rep.

Check us out on the web and Facebook at:  
[www.owenbrownvillage.org](http://www.owenbrownvillage.org)  
[www.facebook.com/owenbrownvillage](https://www.facebook.com/owenbrownvillage)

## OBCA BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

*from the desk of Board Chair, Michael Golibersuch*

Owen Brown's Board of Directors held our monthly meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. We had two invited guests. The first was Marty Oltmanns, the director of CA Aquatics, who provided an update on outdoor pools this summer. Of note, in order to mitigate health risks due to the pandemic, pool goers will need to reserve time in advance in order to access the pools. Unfortunately, only 15 of CA's 23 pools will open this summer with Dasher Green being one of the pools that will remain closed this year. Additionally, CA is below its recruiting targets for summer lifeguards – if any residents are interested in serving as a lifeguard please reach out to CA. The second invited guest was Samuel Hahn representing Oakland Mills United. OMU is a newly formed community organization supporting the Oakland Mills High School community supporting a variety of community activities. Please be on the lookout for more information on this organization in the future.

Also, during the monthly meeting, the Board approved our third quarter financial statement. The association is in solid financial health despite the pandemic. Finally, we reviewed several properties with unresolved architectural guideline violations and nominated these violations for potential legal action. We only take this step after several months of unsuccessfully engaging with the property owners to address the violations.

CA is actively looking to fill about 100 lifeguard positions. These team members are essential to opening our pools this summer. If you're interested in applying, visit

<https://sites.google.com/columbiaassociation.org/caaquaticsdepartment/hiring/hiring> for more information.



## Home & Garden Services



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## CA APPROVES FY-22 BUDGET WHICH LOOKS TO RESTORING SOME COMMUNITY SERVICES

*From the desk of Andy Stack, OBCA Columbia Council Representative*

The CA Board did approve the proposed FY-2022 budget on February 25<sup>th</sup>. I voted to approve it. This is a budget which starts CA on the road to recovery by restoring some services while still recognizing the impact that the pandemic and recession has on CA and the community. Please see [www.columbiaassociation.org/blog/what-the-approved-fiscal-year-2022-budget-means-for-you/](http://www.columbiaassociation.org/blog/what-the-approved-fiscal-year-2022-budget-means-for-you/) for additional information.

The budget will allow CA to open 15 outdoor pools this summer and to close the Haven on the Lake wellness facility. Both decisions were difficult. Haven on the Lake has not met its benchmarks and staff did not believe that it would be possible to turn the situation around in the next five years. Keeping Haven open in FY-2022 would have cost CA around \$450,000 and the fiscal situation just made that difficult to do.

The CA Board did approve a resolution concerning opening additional outdoor pools if financial, COVID, and the lifeguard situation improves. CA still needs lifeguards. Some of you may have noticed the large banner on the Hopewell pool fence asking for lifeguards. If you're interested in applying for a summer position with CA, see the openings at [us59.dayforcehcm.com/CandidatePortal/en-US/camd](http://us59.dayforcehcm.com/CandidatePortal/en-US/camd) or check the CA website [www.columbiaassociation.org/](http://www.columbiaassociation.org/). For additional information concerning Aquatics, please see [www.columbiaassociation.org/facilities/indoor-swimming-pools/](http://www.columbiaassociation.org/facilities/indoor-swimming-pools/).

In terms of the Capital Budget for FY-2022, it will be \$8M and focused on repairs, maintenance, and safety situations. The Owen Brown Community Center is scheduled for a roof replacement, which is very much needed.

### April Showers Bring...

#### Free Flowers!

In celebration of Owen Brown's 49th year, we are giving away **free plants and shrubs to Owen Brown Community Association members!** On Friday, **April 23**, from **5-7 pm**, come to the back of the Community Center at 6800 Cradlerock Way and pick up some free plants for your yard. Quantities are limited per household and on a first come, first served basis until we run out.

Rain date, if needed, is Sat. April 24, 10 am to Noon.

**Help Beautify Owen Brown!**

Clean up  
the world



### COLUMBIA CLEAN-UP

**Saturday, May 1st**

**10:00am-12:00pm**

#### Volunteers Needed!

Help clean up around **Lake**

**Elkhorn**. Registration near

the parking lot, off Dockside Lane. Safety vests, bags, gloves and grabbers will be provided. Wear appropriate clothing, as you may be picking up in wooded areas. This is a weather-permitting event.



**All volunteers will receive a free gift!**



## Owen Brown Community Association

6800 Cradlerock Way, Columbia, MD 21045

Office: 410-381-0202 Fax: 410-381-0235



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