

NLIA Meeting Minutes
June 16th, 2026 @ 6:30pm
Location: Overlook Elementary School Cafeteria

Opening: Meeting called to order by Renee Knisely at 6:30pm

Present Board: Renee Knisely (President), Shannon Burgoon-Mize (Secretary),
Melissa Wotring (Treasurer)

Attendees: Nick Mize, Kathy Gordon, Tracey Estep, Marcus Estep, Bethany Spore, Barb Plitt, Mark Dill, Kim Rook, Sarah Alexander, Collin Alexander, Tiffany Stanson, BJ Stanson, Courtney Upperman, Shannon O'Brien, Nick O'Brien, Jean Szech, Sharon Harris, Angie Adams, Garry Adams, Marnie Ford, Colleen Lacy, Claire Paddy, Alison Morgan, Matt Morgan, Pete Pendleton, Rachael Erichsen, Brittany Bennett, Theresa Pettus, Brandy Randazzo, Lori Henderson, Ann Savage, Christine Schiller, Geonta Simmons (*Missy counted a total of 43 attendees-some did not sign in and some were with MDOT SHA*).

Approval of the Last Meeting Minutes: May 2026 meeting minutes approved.

Guest Speakers:

MDOT SHA- Sean Johnson-Project Manager
(410-545-8813/sjohnson@mdot.maryland.gov)

Sean Johnson did a presentation on the Noise Abatement Project for MD 295/I695-North to Nursery Road Type 1 (i.e. Mrs. Kathy's Wall or the "40" year Wall") He reviewed SHA's Highway Noise Policy that's used to decide if the project meets the criteria, which it did. \$11.02 million is the current projected cost for the project, which includes 3,100 feet of walling, with an average height of 16 feet tall. Concrete noise walls are most commonly used in Maryland. The current design has the fund from halfway thought the ball field at the park to 295 when it crosses Nursery Road. Meeting attendees were **NOT** happy with this proposal, as they thought the wall would extend all of the way to Overlook Elementary School to help reduce the noise that can be heard from inside and outside of the school. May 2025 the design started, March 2026, all money was spent to get provide the presented design and the project is currently stalled at 30% complete due to lack of funding. The funding is currently TBD and until that changes, the project will remain at 30% complete. No estimate as to when funding will be available by the county, state, or federal government. No answers when questioned about why the other side of Linthicum was able to get their sound barrier wall within 6 months to a year when it was requested and built in the early 2000's. There is no funding for right of way, utilities, nor construction. Funding will be talked about again at the end of July 2026.

Report from Board:

2026 NLIA Scholarship Award Presentation- Valentine Schiller was presented with a certificate and a \$500 check. Valentine graduated from Annapolis High School and plans to attend a private art college in Georgia to major in animation.

Overlook Park- On May 22nd, NLIA reached out to Parks and Recreation regarding the possibility of converting the dog park back into a baseball field or implementing a dual-use arrangement by reducing the size of the dog runs or decreasing the number of runs from three to two. Both requests were denied.

NLIA also inquired about installing entrance gates at the park and discussed the possibility of obtaining community support to assist with locking and unlocking the gates. This request was also denied.

Additionally, NLIA asked Parks and Recreation and the Anne Arundel County Police Department to coordinate the installation of security cameras at the park. To date, they have not received a response from Parks and Recreation regarding the camera inquiry. Due to a lack of funding, the proposed mural project at the park will not move forward. As an alternative, we requested that the wall ball wall be repainted to improve the appearance of the area. Parks and Recreation indicated that this work can be completed after July 1st, when the new fiscal year begins. Per Renee- grants will also be submitted to help fund a future mural project, as well as another grant to help fund community clean-up efforts in coordination with new VP Collin Alexander to get youth in the neighborhood involved in these initiatives.

Citizens on Patrol Program- reached out to Corporal Lapham, the Northern District P.A.C.T. Unity Liaison on May 18th to inquire about restarting the Citizens on Patrol/Neighborhood Watch Program. We were given the Crime Prevention Unit email address to reach out that unit for more information. Renee sent emails on May 22nd and June 8th and has not yet received a response. She will reach out again or go up to Northern Police Station to discuss in the next few weeks.

Linthicum Fair- 250th Anniversary Theme- NLIA and The Overlook PTA will be doing a joint booth for this event and will split the cost and profits. The fair will be on Saturday, September 26th from 10-3. The parade will begin at 9am. Waiting to hear back from the Linthicum Fair Committee- possibly selling funnel cakes if the Lindale Middle School Robotics Team decides not to sell them this year. Will know more in a few weeks as to what exactly will be sold. Will need volunteers for this event.

Fundraiser Poll Results

Neighbor of the month nomination & recognition- 0 votes

Turkey Trot at Overlook Park in November- 29 Votes

"Renee's" Helicopter Ball Drop- 8 Votes

Holiday Decorating Contest- 24 Votes

Santa on Fire Truck- 37 Votes (*Marnie mentioned donating to fund this event*)

NLIA Community Day in the Spring- 29 Votes

Halloween Dog Parade & Costume Contest- 9 Votes
Movie Night at Overlook Park- 24 Votes
Community Cookout w/ Games- 35 Votes

TOP 4 Picks:

- #1-** Santa on Fire Truck
- #2-** Community Cookout w/ Games
- #3- Tied-** Turkey Trot and NL Community Day
- #4- Tied-** Holiday Decorating Contest and Movie Night at Overlook Park

The board reiterated to attendees that in order to do these large events we will need to have more money, so dues and donations are appreciated and needed. The board will discuss the top picks over the summer and communicate updates with the community.

Executive Board Election Voting took place and below is the Executive Board for the 2026-2027 term:

President- Renee Osborn Knisely
Vice President- Collin Alexander
Treasurer- Melissa Wotring
Secretary- Shannon Burgoon-Mize

Shannon Burgoon-Mize agreed to volunteer for the secretary position for one more term, but does not plan to volunteer for a board position after her term ends in June 2027. She will still be happy to volunteer in a non-board capacity after her term ends.

Special Committee Voting took place and below are the Special Committees for the 2026-2027 term:

Sound Barrier Wall- Mrs. Kathy Gordon
Bylaws Committee- Bethany Spore (along with members of the board)
Sunshine Committee- Tiffany Stanson, Sarah Alexander, Shannon O'Brien, Courtney Upperman

Treasury Report (Missy) - Checking \$2685.42, Savings \$1.16, Grant/Savings \$10,418.99

No events for July or August- Enjoy your summer!!!!

Next Meeting: September 15th, 2026 @ 6:30pm at Overlook Elementary School Art Room *(Guest Speaker will be Ross- the non-profit representative for the Overlook Park Property)*

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned by Renee Knisely at 7:42pm

Minutes Submitted By: Shannon Burgoon-Mize, NLIA Secretary on 6.18.26