



May 2020 Issue

**** Our next meeting date and details will be decided later in the year. Stay tuned via the SOECA Listserv for updates. ****

2020 SOECA Membership Meeting Dates

Wednesday, May 13th, 2020 from 7-9pm * Meeting has been cancelled *

ANNOUNCEMENT and MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD



Our upcoming May meeting has been cancelled due to state wide stay-at-home orders. Instead, the Board will test out virtual meeting capabilities as an option for future meetings.

In light of this, Board Elections will be postponed until further notice, with the expectation of conducting them in the early autumn. If you would like to be on the Board, or would like to nominate anyone, please contact us at soeca.board@gmail.com

This is a difficult time for everyone and we hope our neighbors, family, and friends are well and keeping occupied. Spring has been in full swing, as if to remind us to get out of ourselves, and remember that nature is resilient... and so are we.

Keep in touch, stay active, and let us know if you have thoughts or ideas. We are all in this together.

— Your SOECA Board

SOECA Membership: Annual dues of \$20 per household or \$10 for seniors and single members

PayPal: from the “About” drop-down menu at www.soeca.org, select “Join SOECA” and follow the instructions

Check: made payable to SOECA and send with name, address, phone number, and email to: David Hartmann, SOECA Treasurer, 407 Ellsworth Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20910

* Resident email addresses and home addresses are not shared.



** LISTSERVE SIGNUP **



For the foreseeable future, the **SOECA newsletter and announcements will be via email**. If you know of a neighbor who has NOT signed up, please remind them that it is **free** and easy:



- Go to groups.io/g/SOECA/join and fill in your email address;
- OR email SOECA+subscribe@groups.io and include your name and address in the email.

SOECA Officers

Michael Bufalini, President
 Chris Reynolds, Vice President
 David Hartmann, Treasurer
 Claire Zietz, Secretary

In This Newsletter

1. Announcement and Letter from the Board
2. Membership Signup
3. Listserv Signup
4. Our Environment
5. Leash Laws
6. Committee Chairs and Representatives
7. Neighborhood Spotlights

SOECA Boundaries

Colesville Road on the West; Cedar and Fenton Streets on the South; Bonifant Street and Wayne Avenue on the East; Franklin and Caroline Avenues on the North.




Check Us Out Online!

www.soeca.org

facebook.com/SOECASilverSpring

twitter.com/soecatweet

Listserv Signup Instructions

 groups.io/g/SOECA/join and fill in your email address;
OR

email SOECA+subscribe@groups.io and include your name & address.



Do you have ideas for our next newsletter? Want to send a Birthday Shout-out to someone special?

Neighbor spotlight?



We'd love to hear from you!

Send an email to

soeca.board@gmail.com

OUR ENVIRONMENT



So many people are outdoors enjoying the Sligo Creek watershed and watching nature rebound as spring takes hold. Owl and hawk sightings, the return of the Yellow Crested Night Heron, the call of the frogs, those iridescent noisy ducks, the wonderous transformation from dead sticks to live willow stakes on the terraced banks of the Bennington Tributary – just to name a few delights. How do we become stewards of the watershed?

- To protect our owls, hawks, fox, other wildlife, pets and even our children, **please don't use ANY type of rat poisoning.** Owls and other creatures eat poisoned mice and die themselves or become sick. To learn more about managing rodents, see <http://www.birc.org/RaptorQ.pdf>.
- To protect Sligo Creek, join Friends of Sligo Creek in opposing the installation of plastic carpet on Ellsworth in Downtown Silver Spring. Runoff from this spot drains into Sligo Creek. Kids and dogs play around the creek. It's the watering hole for local nature we cherish. It becomes our drinking water. To learn more about FOSC opposition, see its "DO NO HARM" letter calling for pervious surface instead on Ellsworth (<http://fosc.org/>).

LEASH LAWS



Any dog is at large if it is outside the owner's premises and not leashed, unless it is a service dog, is in a dog exercise area designated by the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, or is participating in an approved activity.

Any other animal (i.e., cat or livestock animal) is at large if it is outside the owner's premises and not leashed or immediately responsive to verbal or non-verbal direction.

(\$100 fine for first offense; \$500 fine for each subsequent violation)

- From montgomerycountymd.gov

COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND ISSUE REPRESENTATIVES

- Bus Rapid Transit CAT – Brian Feit
- Environment – Anne Vorce
- Butterfly Garden – Betsy Mendelsohn
- Mosquito Abatement – Karen Kuehl, Carol Leventhal
- Land Use – Chris Johansson
- Membership Committee – David Hartmann
- MOCO Civic Federation– Jean Cavanaugh
- Purple Line CAT and Wayne Ave – Erin Johansson
- Safety Committee – Lynn Bailes
- Social Committee– Lynn and Tad Grodzki
- Technology Committee – Jonathan Bernstein
- Traffic Committee – Jean Cavanaugh
- SOECA Neighbors Help - Tina Guina, Jean Cavanaugh, Michael Gurwitz & Betsy Mendelsohn
soecanh@gmail.com

NEIGHBOR SPOTLIGHT



“Suzanne Minz and the Minz Elkind Family for organizing neighborhood contributions to Shepherd's Table.”

“Wonderful gardeners who've brought great beauty to those of us who walk a lot. (I've been particularly enjoying the colorful flowers on Dale; the sweet and funny "gumbo garden" on Ellsworth near Dale; the champion flowering cherry tree on Pershing; and the gorgeous flowering trees where Bennington meets Ellsworth.)”

“Stephen Estrada for his sourdough starter!”

“The neighborhood for its Animal Walk and Teddy Bears and other critters in the window (with a special shout out to those who started this and to Michele Hartmann for her Walking Guide).”

“The kids who are learning to ride bikes!”