CROFTON CIVIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING
Crofton Elementary School, Crofton
June 8, 2026 – 7:00 PM

Present:

Board Members: Anna O'Kelly, Kevin Wilson, James Kitchin, Brenda Wakefield, Charles See, Chuck Cook, Kitty Gross, Jack Kemerer.

Staff: Martin H. Simon**,** Jim Harvey, Chief Jason Jett, Tara Gottschalck.

President Anna O'Kelly opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements:

Anna announced the meeting was recorded to assist with the transcription of the minutes.

The Crofton Farmers Market will be held every Saturday from 8:00 AM to Noon at the Crofton Library through December 19th. Stop by and get local and regional foods, crafts, and artwork. See Crofton Farmers Market on Facebook for details.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church is hosting a Food Truck Night every Tuesday evening from April through October in the parking lot from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM. There will be 8 to 10 trucks each Tuesday.

The Crofton Kiwanis, with support from the CCA, is holding its annual Crofton Pie Bake-Off at the Farmers Market on Saturday, July 11th, from 10:00 AM to Noon. The rain date is scheduled for Saturday, July 18th. This event is a fundraiser for the Crofton Christian Caring Council's Baby Pantry. Slices of pie will be sold to the public for a $5 donation, or you can bring a donation of diapers, wipes, or baby food to get a slice of pie. Judges will taste the pies at 10:30 AM, and the awards and prizes for the best pies will be announced at 11:30 AM. The best pies will be awarded gift cards and a custom engraved pie spatula for:

- Best Fruit-Filled Pie
- Best Cream Pie
- Best Savory Pie (ex. Shepard's Pie)

There will also be a special trophy for the "Top Pie" for the overall best pie of the event. Registration is free, and participants may register on our website at Croftoncommunity.org.

The next concert of the CCA Summer Concert Series continues on June 14th, featuring Built 4 Comfort (blues). The remaining performances are:

- June 21st, Bay Winds Band (Classic Band Music)
- June 28th, Goodfellas (Beatles Revue)
- July 5th, Greydog (Classic Rock to Contemporary)
- July 12th, Vivid Edge (Classic to Modern Rock)

- July 19th, Bay Jazz Project (Jazz)
- July 26th, Wicked Olde (Pop to Folk)

Summer Concerts are each Sunday from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM through July 26th, at the Crofton Country Club. Please bring a blanket or chair as there is no seating provided on the grass.

There is no CCA Board meeting scheduled for July. We will reconvene on August 3rd, right here in the Library Media Center at 7:00 PM. In fact, all our Board meetings will be in this room at 7:00 PM for the rest of the year. Those dates are as follows:

- September 14
- October 12
- November 9
- December 14

The Crofton Kiwanis is hosting its annual Crofton Kiwanis/Team Surlis, Gress & Co. 10K Challenge and 5K Run on Saturday, June 13, at 8 AM. Participants may run the 5K or 10K course on and around Crofton Parkway, beginning at the Crofton Country Club. The 5K race will begin immediately after the 10K race. Registration is now open at Croftonkiwanis.org.

Town Hall will be closed on Friday, June 19th, for Juneteenth and Friday, July 3rd, for Independence Day.

On Monday, June 29th, at 7:00 PM, at the Waugh Chapel Community Center, the CCA and GCC will co-host a legislative session summary with Senator Rosapepe and his House colleagues from District 21.

National Night Out 2026 is scheduled for Tuesday, August 4th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the Crofton Country Club. This is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. Bring the whole family out for an evening of music, food, games, hands-on activities, prize giveaways, and plenty of fun! The Crofton Police Department will have a booth, so please stop by and say hello.

The CCA's annual Ice Cream Social is scheduled for Sunday, August 23rd, at Town Hall. This family-friendly, end-of-summer party will include live music, face painting, balloon twisting, a bounce house, and, of course, lots of ice cream.

Crofton Library Events: (see full schedule at AACPL.net)

- June 19, All Branches Closed for Juneteenth
- June 26, 10:30 AM — 11:30 AM, Preschool Hangout
- June 27, 10:00 AM–1:00 PM, Plant Clinic: Ask a Master Gardener
- July 3rd and 4th, All Branches Closed for Independence Day
- July 6, 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM, 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM, I Dig American Sign Language
- July 9, 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM, Adult Book Club: The Familiar by Leigh Bardago
- July 10, 10:30 AM — 11:30 AM, Beginner Yoga
- July 18, 25, 10:00 AM–1:00 PM, Plant Clinic: Ask a Master Gardener

- July 24, 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM, Senior Social Hour
- July 27, 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM, Crofton Houseplant Club

Meeting Minutes Approval

The meeting minutes of the May 18th General Membership and Board meeting require approval. There was one spelling error that was corrected. No additional changes were needed. The minutes were filed.

Town Manager's Report – *Martin H. Simon*

Martin welcomed new Board members Brenda Wakefield and Jack Kemerer.
He reported that the State Highway Administration has completed the replacement concrete repairs at the intersection of Route 3 and Crawford Boulevard. They have not yet filled in the area potholes. They will be adding larger traffic signal poles so each lane will have its own signal and adding a red-light traffic camera to the southbound side at Cronson Boulevard.

Martin reported that DPW has begun work on the CCA property on Tyrone Street, repairing a stormwater maintenance project. They have unclogged the culverts and have added lots of rock in the areas between. They did not let us know before they began the work.

The rain garden refurbishment project at the front entrance will begin on June 22nd. It will be completed by the end of the month. The cracked water meter is still leaking, and the county will return to repair it, hopefully before the 22nd.

Martin has been in contact with the Eagle Scout who will be installing three park benches on Crofton Parkway near the Crofton natural area. The concrete pads will be poured on July 7th. Marty Mows is donating the concrete pads for these. The Scouts have raised funds for the lumber, the wood stain, and incidental expenses.

Following the Safety Committee inspection last week, there are several tasks that Keith will handle, including replacement swing seats and the mitigation of some sharp edges at the playgrounds.

Marty Mows will continue work in the community, including the removal of some dead trees at Village Green, tree trimming needed in medians, and replacement of softfall in the playground areas.

Martin is assisting the Crofton Village Garden Club on the installation of a plaque honoring Marcia Ricard. It will be installed on the median by the cherry tree dedicated to her across from the Pedersen display on Crofton Parkway at Eton Way. A small dedication ceremony is being planned.

Martin provided a report of police overtime hours used since May 18th. There were 3 hours for court appearances used by Cpl. Gable.

Comptroller's Report – *James Harvey*

Jim distributed his report to Board members.
He discussed some highlights.

The Tax District cash balance report shows $161,105 remaining for the fiscal year. This figure does not include the $65,000 allocated for the vehicle purchase, bringing the remaining balance to approximately $226,000.

Jim anticipates two additional payroll cycles, and the rain garden project will account for approximately $100,000 in expenses before the end of the fiscal year. A decision will need to be made regarding the allocation of the remaining funds to reserve accounts. The Finance Committee will meet on June 25 at 5:30 PM at Town Hall to develop a recommendation for the Board regarding the allocation of the remaining funds.

Jim reported on the Maryland PFML program. As of January 1st, we are to set aside 0.9% of gross wages for all employees in escrow. We don't complete our private insurance application until September. It is unclear what will happen to the escrow money that was set aside.

Jim reported that the police, Town Manager, and Comptroller have received their new cell phones. They are First Net phones, which guarantee access during widespread cell phone outages. Portable towers are brought in for access. The phones will also be used by staff for two-step verifications on our many online accounts.

The first batch of Crofton flag magnets has arrived and has begun to sell for $5.

The Arts Council of Anne Arundel County grant this year was for $1,000, rather than our usual $2,500. Martin added that Kathy will apply for an additional grant in September.

Brenda asked about the CCA 15-month CD that matures on June 18. Since the Finance Committee will not meet until June 25, she inquired whether Jim had checked current interest rates. Jim reported that Shore United is offering a rate of 4.1% and stated that he would contact the bank for additional information.

Brenda also requested the balance sheet for the CCA budget. Jim acknowledged that he had mistakenly omitted this page from the report and noted that the account currently has a balance of approximately $110,000.

Police Chief's Report – *Chief Jason Jett*

Chief Jett reported his dissatisfaction with the Flock Safety System program. He would like to cancel the current trial period. This program has not met the expectations of the police department and has had numerous hardware and software issues.

The Chief reported that an equipment supplier, Axon, has a version of these License Plate Readers, and he will investigate their offers and any complimentary trials they may provide. The police department is currently in contract with them for the body camera program, which

expires in April 2027. This program was originally funded by a state grant. There are no grants available at this time to fund an extension.

Axon offers an Outpost program, which combines LPR, speed detection, and live video all in one. They offer a two-month trial period. They will also offer a five-year bundle contract that would include the Outpost program at $155,000. The Outpost program on its own is $4,000 less than Flock Safety. The Chief recommends handling the extension of the Body Camera program first, before investigating the Outpost program.

The Chief reported that the Taser program is due to expire in 2028. Sgt. Sims will be re-certified and conduct training in-house.

Chief Jett reported damage caused by E-Bike riders on the golf course. The department is investigating the riders responsible. There have been many tips provided. He mentioned he will address laws regarding E-Bikes in the next E-Advocate.

He provided some monthly statistics. There were five hundred forty-four calls for service this month. There were twenty-four parking and traffic violations written, and three hundred and four patrol checks.

The department participated in some community events. They provided traffic support for the Crofton High School Senior Sunrise Bus Ride, participated in both the Crofton Woods Elementary and Crofton Elementary field days, and participated in the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new playground in Regime 9.

Jim commented that the last taser program was expected to last 10 years; however, county police are now proceeding with the newer version. The current body camera program contains two upgrades, so there is no reason to initiate a new contract until the current one is fulfilled. We own the current body cameras. There is $28,000 remaining in the police equipment fund. This includes tasers, Flock Safety cameras, and cell phones. There is $60,000 parked in the reserve fund for police equipment. Jim suggests we include this in our FY28 budget. The Chief will get an estimate from Axon, which includes the Evidence.com software. He will also investigate other LPR options.

At the conclusion of the Chief's report, the Board agreed to end the Flock Camera Safety trial.

Committee Reports

Covenant Review Committee – *Kevin Wilson*

Kevin reported there are no new cases. He announced there are two openings on the committee and asked those interested to contact him at Town Hall.

Planning and Zoning – *Brenda Wakefield*

Brenda reported that the Region 5 Plan was recently passed. There are several vetoes that will be voted on next week by the County Council.

Finance Committee – *James Kitchin*

James reported that the Finance Committee will meet on the 25th. The committee needs to decide on the remaining funds at the end of the fiscal year. It will need to be placed into reserves, but in doing so, may create a structural deficit. The committee will develop a plan to present to the Board.

Greater Crofton Council Liaison – *Chuck See*

Chuck reported the next GCC meeting is scheduled for June 29th at 7:00 PM at the Waugh Chapel Community Center. This is the District 21 session featuring Senator Rosapepe and his House colleagues. They will provide a summary of the last legislative session.

He reported the next meeting of the Riedel Road/Johns Hopkins Road Safety Committee is scheduled for July 8th with DPW traffic engineering. This meeting will be held on Zoom.

Education and Civic Affairs – *Chuck Cook*

Chuck did not have anything to report.

Maintenance and Operations – *Kitty Gross*

Kitty reported that the rain garden project at the front entrance is moving forward.

She reported she is still receiving complaints about the golf course's overgrowth of weeds around the fence, specifically Swinburne Avenue and Spring Green Avenue. She asked Martin to contact the country club.

Public Safety Committee – *Jack Kemerer*

Jack reported that he is planning to schedule a meeting in July.

Recreation Committee – *Meredith Schramm*

Meredith was not present and did not submit a report.

Citizen Comments

A resident asked Chief Jett about speeding e-Bikes. He explained that the helmet laws are for children under 16 years. He agrees that the police will have to crack down on these speeding vehicles. Currently, there is no specific legislation for e-bikes. They must follow current traffic laws. He plans to publish information about riding them in the community in the next E-Advocate and the department's social media. A resident also suggested publishing to area schools through the PTA and National Night Out.

With no additional questions or comments, the meeting was adjourned for an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Meeting minutes completed by Tara Gottschalck, Administrative Assistant (June 29, 2026)