

Carderock Springs Citizens' Association
December 6, 2010 Minutes CSCA Board Meeting

Present: Barbara Ames, Tom Hilton, Georgia Petsche, Phil Rider, Mary Lou Shannon, and Gunnar Tomasson

Opening and Comments –

Phil Rider called the meeting to order.

Discussion –

To begin the meeting discussion, Phil began a review of the meeting agenda. Several neighbors attended and participated in discussions, including neighbors from Carderock South.

1) Appreciation –

Phil Rider recognized the efforts and expressed appreciation for the following:

Barbara Ames' work to update, review and coordinate the publishing/distribution of the Carderock Springs Directory;

Tom Hilton and Gunnar Tomasson for their efforts putting together the recognition for Steve Kunin's neighborhood contributions;

Margie Orrick's help creating the recent neighborhood surveys and her ongoing work posting Carderock updates and news on the web;

The community volunteers who helped clean up the Carderock Dr. and River Rd. entryway and sign; and

Diane Karlik for her reminders of opportunities for 'green' actions within the community, including her recent notices of the electronics drop-off day at Walt Whitman High School.

Gunnar Tomasson added his appreciation for Phil Rider's efforts coordinating the cleanup; getting the message to the community and ensuring the right tools were available.

2) Secretary's Report –

Gunnar Tomasson had previously distributed a draft version of the November Meeting minutes. The distributed draft included revisions and change comments received in response to the distribution of an initial draft. Following a brief discussion, the minutes were approved.

Gunnar Tomasson to consider November Meeting minutes final.

3) Treasurer's Report –

Tom Hilton provided the current CSCA Treasure's Report. He discussed the current balances of the checking and savings accounts and the recent expenditures impacting the balances.

The Treasurer's Report was approved

4) Beautification/Entryway update –

Georgia Petsche began a discussion on the proposed repairs to the stone wall at the intersection of Lilly Stone Dr. and Persimmon Tree Rd. Georgia invited Linda Engel, on whose property the wall is located and who has been investigating repair options, to discuss the recent developments and input from the contractors. Linda stated that three contractors had looked at the wall and offered solutions. One contractor proposed re-building the entire wall while the other two proposed repairs to the existing wall. The repair option was much less costly and seemed most feasible.

Phil suggested that the Beautification Committee and the Engels make the “Carderock Springs” sign itself a priority in considering any repairs/changes on the current entryway. It was further suggested they develop a specific proposal to present to the CSCA board and ARC for their consideration.

Georgia Petsche and the Beautification Committee will develop a write-up of the proposed repair work to the entryway wall at Lilly Stone Dr. and Persimmon Tree Rd.

5) Other Items –

ARC -

Mary Lou mentioned that Bob Klein had been a member of the ARC several years ago and might be a candidate to fill the vacant ARC position. She will call him to discuss the possibility.

ARC Liaison -

Phil has been in contact with a possible candidate for the ARC Liaison position.

Community Communication -

Phil is trying to determine how best to reach people within the community, particularly how to reach those that are not on the Carderock ‘CS Chat’. A survey was distributed to all requesting input on communication preferences.

Leaf Removal -

Phil said that the Board is dedicated to listening to the community and included questions related to leaf collection on the recently distributed survey. Margie Orrick developed the survey and so far 54 responses have been received. The cost for leaf pick up by the County would result in a cost per household of \$92.

The feedback from the Carderock South residents, where County leaf pick up occurs, is that it has pros and cons such as no bagging necessary but the leaves can make a mess especially when wet and are blown around on windy days.

The topic of leaf removal will be pushed back as surveys are still being received. Jennifer Hughes is researching the percentage of residents necessary for official community ‘buy-in’ to a County leaf pick up service.

Snow Removal -

Montgomery County is having a meeting on December 7 to discuss snow removal. One topic to be addressed is cul-de-sac snow removal which would be of interest to members of the community. Jack Orrick's research has found that some cul-de-sacs in the neighborhood are included in the County's snow removal while others are not. Barbara Ames said that she might be able to make it to the meeting as a Carderock Springs representative.

Power Outages/PEPCO -

Phil discussed energy production in the U.S., providing an overview of PEPCO, alternative energy, energy distribution, etc. He proposed to the Board that energy information be provided to the community.

Carderock South -

Phil said that the Board has reviewed the by-laws and has discussed how Carderock South integrates with the activities of the CSCA. Several key items were identified such as annual dues, the Carderock South HOA, and the CSCA ARC. The dues associated with the Carderock South HOA are primarily used to maintain the Carderock South community park.

The suggestion was to not change the status quo but to maintain an open invitation for Carderock South residents to join the CSCA. A major issue associated with membership is the impact of the ARC and the associated responsibilities. Tom Hilton discussed some of the possible issues associated with the ARC and the potential for legal issues, liability and cost.

Green Program -

Carderock is part of the "Green Neighbors", which includes Carderock Springs, Cabin John and Glen Echo. Diane Karlik has proposed that Carderock establish a similar, stand-alone program. The current "Green Neighbors" is fairly focused on and supported by the Cabin John community.

Diane has volunteered to organize a Committee along the lines of an "Environmental Concerns/Sensitivities Committee".

Mary Lou to contact Bill Klein to discuss ARC vacancy

Organization of an "Environmental Concerns/Sensitivities Committee" sponsored by Diane Karlik.

Meeting Adjourned.