

Carderock Springs Citizens' Association
December 19, 2011 Minutes CSCA Board Meeting

Present: Barbara Ames, Jack Orrick, Georgia Petsche, Phil Rider, Bob Stocker, Gunnar Tomasson,

Opening and Comments –

Phil Rider called the meeting to order.

Barbara Ames mentioned that she recently purchased a book on the history of Cabin John by local author Judith Welles. Barbara met the author at a book signing and, in speaking with her, learned that an upcoming project is a similar book on the history of Carderock Springs.

As a follow-on to Barbara's mention of the history of Carderock Springs, Gunnar Tomasson mentioned that the 50th anniversary of Carderock Springs, June 2012, is now six months away. He mentioned that if an event is to be held, planning should begin soon in order to have enough lead-time. Phil said that the 50th anniversary had been mentioned before and that the Board would coordinate an event. The possibility of having Judith Welles was mentioned if she was interested in participating and sharing some of the history she has researched.

Discussion –

1) Secretary's Report –

Barbara Ames captured and distributed the November Minutes in Gunnar Tomasson's absence. Phil Rider thanked Barbara for her efforts, noting that the minutes were very good and thorough. Following discussion, the November Minutes were approved.

Gunnar Tomasson to consider November Meeting minutes final.

2) Treasurer's Report –

Bob Stocker submitted a written report and provided an overview of the budget, discussion of operating and discretionary funds. As could be expected there was little recent activity for Revenues. Overall, the financial profile remains solid.

Bob anticipates having a proposed 2012 budget ready for review by the January Meeting. The discussion of the budget year prompted discussion of aligning the Board member year with the budget year. The budget year is a calendar year while Board member year begins in the spring of each year. Any change in the Board member year would require a change in the By-Laws. Phil would like to discuss aligning the years at the next meeting.

Following the overview and discussion, the Treasurer's report was approved.

Include discussion of aligning the Board member year with the budget year in the January Meeting agenda.

The Treasurer's Report was approved.

3) Beautification Committee –

Georgia Petsche gave an update on the Beautification Committee's landscaping efforts at the Carderock Springs entrance at River Rd. The planned landscaping has been completed and the landscaper was able to put in a solution to address the water drainage problem. Phil drove past the entrance after a hard rain and thought the water drainage was still a problem. It was a very heavy rain so perhaps that was an anomaly. After all the work that had been done on the entrance, Phil wanted to make sure that the work was maintained so the work would not be wasted.

Georgia will look into a maintenance contract on the entrance. She was not sure whether the current landscaper was interested in the maintenance work. Barbara Ames said she would provide the name and contact information of her landscaper who does good work at a reasonable price.

Georgia to look into maintenance costs/contract for the Carderock Springs entrance at River Rd.

Barbara Ames to provide Georgia with the name and contact information of her landscaper.

4) Safety Committee –

Phil reported that the Safety Committee still does not have someone to assume the Chairperson role and that they have not finalized a proposal for submittal to the Board. The Committee will meet in January with plans to have a final proposal ready for the Board by the January Meeting.

5) Other Items –

Neighborhood Event Suggestion –

Jack Orrick mentioned that he had spoken with a person in the neighborhood who was a talented musician. His suggestion was that maybe that person or someone another musician could provide music at a Carderock event. The 50th anniversary of Carderock is coming up in summer 2012 with some sort of event tentatively planned; that could be a good opportunity to have live music. Jack will look into this idea further.

Jack to explore having a neighborhood musician perform at a Carderock event.

Newsletter –

With proposed changes to the newsletter content, publishing and delivery process, Phil asked whether his e-mail outlining the proposed changes Margie Orrick was concise. The Board agreed that the e-mail captured the key points. The summary e-mail included the following text:

- *The Board wants to continue printing and delivering the green newsletter.*

- *The Club Newsletter will only have items directly related to the club, which means eliminating all personal and CS community items. Their newsletter will not be delivered but put on line.*
- *The Green Newsletter will pick up community items but NOT personal ads. (Margie is working on a way to have people advertise personal items separate from any newsletter.)*
- *The Green Newsletter MAY include some Club events, especially when they are open to the whole community.*
- *The Board members will be responsible for gathering and writing all hard copy for each month and getting it to the editor by the 20th of each month. (We will not have a newsletter this month, but possibly an earlier one in December to especially advertise international pot luck in January.)*
- *The editor (hopefully Margie), will edit the hard copy, put it all together, and have it printed.*
- *The Green Newsletter will continue to be delivered by the same kids who have been currently doing it. (They have expressed their willingness to do this.)*

I would add that I think the Board should "own" the Green Newsletter so any decisions related to it in general or questionable copy items would come back to the Board. This would mean that we might want to call the Green Newsletter the CSCA Board Newsletter rather than the Carderock Springs Newsletter. I don't feel strongly about any name change, as long as we find some way to make it clear that the Board is accepting responsibility for the Green Newsletter.

Phil will develop a summary for community release concerning proposed changes to the newsletter procedure. The proposal includes that the Board will submit a hard copy of newsletter items to Noelle and she can proof if needed. Community members wishing to contribute to the Newsletter will be asked to send their items directly to Noelle for review and publishing.

The Newsletter will continue to be issued monthly. The Club newsletter recently switched to a predominately electronic distribution but will continue to distribute in hard copy format to about 50 households that opted out of electronic distribution.

To accommodate newsletter information and submittal from the Board, Phil will check with Larry on the availability of the Club on the second Monday of each month. The earlier meeting schedule would allow time for the write-up of Newsletter articles based on Board meeting discussions.

Annual Fall Meeting –

The upcoming January meeting, tentatively scheduled for January 8th from 6 – 8 pm, will serve as the CSCA Fall meeting for this year. Phil will confirm availability of the Club before finalizing plans. The meeting will be an “International potluck” as has taken place in previous years.

Based on Board discussion, the consensus was to have the January meeting be adults only or kids. The discussion included that if a speaker was available to participate, the logistics would be easier without kids. Additionally, other community events, such as the September new member event, do include kids so the decision was to have adults only.

During the November Meeting, several community members were suggested as possible speakers during the meeting:

- Paul Sparrow – Newseum director
- Mary Walsh – National news producer
- Robin Nietert – Women’s Microfinance Initiative
- Phil Frayne – State Department (work in Iraq)

Phil will contact the proposed speakers regarding their interest

Phil will contact speaker candidates to gauge interest and availability.

Phil will post event notice on CS Chat.

Phil will check availability of Club for January 8.

The January date for the Fall meeting provides time to identify a topic and speaker(s) to participate. Phil mentioned the many community members who are involved in interesting/significant activities and proposed reaching out to them to gauge interest in speaking at the meeting.

Meeting Adjourned.