

Carderock Springs Citizens' Association
June 19, 2017 Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

Board members present: Jack Orrick, Bill Moore, Seth Hertlein, Stefan LoBuglio, Sindy Udell and Yvette Quintela. Excused: Julie Weber, Bill Draper, and Rob Gorman.

Guests: Anne Carlson, Malcolm Stevenson, Art Bruestle, and Karen Roman.

CSCA President Jack Orrick convened the meeting at 7:40 PM.

The Board members approved the May 2017 minutes unanimously. CSCA Treasurer Rob Gorman indicated that his report will be sent to the board in the next several days.

The board and guests discussed how the board would determine community "concurrence" from the results of the survey to determine support for the trial islands. The two options presented were:

1. A tiered approach where votes for residents most proximate to the islands would have greater weight than those more removed. Concurrence for this option would require 100% support from residents with "direct residential frontage;" 50% support of individuals living in the blocks near the islands, and 25% support from those living at a distance from the islands.
2. A majority of the those survey respondents would have to support the trial islands to determine concurrence under the second option.

After a discussion, the majority of the board voted for option 2 with one board member abstaining. Two members who were not present also indicated support for this option. One other board member also added a second condition or assumption that those residents with direct residential frontage to the islands would still have to support them 100% to move forward with the trial islands. Several board members commented that if the trials are approved by a majority and then implemented, and then another survey is conducted to gauge support for permanent islands, they would be open to discussing option 1 again but with the proviso that the process of interpreting residents' "concurrence" by a tiered voting approach would have to be made in advance of the administration of the survey. One of the guests did share his concern that those who live in the knobs between the islands are affected by the islands even if they don't have direct residential frontage.

The board also asked the traffic safety committee to send a reminder to all residents about the survey and its closing date later this month. Jack also indicated that he would write a posting on CS-Chat sharing the board's decision to follow majority rule when determining community support for islands from the survey results. He also shared his belief that if the community does support trial islands, that they should be implemented in the late fall to have the 90-day trial period involve possible adverse weather. If the trial islands are supported, the County DOT has committed to conduct at least one more speed study to determine the effect of the islands. This data would be made public and a third survey would be administered to the community regardless of whether the data showed a dampening effect on speed or a null effect.

In other news, Jack indicated that the Quarry Springs development on River Road has applied to change its development plans and replace two planned towers with 45/46 apartments with 44 town homes. The Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the requested change on September 21 at their Silver Spring office location. It is assumed that a new traffic study will be conducted, and the board will consider this proposal at a subsequent meeting to determine if it has a position on this requested change.

At the meeting, it was also mentioned that the Artis, the developer for the planned memory facility across River Road at Carderock Springs Drive, has requested permission from the County to place an eight-square foot sign for the facility on River Road.

Concerning the CSCA Beltway Noise Working Group, Board Member Seth Hertlein indicated that he and Petra Jacobs have asked the Elementary School PTA to support a resolution indicating its support of sound barriers. He shared that he will ask the CSCA Board to vote on a resolution concerning the same in the next several months. He also indicated that his working group will contact County Council Member Roger Berliner to solicit his support. Seth reminded the board that the State Highway Commission had conducted a noise study in 2001 which did support the extension of sound barriers from Thornley Court to Persimmon Tree Road but the project was never funded.

In terms of summer meetings, the board did decide to meet on July 17 to review the survey results concerning moving ahead with the trial islands (again, decided by a majority of survey respondents). The board will not meet in August. Jack announced the deadline for submission for the next Carderock Newsletter on July 7.

The meeting adjourned at 8:33pm.