

Carderock Springs Citizens' Association
May 13, 2013 Minutes CSCA Board Meeting

Present: Lisa Wilcox Deyo, Margit Meissner, Bill Moore, Jack Orrick, Donna Schwartz, Bob Stocker, Joe Tobin, Gunnar Tomasson

Opening and Comments –

Jack Orrick called the meeting to order.

Discussion –

1) Secretary's Report –

Gunnar Tomasson presented the March Meeting minutes for review. Gunnar noted that no comments or change requests had been received after distribution of the draft minutes. Following discussion, the minutes were approved as presented.

Gunnar Tomasson to consider March Meeting minutes final.

2) Treasurer's Report –

Bob Stocker provided a review of current balances in CSCA accounts and income statement. He noted that membership dues were down 20 households from the same time last year. In response to the drop, Bob will send out a notice to those households that have not paid dues.

The Treasurer's Report was approved without changes.

3) Social Events –

Joe Tobin provided initial ideas for the September Community party. The party is being planned by the Social Committee with the proposed theme of "Swing into Fall" which will include music and dancing. To supplement the funding of the event, the committee will reach out to some local restaurants to sponsor a fundraising night.

The event is planned as a catered, adults only event. The target charge rate is \$39.99 per person to cover food and alcohol. Depending on how the planning goes, the Social Committee may request additional funding from the Board.

Jack Orrick suggested that the Social Committee ensure that the club is reserved early.

4) Tree Survey –

Jack Orrick presented the results of the tree survey. As an overview, Jack mentioned that the survey was intended to gather community members' opinions regarding guidelines on managing diseased/damaged trees, removing trees to create open space, etc.

The survey suggested areas where opinions leaned strongly in a certain direction and others where opinions were split. Jack reviewed the findings item by item but did note the following findings based on survey responses:

- Agreed that the guidelines provide adequate clarity to know when to obtain CSCA approval for the removal of a tree located on property. (Question 2)
- Consensus was split whether the CSCA should provide more explicit guidelines of what constitutes “sound hardwood tree”. (Question 3)
- The question asking for additional thoughts and comments concerning what else the tree removal guidelines might address provided many interesting points. Response #5 provided a hierarchy of goals to consider for the tree guidelines. Some of the feedback suggested making the guidelines as simple as possible.

Lisa Wilcox Deyo Made several points and prompted discussion about the content and goals of the Tree Removal Guidelines. Lisa wanted some clear language about when an arborist should be consulted.

The Board discussed Lisa’s suggestion that the language in the Guidelines refer to “pine trees” rather than “softwood trees” that do not require permission prior to removal. The point was that it is not clear or commonly understood what constitutes a “softwood”. Following discussion, the consensus was to retain the reference to “softwood trees”.

Following the discussion, Lisa agreed to prepare a new draft of the CSCA Tree Removal Guidelines which Jack agreed to review prior to bringing back to the Board for approval.

5) CSCA Summer Meeting Schedule –

The Board discussed the upcoming summer months and the impact on CSCA Board meetings. With travel and vacation schedules, August 5th was the date in August that worked best for the Board. However, it was decided that the meeting schedule discussion and decisions would be postponed until Phil Rider is present to participate.

6) Newsletter –

Lisa Wilcox Deyo will write about tree maintenance, including the issue of ivy attaching to trees.

Jack Orrick will write an article about the results of the tree survey.

For future articles, Bill Moore suggested the topic of Lyme disease prevention. He recently installed “tick tubes” on his property in order to address the issue. Bill shared the information he had gathered researching the “tick tubes” and felt that the information was worth sharing with the community.

7) Other Issues –

Ray Van Raalte attended the meeting and posed two questions:

Who is the point-of-contact for the classified ads in the newsletter?

- Noelle Lewis coordinates the classified ads

Ray has a large Elm tree on his property which is leaning considerably. What are the recommended steps?

- Lisa suggested speaking with an arborist to get a professional opinion on the tree. Several of the tree companies in the neighborhood provide reliable assessments of trees.

Meeting adjourned