

Carderock Springs Citizens' Association
August 10, 2009 Minutes CSCA Board Meeting

Present: Barbara Ames, Tony DeMarinis, Tom Hilton, Greg Holloway, Georgia Petsche, and Gunnar Tomasson

Greg Holloway called the meeting to order.

The meeting topics were primarily updates on previously established points of discussion. Those topics and the updates were as follows:

1) Update on Stone Trail –

Greg Holloway provided an update in the Stone Trail property, noting that the current status is that the property is compliant with Montgomery County requirements and codes. The stone wall bordering the front entrance was reviewed and approved but the scale of the wall as built appears larger than expected. An additional point is that it is not entirely clear what is considered the 'front yard' of the property. The point in question is difference between the current orientation of the house and the front yard established by the official plat. The Board discussed the ARC guidelines, specifically how it was applied to the Stone Trail property and generally how it might be applied in the future. A consensus was reached that the ARC design guidelines and Community Covenants should be reviewed and strengthened as needed to maintain the character of the neighborhood.

2) Treasurer's report –

Tom Hilton, CSCA Treasurer, provided the Board with an update on his efforts. The taxes have been audited and are being submitted via mail on August 11. The CSCA Director's insurance is dependent on the payment of outstanding taxes and will be brought current once the tax payment is processed. Tom's efforts to update the Carderock Springs Directory are ongoing and about 50% complete.

Tom Hilton to continue Carderock Springs Directory update effort

3) Update on House Tour –

Georgia provided an update on the efforts to replace Mary Lou Shannon as the organizer and host of the annual House Tour. Mary Lou has offered her assistance to help whoever takes over handling the House Tour planning. The House Tour typically occurs the 2nd or 3rd Sunday of October meaning that replacement should be identified quickly if the House Tour is to take place this year. Georgia said that she had some candidates in mind to assume responsibility for the House Tour.

During the upcoming open Board meeting in September, the board will recognize Mary Lou's contributions in establishing the House Tour and organizing it for twenty years. Georgia will shop for an appropriate gift as a token of appreciation.

Georgia Petsche to find recognition gift for Mary Lou's efforts supporting the House Tour

4) Update on Fenway Road Traffic –

Tony is working to organize this effort. He left a message for Jennifer Hughes, one of the original advocates within the community for this effort, but has not yet heard back from her. He intended to offer the opportunity for her to assist with the initial effort to seek input first from Fenway Road residents that would be directly impacted by any changes to the road.

Tony asked who sponsored the initial study, intending to see if any resulting data would be available for consideration. Georgia thought that Jennifer was the original point-of-contact and might be able to help with this topic. Whether or not additional information is available, Tony will develop options for discussion.

Tony DeMarinis to develop options for discussion regarding Fenway Rd. traffic and to gauge community opinion

5) Update on Carderock Springs entry-way maintenance –

Barbara Ames has been in touch with several local companies but has received little response in her efforts find a company to provide annual or semi-annual maintenance to the neighborhood entry-ways. Georgia noted that as a result of damage caused by a water main pipe, the WSSC was responsible for restoring the entry-way at Carderock Springs Dr. This effort has not been completed by WSSC.

Ann Ethan of the Carderock Springs Garden Club might be a good source of information. Ann assisted with the recent work done on the circle outside the CS Swim Club entrance. Another person to check with is Manuel, who maintains the grounds surrounding the CS Swim Club in addition to doing work around the neighborhood. Georgia will provide Barbara with Manuel's contact information.

Barbara Ames to seek sources for maintenance work for community entry-ways

Georgia Petsche to provide Barbara with Manuel's contact information

An add-on topic of discussion was the format of the Board meetings. Georgia noted that Montgomery County has a "Sunshine Law" in place that provides guidelines on how open and accessible community board meetings must be to all members of the community. Georgia volunteered to coordinate with the County to seek additional information.

Georgia Petsche to seek additional information on Montgomery County's Sunshine Law

Meeting Adjourned.