

Carderock Springs Citizens Association

Minutes: February 21, 2022 Board Meeting

Held via Zoom due to Covid-19

Board Members present: Jack Orrick, Tom Deyo, Ashish Goel, Gary Ratner, Petra Jacobs, Susan Eastman, Katalin Roth

Community members present: Ashkan Malayeri, Josh Ballance, Karen Ringo, Kimberly Young, Margie Orrick

Meeting called to order by Jack Orrick.

Agenda:

1. Approval of January Board meeting minutes
2. Treasurer's report
3. Approval of 2022 Budget; Dues mailing for 2022
4. Neighbor Business Listing on website
5. Nominating Committee for 2022-2023 Board Members
6. 2022 Social Event planning
7. Old Business: Carderock Springs Village; Beltway widening; Knob sign rehab.; Lighting at Persimmon Tree Lane
8. New Business
9. Next Meeting – March 21 and Newsletter deadline

Item 1: Approval of January Minutes

Minutes were unanimously approved.

Item 2: Treasurer's Report – Ashish Goel

We've already received 106 payments for 2022 dues out of 359 households. Cash balance in checking account is about \$20,000; we'll transfer \$9,000 of this to CD's. (CD's already have about \$69,000 in reserves). Our reserves are listed on the financial statement under "Account Balances". Additional dues should bring our cash balance back to about \$20,000. Expenses are running at the typical rate – nothing exceptional.

Ashish will send out a final mailing requesting dues in mid-March or later. Katalin and Sue agreed to stuff envelopes.

Item 3: Approval of 2022 Budget

Budgeted dues for 2022 are \$17,500, \$1,500 more than budgeted in 2021, but less than the approximate \$18,500 actually received. Budgeted expenses for 2022 are a tiny bit higher overall than in the 2021 budget.

Social Events – Tom recommended retaining in the 2022 budget the same amount of money for social events as our actual expenses for 2021, because the newcomers’ social was so successful and people felt they were getting a benefit from CSCA by its paying for food. It was agreed to increase the budget for social events from \$1,750 to \$3,500.

Beltway Widening Support – This had cost \$2,100 in 2021. Jack thought \$2,500 would give us the flexibility needed for 2022.

Sign Upgrade Project – It was agreed to reduce the amount for this from \$1,250 to \$1,000.

We would continue to budget for 30% of dues to be put into the contingency fund, which would be reviewed at the end of the year.

With the above three revisions, the proposed 2022 budget was unanimously approved.

Item 4: Neighbor Business Listing on Website

Margie proposed that the CSCA add a “Shop Very Local” tab to its website where C.S. residents could post a logo and link for their own local businesses. This would be free and continuous advertising. There was substantial support for this idea, subject to the condition Tom proposed that only businesses owned by dues-paying members of CSCA would be eligible to be listed.

The Board agreed to give this a shot. Jack indicated that the next step would be an article in the Newsletter. It will solicit residents’ ideas for what should be the criteria for being listed, beyond that a business is owned by a CSCA dues-paying member resident of Carderock Springs.

Item 5: Nominating Committee

Jack asked the Nominating Committee – Tom, Sue and Karen – to submit a list of nominees for 2022-23 Board Members and Officers by March 21st. Ashkan expressed interest in serving on the Board. The nominating committee will also use the CSCA Chat to invite residents to volunteer to serve.

Item 6: 2022 Social Event Planning

Cooking Class – Kimberly reported that Rhonda McLaughlin will conduct a cooking class on Zoom on March 19. She’ll send out reminders and a list of ingredients in advance.

Wine and Cheese Event – Kimberly is also exploring this for later in the spring. Goal would be to charge about \$50/person – that would be just to cover the costs, not a fundraiser. Tom suggested including a donation that would go to the Carderock Springs Elementary School Foundation. Kimberly will ask Karen about how to connect to the Foundation.

60th Anniversary Event – Jack would like to see this fall event be in person.

Annual Meeting – Jack recommends having the Annual Meeting this year be both in person and on Zoom: a hybrid.

Item 7: Old Business

Carderock Springs Village – Katalin, Sue and Donna Blank are still exploring this idea. Katalin is using the Chat to invite interested residents to a preliminary meeting to discuss creating such a

volunteer program to assist people in the community needing help. Sue noted that it would be useful to conduct a needs survey to determine whether such a program should be intergenerational or focus only on assisting elderly C.S. residents.

Beltway Widening – Jack reported that CSCA submitted a comment letter on February 3rd, thanks to Petra, Nicole Ferran and Roman Roman, with Jack as editor. The letter largely reiterated what CSCA has said before about the adverse impacts of increased noise, air pollution, and the flyover ramps, as well as harm to the tree canopy.

Jack also noted that a Montgomery County Circuit Court judge recently agreed with a disappointed bidder that the State had not followed required procedures in selecting TransUrban as the developer. If the further delay caused by this ruling extends the final Board of Public Works approval of the project beyond Governor Hogan's term, it is possible that a new Governor may not proceed with it.

Petra mentioned that someone in the Planning Department agrees with CSCA that the project would adversely impact C.S. as we have argued. Jack informed the Board that there seems to be a consensus to rebuild and expand the American Legion Bridge over the Potomac.

Knob Signs – Barend Jansen has volunteered to rehab the sign on Park Overlook. Ken Hinga and Charles Holmes have volunteered to assist. Sue was very pleased.

Lighting on Persimmon Tree – Ashish and Stefan concluded that the broken globes had been replaced. The lamp post light could either be repaired or a solar spotlight could be installed. In response to Katalin's observation that kids were seen running off after one of the incidents of vandalism, Jack said that such incidents should be reported to the police.

Item 8: New Business

None.

Item 9: Next Meeting and Newsletter Deadline

The next Board meeting will be March 21st. The deadline for submitting new material for the Newsletter will be March 4.

Gary Ratner, Secretary