

CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION

www.CarderockSprings.net

April 2010

2009-2010 Board:

President Greg Holloway First Vice President Barbara Ames Second Vice President Georgia Petsche Gunnar Tomasson Secretary Tom Hilton Treasurer Newsletter vacant At-Large Tony DiMarinis At-Large vacant Architectural Review Committee: Steve Kunin, Doug Soe-Lin, Scot Wilets

Our Association represents the Carderock Springs community in Bethesda, Maryland, and implements its land covenants. We can be reached at PO Box 237, Cabin John, MD 20818.

Annual Election Meeting 7 pm, Sunday, April 25, 2010

At the Clubhouse

- Elect officers for the coming year
- Amend By-Laws
- A PEPCO representative will address our concerns about power outages.
- Wine/Cheese Party after the meeting. It's your opportunity to meet your neighbors and incoming board members. Your ideas and opinions are welcome!

Slate for the 2010-2011 Board:

President Phil Rider
Vice President Georgia Petsche
Secretary Gunnar Tomasson
Treasurer Tom Hilton
Membership Barbara Ames
At-Large Jack Orrick
At-Large/Newsletter Mary Lou Shannon

Proposed Amendments to By-Laws:

The existing By-Laws contain a couple of provisions that are either outdated or are not reflective of the manner that the Board proposes to organize itself going forward. Below is the text of the proposed amendments which will be voted on at the Annual Meeting. These amendments are being sponsored by Tom Hilton, a current member of the Board who is standing for reelection to the Board as Treasurer. As provided in the By-Laws of the Association, members who are not able to attend the Annual Meeting may vote by proxy, provided that they provide a copy of their written proxy to the Secretary of the Association at the opening of the meeting.

1) Amendment to Article 1, Section 2:

This Section now reads as follows:

Section 2 - Dues. The annual dues shall be \$30.00 for a household. Dues shall be payable on receipt of a dues notice. The Treasurer shall cause dues notices to be sent to all eligible households, but failure to receive notice shall not excuse non-payment of dues. No person who has not paid his dues for the current year in full before the opening of any general or special meeting of the Association may vote at that meeting.

The Section is proposed to be amended to read as follows:

Section 2 - Dues. The annual dues shall be set by the Board which shall provide written notice to the membership at least thirty (30) days in advance of the due date for payment. Notice of the current dues shall also be posted on the website of the Association. Dues shall be payable on receipt of a dues notice. The Treasurer shall cause dues notices to be sent to all eligible households, but failure to receive notice shall not excuse non-payment of dues. No person who has not paid his dues for the current year in full before the opening of any general or special meeting of the Association may vote at that meeting.

Reasons for Change: The Board of the Association voted on an increase in the dues for the Association to \$50 per household two years ago. Despite this vote, the By-Laws were never amended. The amendment will provide more flexibility to the Board in the future to raise or lower dues without having to go through the process for amending the By-Laws.

2) Amendment to Article 2, Section 2:

This Section now reads as follows:

<u>Section 2 - Officers</u>. The officers of the Association shall be President, First and Second Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors and shall be the executive head of the Association. The First and Second Vice Presidents, in that order, shall act in the absence of the President, with all the powers of the President. The Second Vice President shall also be the Association's principal delegate to the Montgomery County Civic Federation. The Treasurer shall collect and disburse funds of the Association as directed by the Board of Directors and shall be accountable to the Association. His records shall be subject to audit. The Secretary shall keep summary minutes of the meeting of the Association and of the Board of Directors and shall conduct the correspondence of the Association, as directed by the Board. The officers shall keep the membership of the Association informed of all important problems facing the Carderock Springs community.

The Section is proposed to be amended to read as follows:

<u>Section 2 - Officers</u>. The officers of the Association shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Membership Secretary and Treasurer. There shall be in addition two At-large Representatives. (Amendments, cont.)

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Association and the Board of Directors and shall be the executive head of the Association. The Vice President shall act in the absence of the President, with all the powers of the President. The Secretary shall keep summary minutes of the meeting of the Association and of the Board of Directors and shall conduct the correspondence of the Association, as directed by the Board. The Membership Secretary shall solicit and collect membership dues, maintain the membership directories, and coordinate the publication of the CSCA Neighborhood Directory. The Treasurer shall collect and disburse funds of the Association as directed by the Board of Directors and shall be accountable to the Association. These records shall be subject to audit. The officers shall keep the membership of the Association informed of all important problems facing the Carderock Springs community.

Reasons for Change: The By-Laws were amended a few years back to increase the size of the Board to seven persons. The role of Second Vice President has not been perceived to provide any significant value, and there has been turnover on past Boards so that no orderly succession of officers has occurred. There is a perceived need for the position of Membership Secretary to maintain accurate records of the membership of the Association.

INTRODUCTIONS

Get to know who's on the slate this year – it's an interesting and diverse group!

Phil Rider has spent most of his life as a New Englander, moving to Maryland and Carderock 4 1/2 years ago. He loves the area, especially in the spring when he is able to fulfill his avocation as a landscaper/gardener. When not puttering in the garden, he spends his time working for Montgomery Hospice, supporting patients in the Hospice at Home program - a job he finds inspiring instead of depressing. Phil has served on the CSCA Board in the past, both as Secretary and Vice-President. He is looking forward to returning as President, hoping to renew the community's awareness and support of the important role the Board plays in maintaining the quality of life we have in Carderock.

Georgia Petsche has been a Property Manager for 22 years managing condominiums and cooperatives. She has been a resident of Carderock Springs for 48 years, raising six children here. She has found Carderock Springs an ideal place to live. Georgia has twice been President of our Citizens' Association and also served in other positions on the Board. She is interested in preserving our property values and in the beautification of our neighborhood.

Sverrir (Gunnar) Tomasson moved to Carderock Springs in January 2009 and is a senior project manager with Northrop Grumman Corp. What drew Gunnar to Carderock, and continues to be a big draw, was the architecture and feel of the neighborhood. He has seen and enjoyed lots of community oriented efforts, efforts that an active community association can bolster and coordinate. Gunnar's family also enjoys Carderock's proximity to the canal and river, the biking opportunities and lots of places to walk their two dogs. Gunnar served on the CSCA Board as Secretary this past year and is excited to continue volunteer work for the neighborhood.

Tom Hilton is a retired Navy Captain currently working as a psychologist at NIH. Tom is a strong believer in community preservation, was an avid supporter of historic districting in both Carderock Springs and also Woodley Park/DC, where as a Board member he helped Woodley become the first historic district in DC. Tom supports the community covenants and looks forward to helping the new CSCA Board promote improved communication in the neighborhood about matters affecting the value and beauty of our community. Tom moved to Carderock Springs in 1998, joined the CSCA board in 2007, and has been Treasurer since last April.

Barbara Ames moved into Carderock in May 2007. She is a CPA with a tax practice in Rockville representing small businesses and individuals. Her experience includes volunteer efforts with local community and neighborhood associations including Montgomery College, Rotary International, Chamber of Commerce, etc. Hobbies include duplicate bridge, ballroom dancing, and glass arts. Barbara has served on the CSCA Board since May 2009 and looks forward to working on membership for CSCA.

Jack Orrick has lived in Carderock Springs for over 20 years. He is a partner in the Bethesda law firm of Linowes and Blocher LLP where he practices business law. Jack spends a large amount of his time working for nonprofit organizations, and has represented several in Montgomery County including the Carderock Swim and Tennis Club. Jack is looking forward to using his legal skills to assist the Board in improving its transparency and in providing more consistency in its ongoing operations on behalf of the Carderock community.

Mary Lou Shannon has been a resident of Carderock since 1983 and involved in the community throughout her years here. For many years she organized house tours, served as "welcome chairman" and has been on many nominating committees. Her business is real estate. Mary Lou would like to see our youth help the older residents get connected to the CS-Chat email list and encourage all residents to spruce up front yards.