

CCHCA Annual Meeting Minutes – May 7, 2015

Blenheim Visitors Center

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM. CCHCA President Judy Fraser introduced two guests for the meeting, Andrea Loewenwarter and City of Fairfax Mayor Scott Silverthorne. Mayor Silverthorne spoke briefly about his desire for Fairfax to be a “fun” city. President Fraser provided Ms. Loewenwarter’s bio for the audience, then Ms. Loewenwarter gave an informative presentation on the history of the Blenheim property and the Willcoxon family that had owned it for generations. After a brief question and answer period, Liz Hilliard was the lucky door prize raffle winner of a local merchant gift card.

At 7:42 PM, a quorum of members was confirmed and the business portion of the meeting began with board member presentations:

- Treasurer, Donna Sabo: The total CCHCA balance was \$9,730. \$800 had recently been used to plant trees, shrubs and groundcover at the Commons of which half will be repaid by a grant from the City, and \$155 had been used for social activities.
- Secretary, Sue Mochinski: Not present
- Publications, Amy Levy: The ECCHCO newsletter is published quarterly and feedback is welcome, upcoming is June.
- Block Captains, Leslie Daniels: Expressed thanks to active block captains for hard work
- Membership, Stephanie Justen: Out of 320 homes, 165 are paid members. Membership payments can now be made online through PayPal, thanks to the hard work of many members. More than one year of dues can be paid at a time.
- Social Activities, Dia Pullen: All members are encouraged to become active and plan a social activity for the neighborhood. Social events budget is usually about \$100, depending on the activity. The Washington Post has already visited the neighborhood in order to profile it for the “Where We Live” column, and columnist Cheryl Kenny was impressed with the robust schedule of social activities in CCH.
- Community Safety, Rebecca Gregory: Nothing of note to report, a good year.
- Electronic Media, Ernie Klimonda: Group emails had been split into Yahoo and Google groups, but groups@cchca.org will now reach everyone signed up for CCHCA emails. The website makeover is complete and the directory is there and available to view with a password. A new directory will be published in January.

Vice President reports concluded at 7:58 PM, to be immediately followed by committee reports:

- Community Appearance, Jennifer Judelsohn: Not present, but report submitted via email noted that City had won a grant from the City of Fairfax to install new plantings at the Commons
- Neighbor to Neighbor, David Stearman: Neighbor to Neighbor is an ongoing effort that helps neighbors who are in temporary need of assistance.
- Advertising, Hildie Carney: CCHCA continues to attract and retain businesses that wish to advertise in neighborhood publications, and encouraged residents to advertise.
- Sign Committee, Ariel Hardwick: Fraser thanked Ariel for her continued work on signs announcing community events

Committee reports concluded at 8:02 PM, to be immediately followed by elections. As noted by President Fraser, Rebecca Gregory (Community Safety) and Leslie Daniels (Block Safety) are stepping down. Term limits in the CCHCA by laws allow for more than one term so members can continue to serve. The nominees:

- President, Judy Fraser
- Treasurer, Donna Sabo
- Secretary, Sue Mochinski
- VP Electronic Media, Ernie Klimonda
- VP Community Safety, Matt Eddy
- VP Publications, Amy Levy
- VP Block Captains, Vera Daniels
- VP Membership, Stephanie Justen

At 8:06 PM, the nominees were unanimously voted into office for a new term by the members present.

Following the election, other business was discussed:

- The Commons needs work. Native plants were recently put in place to reduce the maintenance workload.
- The Audubon Society provided advice on the plantings and 10 species of native plants and the goal is to have the Commons become a “certified sanctuary.” Members were encouraged to make their own yards a sanctuary using the “Audubon At Home” materials available at the meeting.
- Benches at the Commons are in disrepair and need to be replaced. It was suggested that if a member wished to donate a bench, the member’s name could be put on it. The board welcomes all ideas.
- The CCHCA Garden Club made a \$100 donation towards work at the Commons.
- Mulching at the Commons will take place on May 31.
- Sunday evening strolls would resume from 5 to 7 PM for any members that wish to participate.
- The Ice Cream Social will be held June 19.
- Lisa Whetzel invited members that are interested in promoting affordable housing in Fairfax City to contact her.

President Fraser noted that both the Civic Affairs and Social Activities board positions are currently vacant and invited members to consider taking on that responsibility.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.