

Minutes from CCHCA Board of Directors Meeting on June 6, 2007

CCHCA Members in Attendance: Katie Baxter-Gagen, John Sabo, Chad Hurley, Ana Alanso, Lisa Whetzel, Steve Caruso, Patrick Thomas, Katie Sidwell, Steve Lescure, Ernie Klimonda, Michelle Rummel, and Jill McNeil

Board of Director Reports:

*Katie Baxter-Gagen, President,*

- Katie asked that we continue to invite and welcome all CCHCA members to BOD meetings and publicize meeting dates and locations. Ernie suggested calling BOD meetings “Association Meetings” so that they are more welcoming to all community members.
- Katie would like to continue to focus on cleaning up the creek this year.
- In order to assist new BOD officers, Katie suggested that previous VPs and committee chairs pass along any relevant information to their successors.
- Katie asked if we currently provide city council members with copies of our newsletter and requested that we begin. The mayor and city council members are not currently members of the CCHCA Yahoo group and a suggestion was made to invite them.
- All new CCH residents are invited to join the Yahoo group.
- The “Washington Post” contacted Katie and expressed interest in writing a piece about the CCHCA. The focus would be the active nature of the CCHCA and the sense of community that it fosters.

*John Sabo, Treasurer,*

- John does not yet have check writing privileges. A transfer of privileges must occur with the bank.
- Submit all receipts to John for reimbursement.
- John will be responsible for writing and submitting the community enhancement grant to the City of Fairfax. Applications for the next grant will come out in March 2008 and will be e-mailed to Katie.
- Hildie will accept the community enhancement grant money on behalf of the CCHCA at the city council meeting on Tuesday, June 12, 2007.
- Account balances reported at the General Meeting on May 16, 2007 meeting were reviewed. Although all funds are in one account, the money is classified separately, as restricted and unrestricted balances.
- Once it is received, Katie will forward the application for the renewal of the CCHCA’s tax exempt status to John.
- A suggestion was made to use some of the community enhancement grant money to improve the path on Old Lee Highway in between Old Post Road and Saint Leo’s church. Concerns regarding the deterioration of the asphalt, poison ivy, and

the steep embankment in between the path and Old Lee Highway were raised. Patrick, our Safety Liaison, will speak with the City of Fairfax.

*Chad Hurley, VP Block Captains,*

- All Block Captain positions are filled. Michelle Rummel is the new “Area 4” coordinator, having assumed Judy Sue’s position.
- Block Captain information is posted on the CCHCA web site.

*Katie Sidwell, VP Membership,*

- Katie indicated that we have the addresses of all previous CCHCA members, with approximately 9% of membership renewals received at this time.
- A membership table will be manned at the Ice Cream Social.
- Katie has not yet received the directories. Dia reportedly has the directories, about 300, which need to be distributed to CCHCA members.
- Katie suggested that a directory and membership renewal invoice be distributed to CCHCA members as soon as possible.
- Ernie shared that historically the directory is not an incentive for residents to join the CCHCA. He noted that it would not cost the CCHCA anything to print enough additional copies of the directory to allow distribution to all residents. Indeed, it appears slightly more labor intensive to distribute the directory only to CCHCA members.
- The directory is linked to the membership data base.
- It was decided that a directory, membership renewal request, and letter asking for updated personal information will be distributed to all CCHCA members. Membership applications and directories will be distributed to all nonmember residents.
- A letter focusing on the accomplishments of the CCHCA, such as the Commons Area and path to the creek, and the benefits of joining the CCHCA will accompany the membership applications.
- Distribution of the directories and membership material is scheduled for the end of July 2007.

*Ana Alanso, VP Publications,*

- Four newsletters are published each year. The CCHCA year runs from May to May. The next newsletter will be distributed in July with the directory and membership materials.
- Additional dates for newsletter distribution include; 9/1/07-9/8/07, 12/1/07-12/8/07, 3/1/08-3/8/08.
- Flyers advertising upcoming special events will be included with the newsletters when possible.
- Thank you to Ernie for contributing so many pieces to the newsletter. The upcoming newsletter should include an article by Matt regarding CERT and creek guidelines.

- Other ideas for future newsletter articles include; information on the Fairfax Boulevard plan, the construction at Blenheim, a “Kids Corner,” and historical blurbs.
- A story regarding the use of bricks taken from demolished buildings in South East D.C. when constructing neighborhood homes, due to a brick shortage, was suggested.

*Lisa Whetzel, VP Social,*

- Dia and Lee are coordinating the posting of signs for the Creek Clean-Up and Ice Cream Social.
- The signs are inexpensive, seven dollars for ten signs. They must be in the PDF format.
- The Ice Cream Social will be on June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. The Oasis bike shop owner will be attending.
- The Labor Day Picnic will be on Monday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00-7:00.
- Other upcoming events include the Halloween Kick-Off party, Santa visits, and the Spring Egg Hunt.
- An adult-only gathering or a “Progressive Dinner” were suggestions for new events. Possible locations included Blenheim, the pavilion, the CCH pool, and would be BYOB.
- Ernie suggested awarding a prize for the home with the best outdoor Christmas decorations. The contest could be advertised in the newsletter and the award presented after the holidays.

*Steve Caruso, VP Community Safety, Adopt-A-Spot,*

- The Creek Clean Up is scheduled for Sunday June 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am.
- Two Scout groups at United Methodist were contacted to determine their ability to help with clean ups as part of their service projects. The leaders suggested checking back in the fall when service projects are required. Areas in need of cleaning include; the woods next to FHS and the creek.
- Concerns were raised regarding the fire department dumping foam from its hoses into the creek. Steve will call to investigate.
- Steve will contact Joe Kirby to request the installation of trash cans on the path leading to the tennis courts at FHS.
- Environmental suggestions made by Chris Keppler, a new resident, included; suggesting that FHS students car pool, posting signs with educational information regarding the environmental impact of pollution/resident actions near the creek, combining 30 minute informational sessions with a field trip to the creek for Daniels Run students, and making creek maintenance and Eagle Scout project.

*Patrick Thomas, VP Community Safety, Safety Liaison,*

- Patrick is pursuing police car seat inspections at the Labor Day Picnic and information regarding pre-vacation crime prevention.

- Advertising of free fire and furnace inspections and the free replacement smoke alarms by the fire department will be in upcoming newsletters and at general meetings and some social events.
- Patrick will check on the status of the Adopt-a-Fire Hydrant program with fireman Dunstan.

*Hildie Carney, VP Civic Affairs,*

- The development off Old Lee Highway and Ridge Road has been approved. There will be 20 single family homes built on that property. There will be no entrance off Old Lee Highway. There will be a turnaround from Ridge Road.
- The groundbreaking of the Interpretative Center at Blenheim was very successful with about 100 people attending. The construction will begin around September or October and it should be finished by next Spring.
- City Tours are being held each Saturday night at 7PM. Tours start at the Sweet Life Cafe (Moore House). Cost is \$5 per person or \$15 per family. Each week an historic site is open for viewing. Hildie is leading the tour this Sat, June 9th.

*Nasrin Lescure, Common Area,*

- There are four new park benches along the path to the creek.
- We would like to purchase a long hose with the neighborhood enhancement grant money.

*Steve Lescure, Historian,*

- Ernie will continue to take pictures at social events.
- Ernie passed along binders, display photos, etc., to Steve. Photos and other archives will be displayed on the web and at some social events and meetings.

*Ernie Klimonda, Webmaster,*

- There are 150 members on the CCHCA Yahoo group.
- The Yahoo group contains many referrals for service providers, which could be an incentive to join the CCHCA.
- A suggestion was made to begin a CCHCA “free cycle.”

*The CCHCA General Meeting is tentatively scheduled for October 10, 2007 at Daniel’s Run Elementary.*

*Upcoming BOD meetings; 9/19/07 at Lisa’s and 11/14/07 at Ernie’s.*