

Minutes from CCHCA General Meeting on October 18, 2006

Residents in Attendance: Lisa Whetzel, Hildie Carney, Jill McNeil, Lydia Pullen, Livingston Johnson, Ernie Klimonda, Bob Willard, Mary Lou Bishop, Kathleen Pentek, Kathy Keith, Pat Bonnes, Doris Taylor, Wylma James, Yanji Lama, Debbie Lane, and Katie Baxter-Gagen.

Fireman Sean Dunstan, Guest Speaker,

- Fireman Dunstan has started an “adopt a fire hydrant” program where community members take responsibility for clearing snow away from fire hydrants following storms. He is also spearheading the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program for the city. The CCHCA had attempted to start this program last year but lacked leadership.
- Chimney Fires can typically be avoided if a chimney is inspected each year by a chimney sweep. A Level 1 inspection is for chimneys with regular use under regular conditions. A Level 2 inspection is necessary when there are any changes in the system, such as changes in the shape or type of chimney, the appliances used, or type of fuel consumed. A Level 3 inspection would include any changes or repairs to the system. A safety brochure was distributed for chimneys, wood stoves, kerosene heaters, and furnace heaters.
- General safety tips include, the use of a fire screen, burning the chimney hot twice a day to burn off deposits, and making sure the damper is open. When using synthetic logs follow the directions on the bag and do not break them up as it may put off more carbon monoxide. If converting to a gas system Fireman Dunstan recommends installing a CO2 monitor.

Board of Director Reports:

Lisa Whetzel, President,

- Residents are encouraged to create a family safety plan which includes arranging local, state, and national meeting places.
- The minutes from the August 2004 Board of Directors meeting were approved.
- The common area was awarded beauty spot of the month in October.
- Lisa reported for Ana Alanso, VP: Publications that adds or articles are welcome at any time for the ECCO newsletter.

Hildie Carney, VP: Membership,

- Currently 189 of 322 residents are members of the CCHCA, which is about 57% and considered a success. The 2006 membership drive is officially closed, but we are happy to accept new members at any time.

Scott Adamson, VP: Community Safety,

- A member contacted Lisa regarding the lack of a white strip at the stop sign at the intersection of Old Post Road and Cornwall. Concerns were noted by some in attendance at the lack of stop signs and white strips at the intersections of Cornwall and Spring Lake Terrace and Farmington and Spring Lake Terrace. Additionally, the need for a stop light was debated from the neighborhood to Old Lee Highway. Please submit any other suggestions to Scott or Lisa. Scott will pursue the concerns with the City of Fairfax.

Chad Hurley, VP: Block captains

- Chad has accepted the VP: Block Captain position following Ernie's resignation.

Katie Baxter-Gagen, VP: Social Activities,

- The Labor Day event was successful and included many activities, music, prizes, and a recipe contest.
- The Trick or Treating Kick-Off party will be on October 31, 2006 from 5:00 to 6:15 and will include with pizza and a costume contest with prizes. The event is open to all ages and the costume contest will be divided by age. We will order more pizza this year to avoid running out again.
- A family of six living in the City of Fairfax was adopted for Thanksgiving and Christmas through "Our Daily Bread." The family has four children. We want to provide gift cards to Giant Food for Thanksgiving (\$75) and for Christmas (\$100). Additionally, we would like to provide gift cards for the parents to buy Christmas gifts for the children. If the donations are numerous we will give the family the extra or sponsor another family. Make checks out CCHCA and give to Katie or Dia Pullen. 12/15/06 is the cut off date for donations. A charity gift is a tax write-off so you can use your check as a receipt or Dia will create a receipt upon request.
- We are hoping to continue the "Visits from Santa" but we do not currently have a Santa. The CCHCA owns a Santa suit and can provide make-up application.
- Luminaries have not been a success as few people have participated in the event. As a result, we are canceling the event. Katie will volunteer the sand that she has in her basement for use by anyone who is interested.

Dia Pullen, Treasurer,

- The CCHCA has a balance of \$6373.19. Approximately \$3250.00 is grant money from the City of Fairfax and \$3100.00 is open money.
- We received an additional \$1000.00 from the City of Fairfax grant program this year. A first bid was received yesterday for the path project at the creek which was \$1400.00 for each of the 2 paths, or about \$2800.00 total. The paths would be natural, covered with mulch only. The city is emailing Dia additional companies to obtain bids from. We are required to use the grant money that the city gives each year, thus we could put in one path this year and one path the next year.
- A resident noted that erosion is an issue at the creek which has become quite contaminated. She suggested we consider the environmental impact when the paths are installed. Tom Peterson, a resident who is also an environmental scientist, may be able to give us feedback on the best way to minimize any negative environmental impact resulting from the project.

Committee Reports:

Common Area Committee,

- The Commons look great, thank you for all of the hard work. Hildie accepted an award on behalf of the CCHCA for participating in the City of Fairfax spring clean up month by adopting the spot of Accotink Creek. We did not do a clean up of the creek this fall but will look to schedule one in the spring.

Welcoming Committee,

- Donna Franks has accepted a position on the Welcoming Committee following the resignation of Melissa Peterson. Although we try to welcome new renters and provide them with helpful information, however, it is difficult to know when they have moved in. The gifts and information are delivered only to new owners. This year has been less busy with fewer home sales in the neighborhood. Please contact the committee if you are aware of any new sales by owners.

Webmaster,

- Ernie Klimonda remains the webmaster and spends approximately one hour per day on updating the web.
- Following Ernie's recent resignation, we do not currently have a historian. If anyone is interested, please contact Lisa. Ernie will pass along the materials to

Lisa for the next historian, such as the photo album, all flyers, and all brochures for homes that sell in CCH.

- Ernie passed out a draft of the 2007 CCHCA Directory for review by the board members. Please submit corrections to Hildie who has taken over responsibility for the directory from Ernie. Colleen McKay and Ernie will assist Hildie. If there is any additional type of information for the directory please submit suggestions to Hildie. One resident asked for baby sitters or pet sitters to be listed as was the case last year. Yard work and snow removal listings were also suggested.
- Thank you for all of your hard work Ernie!

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

- FHSPTSA asked that we help to sponsor the “All Night Graduation Party” for 2007; we have donated \$100.00 in the past. The donation was approved. Dia suggested putting the donation letter from the FHSPTSA in the next newsletter in case additional residents would like to donate.
- The CCH Garden Club has asked for a donation to the “Blue Star Memorial” in the City of Fairfax. The memorial was removed recently from the Fairfax Museum. The City has agreed to replace the memorial but money is required to replace it. No one knew what the memorial was, and the motion was tabled until more information could be gathered.
- A resident brought up the number of cars parked on each side of the road on Spring Lake Terrace near the intersection Park Hill Place and the safety issue due to poor visibility. A suggestion was made to call the City of Fairfax traffic enforcement to report violations such as empty trailers, cars without current stickers, cars that have not moved for extended periods of time, etc.
- A resident asked about the posting of political signs. Signs are allowed in yards but not in public space, should be eight feet back from the curb and you need a permit unless the sign is less than a 1 square foot in size. Signs must be removed within thirty days of an election. Hildie will post the guidelines in the Yahoo news letter.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Wednesday, 1/24/06 at Hildie's house, all are welcome.