

Chesterbrook Woods Citizens Association

Minutes from the Fall Meeting

September 29, 2020

CWCA President Larry Allen welcomed everyone to our first virtual meeting. He called the meeting to order. Approximately 30 residents were in attendance.

Election of the Board

Larry Allen appointed a nominating committee in the fall who identified the following slate for election to the CWCA Board:

John Holt, President
Lizzy Conroy, Vice President
Susan Garrahan, Treasurer
Elizabeth Ende, Secretary

A motion was made and passed to elect the CWCA Board.

Treasurer's Report

Jennifer Versaw presented the treasurer's report:

- CWCA collected dues from 312 houses (56% of households).
- No money was spent for snow removal this year.
- The average cost for snow removal over the last ten years is \$10,567, but the high during Snowmageddon was \$32,935.
- We propose maintaining dues at \$15 to maintain a reserve for snow & ice.
- Due to safety concerns because of COVID, CWCA will not host Oktoberfest this year. **CWCA does not play a role in trick or treat activities.**
- We have included funds for a possible spring or summer event if safety conditions improve.
- A motion was made and passed to set dues at \$15 for the year.
- ***Don't pay your dues yet!*** *We will send out information later this month on how you can pay your dues, including how to pay electronically (preferred) and the new address for payments if you want to pay with a check.*

Neighborhood Thank Yous and Project Updates

- **Block Captains** are our unsung heroes. Among other things, they keep the Board apprised on issues in their part of the neighborhood, welcome new neighbors and help keep the neighborhood directory up to date. **We welcome aboard as new Block Captains:** Gail Clements and Richard Elliott - Block 5; Lori Boerner - Block 13; Sarah Merchak - Block 18; Anna Fernau - Block 22; and Sarah Feder - Block 28.
- **Many thanks** to Lori Boerner and Emily Zuppert, who assembled a group of volunteers and identified resources for neighbors during the quarantine. Thank you also to Jeanne Wang and Lisa Gordon for making masks for neighbors.

Dominion Undergrounding Project – Lizzy Conroy gave a project update.

- Dominion has put four projects on hold because they haven't received required easements from residents. They are proceeding with a project on Chesterbrook/Woodman Drive and expect to complete it during the first quarter of 2021. Dominion hopes this will serve as a demonstration project for the neighborhood so that they can work out easements with residents in the on-hold projects in Chesterbrook Woods (see attached map).
- A resident reported on a meeting with Supervisor Foust's office to try to ask Cox and Verizon to agree to underground wires as well so that the telephone poles could also be taken down. Unfortunately, Cox and Verizon have NOT agreed to be part of the undergrounding process.
- Given his experience with Dominion on an undergrounding project in another county, a resident suggested there might be a role for CWCA to help negotiate a narrower easement than what has been proposed by Dominion for the undergrounding project.

Information supplied to CWCA by Dominion after the Fall Meeting:

- **Q. When will Pre-construction Meeting be held?** *A. Due to this project only having 19 customers we will not be having an organized pre-construction meeting. We will send out postcards to let them know that construction is eminent and door hangers will be hung on the affected customers doors with the contractor's contact information prior to the start of construction. We will hold a meeting once the project is fully complete for customers on the other proposed projects once they've had a chance to evaluate the first one in hopes that we will get more participation.*
- **Q. Are street lights impacted by undergrounding?** *A. The overhead streetlights that may be on our wood poles will be refed from our underground transformers.*

Traffic Calming Project – Susan Garrahan gave a project update.

- Two traffic speed studies have been done on Chesterbrook Road. The latest study done during the work week, found that 4,400 cars drove with a most common speed of 30-34 mph. 230 cars per day were traveling more than 20% over the speed limit (over 50 mph) which is a reckless misdemeanor. Fairfax County offers very few options for traffic calming. They will not allow a stop sign to be installed at Forest Lane. The current proposition is to install speed tables (like what is on N. Albemarle). In order to move forward, homeowners must agree to the placement of the speed table if it abuts their property. Two different properties which are impacted are up for sale so the project has stalled. They are working to see if the speed tables can be moved so they can gain approval. Once there is 100% agreement from affected homeowners, Fairfax County will host a Q&A meeting about the proposal and approval process. Thereafter, they will send a ballot to each household in a broader "balloting area" – which includes households for whom commuting would be significantly extended if they have to reroute to avoid the road with the speed tables.
- There was discussion about whether anything else could be done, including a question on whether we could install a speed camera. The Task Force will investigate.
- There was a request by a resident that drivers not 'roll through' stop signs in the neighborhood.

Sidewalk Segments on Kirby/Chesterbrook Road – Elizabeth Ende gave a project update.

- In March, a sidewalk segment was completed on Kirby Road between Birch and Corliss. In August, a segment was completed on Chesterbrook from Chesterford Way to Maddux Lane. The segment on Kirby from Halsey to Franklin (south side) is estimated to be completed summer 2021 and on Kirby from Mori to Chesterbrook (east side) is scheduled to be completed summer 2022. FCDOT is completing surveys for three segments on Chesterbrook from Maddux to N 41st street so that they can develop project timelines.

Committee Reports

Snow Removal: Steve Sunderhauf gave an update

- There were zero plowing events this past winter so no money was spent for snow removal. We have a contract with plow service, JL Tree, and pricing has not gone up.
- Plowing takes place once snowfall exceeds 3 inches. They use a salt or sand mix for ice.
- Please move cars off the street during snow events to simplify plowing.
- Email issues regarding snowplow service or concern about poor road conditions to: CWCASnow@gmail.com
- Snow team will post updates via their twitter account: <https://twitter.com/cwcasnow>

A big thank you to Steve Sunderhauf and to Ed McGrady who have been managing CWCA's snow removal service for many years!

Safety: Elizabeth Ende read Bob Blakely's report

- There is a regional problem with parked cars being broken into at night. In recent months, there have been multiple incidents each week reported on the Ring Neighborhood app and on Nextdoor. Take appropriate precautions to lock cars and not to leave visible items of value in cars.
- Lock doors and windows to houses as well. The majority of incidents seen in the past involve unlocked doors.
- Be aware of package thieves during upcoming holiday season

Pineapple Patrol:

- The Pineapple Patrol (Welcoming Committee) is on hiatus due to lack of volunteers. Send an email to chesterbrookwoods@gmail.com if you would like to serve as the Pineapple Patrol chair (or co-chair) and want to help organize a new committee

Environmental Committee: Elizabeth Ende read Neil Ende's report

- There is growing concern in the community about damage to offsite trees next to infill construction projects, including at least one project where a tree fell on a house. We are working with the county on this issue. If you are concerned or aware of such a circumstance, please email cwcaenvironment@gmail.com

Announcements: There will be a virtual public meeting on Wednesday, September 30th at 7:30 p.m. to update the community about the Stormwater and Stream Restoration Project for the Little Pimmit Run Tributary at Woodland Terrace.

Meeting Adjourned 8:15 PM.