

Chesterbrook Woods Citizens Association

Minutes from the Spring Meeting

October 2, 2019, 7pm-9pm

CWCA President Larry Allen called the meeting to order and made introductions of the other CWCA officers: Lizzy Conroy, VP; Jennifer Versaw, Treasurer; and Ellen Garrett, Secretary. Approximately 40 residents were in attendance.

Treasurer's Report

- CWCA collected dues from approximately 63% of households. The goal is 75%
- Expenses for snow removal was lower than budgeted.
- Reserve reduced by about \$8k. Propose maintaining dues at \$15 to maintain reasonable reserve for snow & ice.
- A motion was made and passed to keep dues at \$15 for the year.

How to Pay Dues (by December 1)

1. By Check—Send a \$15 check made payable to “CWCA” to:

**CWCA Treasurer Jennifer Versaw
6004 Copely Lane
McLean, VA 22101**

Be sure your check includes your address, so we can properly credit your household.

2. Online – Log into PayPal and choose the “Send” option. Select the ‘Friends and Family’ transfer method rather than the commercial transfer to avoid having PayPal charge the CWCA a fee. Please designate chesterbrookwoods@gmail.com as the email address. Include your name & address so we can properly credit your household.

Committee Reports

Snow Removal: Ed McGrady reported for the committee

- There were 3 plowing events this past winter – costing \$8,000
- There were 3 sanding events this past winter – costing \$3200
- The contract with the plow service has increased by 10%
- Email for issues regarding the snowplow service on your road:
CWCASnow@gmail.com
- Twitter account: <https://twitter.com/cwcasnow>
- CWCA's Wunderground Link: <https://www.wunderground.com/personal-weather-station/dashboard?ID=KVAMCLEA53#history>

Safety: Bob Blakely reported for the committee

- About a week and a half ago a car was stolen from Chain Bridge Forest. It's believed that the key fob was left in the car
- Take appropriate precautions to lock your car, do not leave visible items of value out
- Be aware of package thieves during upcoming holiday season

Pineapple Patrol:

- The Pineapple Patrol is on hiatus due to lack of volunteers to run it
- Please reach out to the CWCA Board if you are interested in getting involved

Environmental Committee: Neil Ende reported for the committee

- Infill Development continues; the county is giving sparse enforcement – instead of requiring a preservation of at least 30% of the existing tree canopy at 1607 Crestwood Lane, it has given deviations to allow the developer to reduce the tree canopy to approximately 1% (roughly 200 sq ft out of 22,000 sq ft). We are trying to achieve enforcement with the county. A FOIA request is being issued because the county has not provided requested copies of the written explanation for the deviations. Neighbors expressed concern that the planned infiltration ditch will not properly handle the amount of water flowing across the property.
- If you know of a property that has been sold to a developer and you are willing to help, contact Neil at cwcaenvironment@gmail.com
- Based on discussion with a land use attorney, there is no proposal to form an HOA; Rather, an HOA lawyer would come to discuss how interested homeowners could place covenants on their property to ensure trees are maintained when the property is sold. This would be a voluntary action by interested homeowners. The cost of putting a covenant template together would be approximately \$1,000-2,000. Will look into inviting the lawyer to the spring CWCA meeting for an information session.
- Planning an Environmental Day in the neighborhood with speakers. Date Pends.
- McLean Tree Foundation – a great option for those who want to have a tree planted on the front of their property. Costs \$50. They will help you plant it and will give you care instructions. Reach out to Neil if interested.
- October is Plastic Free Challenge Month
- CWCA will email neighbors about the date of the next Environmental Committee Meeting.
- To join in discussions or get updates from the environmental committee, send an email to cwcaenvironment-subscribe@yahoogroups.com from the email address you will use to receive or post messages.

Presentation by Steve Welch from VDOT. RE: Chesterbrook Rd Repair Project

- Steve Welch is an employee with VDOT, Transportation and Land Use
- Provided a thorough overview of the drainage improvements project at Chesterbrook Rd and N. Albemarle
- Original plans for the drainage system were approved in 1960

- In 2001, VDOT learned that the pipe put in the upper most section of the underground drainage system was not able to handle the water flow
- The current 30” pipe cannot handle a ‘10-yr storm’, but a 54” pipe would be more appropriate
- Gave presentation on the home development over the last 60 years with maps of the closed system and open system going up the hill
- Storm management wasn’t really a focus in the 1960s when this system was put in place
- In 2019, VDOT spent \$25k on a survey of the architecture, boundaries, topography, and utility records of the area
- VDOT cannot put in a pipe that is larger than the pipe that is downstream on the other side of the road (which is 54”)
- A new 54” pipe will handle about twice the amount of water
- VDOT is working with Washington Gas and Fairfax County Water Authority to redesign their lines
- The project will affect traffic: possibly closing N. Albemarle, and needing to go to 1 lane at a time on Chesterbrook during the digging
- The cost of materials (\$350K) reclassifies the project from a ‘maintenance project’ to a ‘capital improvement project’; this means that VDOT must hire a contractor and abide by government acquisition rules; VDOT will have to put together a package of requirements, schedule, cost, plans, etc. and put out a bid
- Preliminary costs are \$1.2M with a 2-3 year schedule for completion
- A Rip Sullivan representative commented that they were going into appropriations and will fight to get this money in the State legislature
- For residents to report maintenance issues on roads and drainage pipes that need to be cleared of debris:
 - My.vdot.virginia.gov
 - 1-800-FOR-ROAD
- VDOT is coordinating with the ‘Connect McLean’ sidewalk project and the Pimmit Run stream restoration for this work

Supervisor John Foust Community Updates

Supervisor Foust was in attendance and provided the following community updates:

- The county is developing a county-wide strategic plan
- The county is receiving 1210 body worn cameras for county police officers
- Dranesville glass recycling - since curb side glass recycling is no longer available, there will now be a purple bin system to bring your glass to recycle. The Dolly Madison Library will have one. <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/glass-containers-no-longer-required-in-curbside-recycling-program/>
- Changing 50,000 streetlights with LED bulbs. This will save energy and money.
- \$4.5M of “leftover” county money will be invested in energy efficient HVAC systems at government buildings each year.
- There is a Request for Proposal out for solar energy solutions for 130 county buildings
- Starting Community Wide Energy Action Force. Betty Ende is serving as a member
- ‘Connect McLean’ Trails Project - Sidewalk Projects

- Oct 21: holding a “Pardon our Dust” meeting for #305 on the map. Estimated completion date of summer 2020
- Traffic Calming: Chesterbrook Rd qualified for traffic calming measures. The proposal includes 2 speed tables and 1 speed hump. This requires community support. Forms have gone out to those in the voting area. Any questions, contact Donna Keith in Foust’s office
- School Boundary Discussions happening in order to correct the overcrowding at McLean HS, which is at 120% capacity. Langley HS is under-filled at 78% capacity and threatening to lose their sports division status. Current proposals will affect approximately 200 McLean students to move to Langley
- Road repairs from summer storm:
- Swinks Mill Rd should be back to normal by mid-October
- Kirby Rd – estimated to be complete by end of the year
- Newport Academy – the drug rehab group homes proposed by McLean were not approved
- Foust’s office is working with Delegate Sullivan on drafting dispersion legislation on group homes to require them to be spread out geographically so there can’t be too many in a neighborhood
- Concern was raised over the perceived abuse of certain group homes being used as outpatient clinics and abusing the rules and intent of this type of facility. Supervisor Foust indicated that, once a permit is granted, it can be very, very difficult to pull it back.
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Open Floor

- **Oktoberfest:** will be held on Sunday, October 20 from 1-4 p.m. in the Hardwood Lane cul-de-sac (rain date will be Sunday, October 27).
 - **Volunteer sign up:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c054faaaf2bab9-2015>
 - **Potluck:**
 - A-M: a snack or side dish with serving utensil
 - Q-Z: dessert
- **CWCA Directories fall printing** – Update your listing in the following ways:
 1. Contact your Block Captain [the block captains are listed in the front of the directory]
 2. Login to www.atozdirectories.com to view your listing and make changes yourself
 3. Contact the CWCA Secretary at: ellen104@gmail.com or 703-403-5145

- **Directory Cover Art Contest:** A contest is underway to search for the illustration that will don the cover of next year's directory. Please have your child or grandchild show off their artistic talent and send in a drawing of their **favorite tree, trees, or house with trees!** Submission date: **October 21**
- **Young Entrepreneurs List Update:** If you have a teen or tween that is interested in being listed as a young entrepreneur for services to the neighborhood, please contact Ellen Garrett (ellen104@gmail.com).

Open CWCA Positions

A recruiting committee has been formed to find replacements for the following positions. If interested, please contact Betty Ende. eende1@gmail.com

- CWCA President
- CWCA Secretary
- Pineapple Patrol Chair

Meeting Adjourned 9:10 PM.