

**CROFTON CIVIC ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING (Via ZOOM)
October 4, 2021 – 7:00 PM**

Present:

Board Members: Martin Simon, Anna O’Kelly, Brian Riley, Renee Speer, Daria DeLizio, Charles See, Robert Kendall and Hal Sheldon.

Staff: Larry Schweinsburg, Susan Myers, Earl Fox, Tara Gottschalck.

Larry Schweinsburg opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements by the President:

Martin announced that the CCA Board meetings are recorded for the purpose of assisting the secretary in the transcribing of the minutes. Minutes are approved usually at the next Board meeting, if available. Once approved by the Board they are posted to the CCA website.

On October 11 Town Hall is closed for Columbus Day.

CSCBD/CCA FY23 Budget meetings will be held via ZOOM on October 18, 25, and November 1. On October 18 the Public Safety and Recreation budgets will be reviewed. On October 25 the Maintenance and Administration budgets will be reviewed. On November 1 the FY23 CSCBD Budget will be completed and approved, and the CCA Budget will also be reviewed and approved. On November 8, if necessary, any remaining budget business will be finalized.

On October 20 from 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM, Crofton Kiwanis will host the annual Chili Cook-off at Seton Parish parking lot.

On October 30 Crofton Kiwanis will host their annual Halloween Parade, followed by the CCA Halloween Party behind Town Hall. Details will be provided as the event gets closer.

On November 3 the Crofton Chamber of Commerce will host its annual Community Awards Banquet at The Blue Dolphin Restaurant in Gambrills. Ticket information can be obtained on the Chamber’s website.

The Crofton Kiwanis will sponsor the Flags for Heroes display at the front entrance to Crofton from November 6 through November 20. The form for flag sponsorship may be found on the Crofton Kiwanis website.

The next Board Meeting will be held on November 8 at 7PM, via ZOOM.

Approval of Minutes: Martin announced that the meeting minutes from our last Board and General Membership Meeting held September 20 are not yet complete due to the two week

turnaround between meetings. They will be available for Board approval at the next meeting on November 8.

Committee Reports:

Covenant Review Committee - Anna-

Anna had nothing to report.

Public Safety Committee - Brian-

Brian had nothing to report.

Maintenance and Operations – Rob -

Rob reported that the Maintenance and Parks Committee met last on September 30, 2021. The next meeting is scheduled for October 28. Residents interested in joining may contact Town Hall.

Rob reported that the Committee submitted an abstract to the County for the Covid Relief Fund. The purpose is to supplement equipment costs for the playgrounds. This will encourage kids to be outside and will help keep families connected. He received an email confirmation that the County has received his request.

Rob continues working on the front entrance project with Ballard Landscape Design. Since the Board approval of the design fee, Ballard and the CCA are working to clarify the contract, which should be in place soon.

Rob reported that Littany and Joi have purchased all the plantings needed for the new pollinator garden which will be installed during the fall Park Clean Up Day scheduled for Saturday, October 23. Rob will follow up with Larry regarding mulch and stone deliveries, and with staff for Listserv announcements. This will be the first in-person clean-up day in a long time. The cleanup will begin at 8 AM and run until 12 PM. Rob asked interested volunteers to contact Town Hall.

Martin reported that he met with representatives today from County Recreation and Parks, a Park Ranger knowledgeable with the area, and two gentlemen from the Family Bike Shop who are interested in helping out with the proposed project. The meeting took place at the County property adjacent to Swann Park. Martin explained that kids have created bike trails and ramps back there, creating safety concerns for hikers. Some residents have asserted that the trails are to be used for hiking only. Martin explained that the goal is to improve the area for both hikers and bikers. There is a list of things the County has to do regarding the legal issues at their end in order to move ahead. The people at the Family Bike Shop designed the trails at Bacon Ridge, and are willing to do the same for our community. Martin will report on any progress.

Planning & Zoning – Chuck –

Chuck thanked Marsha Perry for her report at the General Membership Meeting. He reported that thanks to her efforts the variance request made by the owners of the property at the Route 3 North and Millersville Road intersection was denied by the County. Protecting the residential use was successful.

Chuck mentioned that the County will host a ZOOM meeting on October 14 at 5 PM, for a pre-submittal discussion of the properties located at 1072-1074 Maryland Route 3. The proposed development is called the Villa at Little Patuxent and is to be located approximately a few hundred feet from Capital Raceway. There are three structures proposed: a four-story age-restricted (62 and over) 78 unit apartment building; a 2,400 square-foot fast food restaurant; and a 10,000 square-foot child care center. Chuck can provide a link to the meeting to Town Hall staff to send out on the Listserv.

Marsha added that there is a meeting of the County Council tonight regarding a large tennis and recreation facility that has been proposed in Millersville as part of the County's Plan 2040. Marsha attended a three-hour meeting with representatives from the Tennis Alliance and Millersville Community Association residents to determine what they want in this facility. The purpose is to address the lack of recreational facilities in West County. The facility will be part of Coppermine Sports Center from Baltimore. Martin commented that he recently received a significant amount of information from the County. He mentioned that if Andrew Pruski's amendment is passed tonight, then the vote will not happen until next week. The CCA has not taken an official position on this issue.

Martin added that the Village Green water line issue is on-going and is slowing progress on the remodel of the old Sly Horse Inn. Marsha commented that the County Fire Commissioner has determined that the water line was not needed for them to open.

Recreation Committee – Daria-
Daria had nothing to report.

Education Committee – Hal-

Hal reported on the continuing school bus shortage in the County, noting that bus drivers went on strike today. As of today there are no busses available for South River High School.

Tonight at 6 PM, Crofton Middle School is holding a ZOOM meeting for parents to review the "Family Life and Human Sexuality" materials that will be presented to students in health class.

Crofton Middle School will hold a meeting tomorrow evening for parents of participants in this year's musical, Beauty and the Beast. On October 15 there will be a meeting for those who wish to audition.

MCAP testing will begin tomorrow for County students in grades 3-12.

On October 5 there is a School Board meeting to discuss vaccination and testing requirements for student athletes beginning in November. The FY23 Budget will also be discussed.

Crofton Woods Elementary is having a fundraiser to purchase air purifiers for the school.

County schools are running the Harvest for the Hungry food drive. Donations may be sent to Anne Arundel County Public Schools.

Finance Committee - Renee-

Renee reported that she reviewed the draft of the annual audit which was submitted to the County at the end of the month.

Martin commented that any resident may attend the CCA Budget meetings beginning on October 18. A meeting announcement will be sent out on the Listserv for registration. If you register to attend you will be provided with a copy of the draft budget that will be discussed along with a link to the meeting.

Greater Crofton Council - Jim-No report.

Police Chief Report - Chief Fox –

Earl reported that the Kiwanis 5/10K race on Saturday was well attended. Hal commented that there were 114 people who finished the 10K race.

Town Manager's Report - Larry-

Larry reported that the budget will be ready to present to the Board in the next few days.

Citizen Questions or Comments:

Jenifer King commented that the CSA promotes community engagement, and that she wishes that the Board would not use the Covenants to diminish community engagement and would advocate for more family oriented things, such as ways to work with Village Green and other areas that would focus on young families.

Martin responded that the primary focus of the CCA is to promote community engagement. We are always looking for volunteers. Covenant enforcement is the responsibility of the Board which follows the procedures that are in place for that purpose. It would be irresponsible for the Board to ignore complaints of covenant violations. It would be helpful if residents would assist in making this work within the community. Residents who wish to revise their covenants have been given instructions on how to do so. Absent revisions, we must adhere to the current rules.

Melanie Smith thanked the Crofton Police Department for their work on Saturday with the Kiwanis race. She also commented that those interested in volunteering in the community may do so with the Crofton Kiwanis which sponsors many family oriented activities within the community. She also suggested volunteering with the School Board.

Kathleen Wert, a new resident, expressed interest in volunteering on committees. Martin directed her to the website which list Board members and their respective committees.

The meeting was adjourned for an Executive Session.

Meeting minutes completed by Tara Gottschalck, Receptionist (October 20, 2021)

LS/SM/EF(tg)