

Centreville Civic Association

April 10, 2025

@ Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church

Board Members Present: Bayard Williams (B. Williams), President; Peter Dietz (P. Dietz) Treasurer, Tiffany Shrenk (T. Shrenk), Secretary; John Bilek (J. Bilek, A. Fischer (A. Fischer) by proxy, George Hobbs (G. Hobbs), Elizabeth Moro (E. Moro)  
Board Members absent: N/A

Guests: See attached sheet

1. The Meeting was called to order by B. Williams @ 7:03 p.m.
2. Reading and Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the April 11, 2024. Annual Business Meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve (1<sup>st</sup>: E. Moro, 2<sup>nd</sup>: J. Bilek). Motion carried.
3. P. Dietz presented the 2025 Treasurer's Report. Canby Grove Park account \$16,775.97, Regular CCA Account \$14,910.60. Proposed Operating Budget (as on the attached). The CCA has \$23,000 in designated funds The numbers to date \$14, - Canby \$1,718. \$1252.18 Canby Streetscapes. – November 1<sup>st</sup> to November 1<sup>st</sup> – coincides with the Dues letters. Motion to approve (1<sup>st</sup> E. Moro, 2<sup>nd</sup>: J. Bilek, Motion carried.
4. State Troop 1 Captain Daniel DeFlavis, the new Troop Commander for Troop #1 present and discussion: Introduced by Bayard Williams – he's responsible for the safety concerns in town. DeFlavis has taken over for Captain Packard. Gave his employment background, worked patrol for Troop 1 as a Sargeant, as of January 26<sup>th</sup> is the new troop commander. Also a member of the DE National guard. Holds rank of Lt. Colonel. Proud DE resident (born and raised in NCC). Will discuss statistics and traffic and speed enforcement. In last 5 years – 67 Motor Vehicle Collisions (MVCs) in Centreville – primary contributing factor – mostly distracting driving, 1 for speeding, within last year most enforcement presence in Centreville – will continue the presence – doubled the numbers last year and will continue it. Troop 1 handles over 2300 mvcs in last year. Welcomes voicing concerns to take back to Troop 1. E. Moro voiced concerns of people passing on the double yellow on Rt 52 – Is there a way to set up a dummy car – you don't know if there is a person there or not. What else can be implemented? DeFlavis has continuous conversation with traffic unit – do not have a dummy car. E. moro goal to build community and part of that is to obey the laws. Police recruiting numbers are hurting here and nationally. DE State Police seeing improvement with numbers – biggest new class since 2018. Residents voiced concerns that 6-7am on Kennett Pike is bad time with aggressive drivers passing illegally. B. Williams reiterated the process that has been in place with first

lowering speed limit and then enforcement. DeFlavis requested to be added to correspondence with DelDot. Donald McDonald – asked about a linard radar gun and one officer corporal burris wrote 8 tickets one morning with one. The speed trailer is based on the number of accidents in an area – deFlavis said he’ll look into speed trailer placement – McDonald that people from PA come from 55 mph to 25mph and states people coming from PA are on your tail. Expressed frustration. Newport has there own police station. Question about paid troopers – pay job officer – is an option – deflavis will give us the contact – payjobs for blue. Statistics that can be given that will help with the timing if that is an option that CCA wants to explore. Mt. Lebanon road solar sign is a Deldot sign not through the police. Speed trailers get the role data. Questions of speed cameras. – speed cameras are through DelDOT – deflavis said not up to police its up to deldot and it’s a long process. Contact the elected officials regarding request for speed cameras and other signs – the speed cameras are only on 95 or construction areas – would need to expand by law. Not a viable option until legislation changes. Question about why deldot took away the “strictly enforced” signs. Only one speed trailer for area. Question if the fact that it is a scenic byway whether it is leveraged for additional signage or enforcement. Question whether the elected officials can use their traffic community funds to purchase another speed trailer for Troop 1. Dan Larnick said there is a plan coming in the fiscal year for crosswalks and speed tables and signs and legislators on board but speed cameras work but aren’t legal in this area – need a bandaid between when project is funded and started. Deflavis will try to bring the speed trailer up here.

5. Election of CCA Board Members: Bayard Williams and Peter Dietz terms are expiring. Bayard is not seeking reelection. Treasurer Peter Dietz is in agreement to stay on for an additional term. The following nominee were presented for a three year term each: Peter Dietz. Bayard 1<sup>st</sup> E. Moro 2<sup>nd</sup> – motion carried.
6. Other Business:
  - a. Spring Events & Summer Concert Series: T. Shrenk Egg hunt date this Saturday and summer concert series
  - b. Canby Grove Park: underground railroad , John 1<sup>st</sup>, E. Moro 2<sup>nd</sup> – motion carried to move forward with the application. She mentioned with pavers. Vince will donate the pavers for the LFL that Abby requested and will do the work as well. Landscaping quotes obtained and First view was approved to do the work again – they were the low bidder. First View has been the landscaper in the past and response time is good – will do the grass cutting and do the bulbouts. They did the winter clean up and cut back the perennials. Dan Larnick: Can the landscapers zip the sidewalks of weeds. J. Bilek reminded that is the obligation of the homeowner and business. D. McDonald claims that the CCA is only responsible for is the bulbouts and

gateways and states that DelDOt is responsible. B. Williams pointed out that CCA responsible for sidewalks by the park.

- c. Centreville Gateways and Bulbouts: B. Williams several sponsorship signs have been run over or taken out by cars or vandalism – G. Hobbs will ask Brown Advisory. Still more available spots for additional bulbout signs if anyone is interested. D. McDonald -said you can paint the sign. J. Bilek the sign is composite and can't paint the sign but can pain the posts and finials – D. McDonald received a quote for replacing the sign – will paint the posts this year.
- d. Traffic Safety Improvements: See above – presentation by Troop 1 Captain
- e. Business improvements –
  - i. E. Moro and Vince discussed the Centreville Café improvements – Vince spoke – improvements being done – invited people to come visit and discuss any concerns. “Resident said congrats on beautifully restored retaining wall. Vince said it was a safety concern – Elizabeth said no proper sidewalk around the corner and they matched the sidewalk - there's property extends to the Owls Nest Road. Trees were taken down because of safety concerns – arborist came in to the property and arborist recommended which ones would be taken down and which ones can stay – safety is main concern and will continue be. Providing place to eat and employment opportunities. Its about building community. Trying hard to resurrect building – had to put a footer in to properly hold up building. G. Hobbs – spoke on his renovation of a historic building – look to the residents to step up. DRAC comes into play when a permit or proposal is made to NCC.
  - ii. DRAC – Chair of DRAC and 2 members are present. Todd Breck architect and structural engineer and has the honor of being on the DRAC. If there is something that you did that requires a permit and to a historic building and w/in overlay zone then you must go to DRAC. If it's something that doesn't require a permit, then you do not have to come to DRAC – DRAC is only a guiding body and has no final say. Last year was defunct and it was just recently reinstated. Encouraged communication. E. Moro said there will be ongoing work – at the end like the Livadas did to the adjacent building – it will be a jewel. They are working closely with the county.
  - iii. Fresh cut flowers store to go into Wild Thyme – improvements to the building – until August.
  - iv. Idea of a welcome center in Centreville. Programs and history of Dupont estate information.

B. Williams thanked everyone for coming out.

The meeting was adjourned @ 8:25 pm. P. Dietz, J. Bilek, motion