

Centreville Civic Association

May 8, 2025

Board Meeting Minutes

Present: Bayard Williams (“B. Williams”), President; Peter Dietz (“P. Dietz”), Treasurer; John Bilek (“J. Bilek”); Tiffany Shrenk (“T. Shrenk”), Secretary; Abby Fischer (“A. Fischer”) (arrived 7:19 pm); Elizabeth Moro (arrived 7:27 p.m.)

Board Members By Proxy: George Hobbs (G. Hobbs)

Guests present: Anne Canby, Alicia Smith, Dara Don McDonald__

1. Call to Order by B. Williams @ 7:08 p.m.
2. Review and Approval of Minutes from the February 13, 2025 Board meeting. Motion made for approval of Minutes. 1st: J. Bilek, P. Dietz 2nd. Motion carried.
3. P. Dietz presented the May 2025 Treasurer’s Report. \$16,775.97 in the Friends of Canby Grove Park account mostly from the \$15,000 bequest. \$13,185.01 in the CCA checking account. Total collected this fiscal year \$18,571.13. Spending so far on budget. 24% of businesses have paid their dues. Under 19% of residents have paid dues. Concern raised that need more businesses to pay their dues particularly since CCA’s actions are trying to bring more people into the area. P. Dietz requested to get bids for insurance companies to see if CCA can get a better rate. Peterson landscaping payment made in February was from last year. P. Dietz confirmed no interest earned on the Friends of Canby Grove Park account – it is a checking account. P. Dietz made a motion to look into changing accounts to WSFS or other banks due to difficulties with changing signatories at Wells Fargo. 1st: T. Shrenk, 2nd: J. Bilek, motion carries.
4. Old Business - Committee Updates:
 - i. Communications: T. Shrenk reported website had been updated with current events, with names of board members and dates of meetings. A. Fischer posted on socials regarding events. Will post regarding dates of the concerts. Suggestion made that USPS store in Greenville sponsors yard signs and to reach out to them to see if we can have event signs made in exchange for sponsorship. A. Fischer will explore this option when ordering signs for summer concerts.
 - ii. Highways, Roads, & Legislative: B. Williams reported that the police speed trailer went up the day after the April CCA meeting, and the police captain was present in the Village to witness the speeding problems on Kennett Pike. Further reported that police were present with radar and ticketing speeding drivers.
 - iii. Membership: P. Dietz will stay on as Treasurer, but B. Williams is resigning from Board. B. Williams will assist with transition over summer and seeking member to step in as President. Centreville resident Alicia Smith submitted her resume to join the Board. A. Fisher moved to nominate Alicia Smith to the Board. J. Bilek seconded. Motion passed. E. Moro arrived to meeting and consented and voiced approval of A. Smith’s nomination to the Board.

iv. Community Events/ Merchant Relations:

1. Spring/Summer Events: T. Shrenk reported that the Egg Hunt was a success. There was good attendance and reports were that the Easter Bunny was great. T. Shrenk reported that three summer concerts have been scheduled. The dates have been confirmed and the sponsorship packets solicit sponsors had gone out earlier in the day. Discussed concert costs for band fees and cost of portable toilet.

v. Landscape Committee: B. Williams reported that First View had been awarded the landscaping job once again for the year for the park mowings, leaf/branch removal and bulbout and gateway landscaping. They have started cutting the grass at the park (mostly weeds). We pay per cut and plan to keep an eye on the cuttings.

Gateway signs: D. McDonald reported again that he had a quote for a new gateway sign. The cost is \$9,000. J. Bilek reminded that once weather improves the plan is to repaint the sign posts and that replacement not yet needed. D. McDonald reiterated that sign is at its life's expectancy. J. Bilek and A. Fischer reminded that plan is to repaint posts for now and work on budgeting long-term for a new sign and look for ways to allow people to donate specifically towards the cost of a new sign.

Bulbouts: B. Williams explained there are six bulbouts and reported that historically costs for sponsorship for bulbout was set at \$350 with \$250 allocated for the sponsorship and \$100 goes toward the initial sign and Gateways are \$850 with \$750 for sponsorship and \$100 for initial signs. If all in place then \$3800 to be collected (assuming \$100 is included in the fee). B. Williams reported based on information from G. Truono and Gaylan Crumley. E. Moro suggested there could be 2 signs in each Gateway (one facing northbound and one facing southbound). B. Williams reported there has been a delay in collecting for the annual sponsorship fees. J. Bilek moved to send an invoice to each business who currently has a sign and provide 30 days to pay. *Motion to send invoices at current rates: 1st* J. Bilek, E. Moro 2nd, discussion on motion. Clarification to question raised that the motion is to send out invoices at the rates of \$750 and \$250 as the current annual rates. Motion carried. P. Dietz and B. Williams reported the signs of Brown Advisory (1 of their signs), T. Peterson, and Spanos all need to be replaced because they had been damaged. B. Williams clarified there are two bulbouts towards Buckleys that were never sponsored and available for sponsorship. J. Bilek suggested that the opportunity for the signs should be part of the annual dues letter to the businesses.

Park maintenance: B. Williams confirmed that Board had agreed to move forward with the application for the Network to Freedom. A. Fischer confirmed she will work on application.

Pavers: A. Fischer requested pavers be added around base of the Little Free Library in the Park to keep it from getting muddy. E. Moro and V. Moro said they would donate the pavers, and E. Moro will follow up on the donation. A. Smith suggested having a 2nd Free Little Library one for adults and one for kids. A. Fischer stated the current library was donated and Gene Truono and Gaylan Crumley had assembled it and installed it. A. Smith

volunteered to look into it adding additional library. B. Williams reminded that money from the bequest was restricted to the park.

5. Other Old Business: None.

6. New Business:

NCC Grant Application – A. Fisher reported she had requested grant application for NCC that we had been awarded in the past. A. Fisher suggested another free library, southern gateway landscaping, or other improvements for the park and asked for other ideas of what grant funds were needed for. B. Williams stated that prior award of grant had been used for patching the turnaround and other safety improvements. A. Smith suggested a safety or improvement item for the park. T. Shrenk recommended to request grant to pay for expenses of an arborist for the park and performed needed tree pruning. Board voiced approval of this idea and hiring arborist to inspect trees and perform pruning. Suggestions for arborists to contact were provided to A. Fischer.

Landscaping promotions: A. Fischer asked whether landscaper would come and cut for free in exchange for sponsorship sign. B. Williams reported we currently pay \$80/mow and stated a landscaper would not be open to the idea of performing work in exchange for sponsorship. Board agreed \$80/mow was very reasonable rate for mowing of park.

Centreville Swag & Sponsor: A. Fisher offered idea of getting a sponsor for a tote bag as incentive to pay dues. Consensus among Board member was not to explore this idea due to cost.

Peace pole: A. Fisher informed of peace pole program at an event and they were marketing the peace pole which is a PVC pole that has messages of peace written in different languages. The organization has more of them to place in more communities. A. Fisher and E. Moro confirmed they had seen them at other locations. A. Fischer said org is not a religious org. Different languages saying the same phrase. E. Moro is not a religious concept. No further interest voiced for peace pole.

B. Williams reraised idea of swag items and giving something when someone new pays their CCA dues. A. Smith suggested pens. In the past we gave the book, it was through real estate office. E. Moro suggested looking into an online version of the Centreville Book. J. Bilek will look into process of scanning that they use in real estate.

E. Moro raised idea of “Micro weddings” in Centreville and stated park would be good location for this. No further interest raised for this concept.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. 1st. A. Smith, 2nd J. Bilek – 8:09 pm. Motion carried.