Carderock Springs Citizens Association
Minutes from Board Meeting on April 20, 2026,
held at Carderock Springs Clubhouse

Board Members Present: Maja Husar, Charlie Heidlage, Deborah Tanno, Sue Eastman, Kyle Lierman, Dan Simon, Ashish Goel

Community Members Present: Jack Orrick, Howard Harris, Gary Ratner, Katherine Stifel, Peter, Tim Choi, Rose Oshinksy, Scott Wilets, Lee Talisman, Francisco Gonzalez, Elaine Honig

Design Guidelines Feedback Updates (Maja, Charlie)
The meeting focused on updates regarding the design guidelines, which are approaching the end of their feedback phase. The guidelines have been shared with the community for two weeks, with feedback being collected through emails and a Google form. The vast majority of feedback has been positive, with only minor stylistic changes and a few typos noted. Scott and Charlie are set to hold office hours the following evening to discuss the feedback and next steps for revising the guidelines. The team discussed plans for reviewing and updating design guidelines, with Maja proposing a working group review within 48 hours via Zoom. They agreed on a simple majority voting process for the updated guidelines, which will be shared with the community around May 1st for a two-week voting period.

CSCA Annual Meeting (Maja, Charlie)
The annual event was confirmed for May 17th at 4:30 PM, featuring a social hour, programming updates from team members, and a guest speaker presentation by Bruce Beehler, an ornithologist and research associate of the Bird Division of the Smithsonian's Natural History Museum. Charlie reported that officer elections are nearly complete, with only VP and secretary positions still needing to be filled by the end of the week, after which proxies will be distributed to those unable to attend in person.

Tree Committee Guidelines Enforcement (Sue, Gary)
The board discussed recent incidents where tree committee guidelines were disregarded in the community, including cases of tree removal and proposed removal of a healthy tree. The board identified a need for increased education about neighborhood covenants and tree preservation among both real estate agents and existing residents. In response to one incident, which included the removal of 2 sound trees without approval, the board sent a sternly worded letter to the residents of 8319 Still Spring Court requesting the planting of replacement trees, specifying minimum 3-inch diameter trees to be planted by the end of the planting season, with proof of remediation. The board also highlighted a positive example where Sue helped develop a landscape plan showing how a tree could be incorporated into a design, demonstrating the tree committee's potential role as a consultant rather than just an enforcement body.

Tree Removal Enforcement Discussion (Dan)
The group discussed whether to include names of community members who violated tree removal rules in meeting minutes. Maja explained that they chose to anonymize identities to

maintain a constructive and neighborly approach, though she acknowledged this was just one option among others. Dan raised concerns about potential tree removals before enforcement mechanisms are implemented, noting that taking down hardwood trees without proper permits could result in $500 daily fines. Gary discussed updates to the welcome packet to more clearly identify tree protections. Tree committee has written updated disclosure information that the hope is it will be proactively escalated to seller agents to disclose / highlight this information. The discussion ended without a clear resolution on whether to include names in the minutes, with Maja asking for input on whether public shaming would be better than their current approach of anonymity.

Real Estate Broker Trust List (Dan)
The group discussed the possibility of creating a list of trusted real estate brokers who commit to communicating covenants to potential buyers. Maja and Dan debated the logistics and potential implications of such a list, with Maja suggesting it could change frequently and anyone could join.

Sound Barrier (Kyle)
Kyle reported that $700,000 in state funding was secured toward a $1.5 to $3 million project cost, attributed to efforts of Sara Love and Marc Korman. There are three potential options for securing remaining funds: additional state government funding, county government funding, or school system funding.

Village Rides Update (Phyllis)
Phyllis explained the Village Ride program, which is currently in a testing phase with a focus on community members helping each other with transportation and tasks. Requests are centralized via an email relay and volunteers can accept requests as they come in. Drivers are screened.

Carderock History Update (Rick Wilson)
Rick Wilson presented a comprehensive 45-page history of Caderrock Springs that he has been researching, including a timeline from the Civil War to present day and plans for oral history interviews with original residents. Rick has scoured the available sources and is seeking more, particularly newsletters that may have circulated in the 1970s and 1980s. Katherine announced an upcoming meeting to bring together community members with relevant expertise to support Rick's historical research and help preserve and digitize historical documents.

Approval of Minutes
Minutes were approved

Treasurer’s Report (Deborah)
Village’s request for funding was granted and paid in full. Physical mailers are going out to pursue additional dues. Deborah noted two filings that need to occur, including one with the state to maintain good standing.