

CHCA Minutes – April 2026

1. **Attendance** –Leslie Caruso, Alan Miroslaw, Ron Sears, Chris Rule, Lis Rundle, Matt McKeegan, Mary Ann Ogle, Will Pearce. Will wrote the minutes in Brittany’s absence.
2. **Review/Approve prior month’s minutes** – *Mary Ann motion, Will second, passed.*
3. **Worthington Good Neighbor Award – Will Pearce**
 - Leslie thanked Will for everything he has done for the CHCA and Colonial Hills, and noted that CHCA folks were proud to be in attendance to see Will be presented with this award. Will said that he was happy to be given the chance at the ceremony to say how greatly he was honored to receive this award, and to thank his CHCA friends, who are his good neighbors, who had a role in his receiving it.
4. **Treasurer’s Report-Fund Balances, Revenues, Expenses, Invoices**
 - **Fund Balances and Invoices**
 - Prior to the meeting Matt sent the March P&L report and the bank reconciliation forms for the CHCA accounts (Money Market Savings, Checking and Savings). Current account balances are Money Market Savings ~\$18,343, Checking ~\$4,134, and Savings ~\$976.
 - Matt reported that there is one outstanding sponsor invoice and three outstanding advertising invoices, for all of which he has followed up several times. Also, Matt recently invoiced Cynthia, in that the expense for the magnets had now been received from GraphX.
5. **2026 CHCA Scholarship Applications**
 - **Review of Candidates (6)**
 - Prior to the meeting Brittany had collected, organized, and e-mailed for our advance review, the six scholarship applications she had received, with all applications being received on time and all applicants satisfying all requirements. The April meeting participants then discussed the qualifications of each candidate, including their record of participation at CHCA events, their essays and their letters of recommendation. It became apparent that this group of seniors had lived most, if not all their lives, in Colonial Hills and were probably a close-knit group, all of whom were found to have served our community and all of whom had an individual area of discipline in which they have excelled.
 - **Vote on Scholarship Awards**
 - Based on the above discussion, Chris motioned, Matt seconded, and the motion was approved, to allocate evenly among our six applicants our \$6000.00 scholarship budget, and thus we were pleased to be able to award a \$1000.00 scholarship to each of the following applicants:
 - Alex Chomos
 - Francis Scardina
 - Jack Jolley
 - Lauren Curran
 - Lucy Darbaker
 - Sean Roche
 - **Notify High School regarding award recipients by 4.20.26 (Leslie)**
 - Leslie said that she will notify Kelly Swearingen at TWHS.
 - **Deliver scholarships to TWHS (Leslie)**
 - Leslie explained how the checks are delivered to TWHS in advance of the ceremony for inclusion in the packet presented to the scholarship recipients.
 - **CHCA Scholarship Presenter Will Pearce (Awards Ceremony 5.21.26)**

- Will asked Leslie and Alan, previous CHCA scholarship award presenters present at the meeting, what was involved in presenting the scholarship to each of the recipients. Just give them their packet, shake their hand, and pose for the photographer!

6. Upcoming Events

- **Buddy Box Packing Event (5.3.26)**
 - Alan said that he will create and post an event for the Buddy Box Packaging, and that he will contact Emily Chalfant for the starting time. Also, Alan volunteered to create the SignUpGenius for the event, and noted that Emily would probably like to keep the number of volunteers to around 20, as in previous years.
- **Trustee Dinner (5.12.26)**
 - Mary Ann volunteered, as in previous years, to coordinate with Dewey's to make sure the traditional victuals will be ready for our estimated number of trustees and their guests. Leslie reported that she has prepared and sent to the printer the residents' dues specification request letters for inclusion in the trustees' packets; these packets will be passed out to the trustees at the dinner. Will is to mail out the dinner notification postcards to the trustees by May 4, which specify to RSVP to Alan, as in previous years.
- **Neighborhood Garage Sale (6.13.26)**
 - Leslie reported that she has confirmed with Rachael Dorothy that Rachael will chair this event, as she has done for many years. Alan said that he has confirmed that the Volunteers of America (VOA) truck will be parked at CHES for residents to contribute non-sold items to the VOA.
- **4th of July (7.4.26)**
 - Chris reported that Amanda has lined up both Cool Cats (bounce houses, water slide, dunk tank and face painters) and Lasting Impressions (L.I.) (big tent and extra tables and chairs). Chris noted that the number of tables and chairs can be increased from the number ordered last year, per our detailed configuration of games, exhibits and other activities (per our future detailed planning). Chris noted that a quirk this year is that L.I. will be delivering their items on Thursday 7/2, and will not be picking them up until Monday 7/6 --thus, there is an opportunity for the CHCA to use the tent on Sunday, for instance to show a movie (Sandlot?), have a cornhole tournament, etc., if we can pull off organizing such activities in addition to implementing our required 4th of July extravaganza.
 - Alan volunteered to be the overall Event Chair (Amanda and Chris will be unreachable in the weeks leading up to July 4), which means (as briefly discussed in the March meeting, that the event chairs for other activities and functional areas will report to him and keep him apprised of the status for planning their activities and functional areas). Chris said that he texted Ryan Hallowell to confirm that the Colonial Hills Boy Scout troop will again provide the hot dogs and water bottles concession. (Although not explicitly discussed in the meeting in terms of event and functional areas, we have previously identified such items as the Kiddie Parade chaired by Mary Ann, the Tent Enclosed Midway Booths and Decorations chaired by Ron, the wrist band fees electronic collection (e.g. Venmo) function, and the pre-event electrical outlets testing and day-of water attractions hookups performed by Will).
 - Chris suggested that we start our more detailed planning in the next few weeks via an e-mail chain among all of us. (Which implies that Alan could then, of course, hold one or more meetings with us as he determines necessary as we work out further details).
 - Ron presented his large diagram showing the layout of all 4th of July Extravaganza activities, configured almost identically to last year's layout, which includes at least ten canopy tents (two rows of five tents) making up the midway concourse. Ron also gave everyone a one-page handout explaining each of the proposed activities and exhibits. Will suggested Ron review the photos in previous years' 4th of July blogpost recap reports, to

double-check the layout. Ron said that he will try to recruit as many volunteers as possible for his specific activities and exhibits.

- In reviewing Ron's diagram and handout, the meeting participants specified that we thought that two out of the three proposed exhibits would be optimal. The first, which we wholeheartedly are looking forward to, was Ron's lining up Randy Sanders' 10,000 Years Stone Artifacts exhibit (Tent 5), with Mr. Sanders in attendance to explain what is in his three display cases to guests. The second exhibit was the CHCA 80th 4th of July (Tent 6), which will include the poster the Worthington Historical Society provided last year, plus possibly further exhibits of Colonial Hills historical photos and possibly participation of our Colonial Hills pre-eminent historian. Alan volunteered to contact this person to see if they would be willing to participate in some capacity. Also, Mary Ann will go through her boxes of items she volunteered to archive for the CHCA, from our cleaning out the shelter house storeroom during last year's CHCA storeroom remediation, to see if there are any items we would want to include in this exhibit.
- In addition to the two exhibits, the meeting participants reviewed and tentatively selected the following games and activities for the remaining 8 midway tents. Games in tents will include: Lollipop Tree (Tent 1), Plinko (Tent 2), Bubble Whack (Tent 3), Riot Ball (Tent 4), [*Stone Artifacts (Tent 5), CHCA 80 Years (Tent 6),*] Gravity Well (Tent 7), Axe Throw (Tent 8), Aerodrome (Tent 9), Buttons (Tent 10). Bugs in a Rug is still a work in progress. Two other games will be set up in the open in line with Concourse Tents 1 to 5. Chris advises Soda Pop Ring Toss runs out of Soda after the first hour, so it doesn't need a tent and will be located outside in line with and just West of Tent 1. Go Fish needs greater height than the tents allow and will be located in line with and West of Soda Pop Ring Toss, with easy access to the water hose.
- Based on what was decided so far at our meeting, Ron will provide an initial estimate for Amanda for the tables and chairs, of around 11 tables and 17 chairs. Leslie suggested going ahead and adding 20 extra chairs to make sure all volunteers could sit down within the canopy tents (it may be a very hot day!).
- The meeting participants discussed that two shifts for volunteers might be optimal, with the first starting around 10:00 AM and the second starting around 11:00 AM. We discussed that this year, regardless of pressures to the contrary, that Mary Ann would make sure the Kiddie Parade did not start until around 10:15 AM, such that the first-shift volunteers could get situated at their respective activities before everyone descended on them after the Kiddie Parade was finished.
- We discussed having name tags for the officers and event chairs, and possibly "Volunteer" name tags for the other volunteers. Also, having a volunteer to check in our volunteers; this volunteer could use the SignUpGenius for this purpose.
- **Author Book signing and Reading (8.1.26)**
 - Leslie reported that Sharyn Talbert's *Memory's Compass* book signing and reading event has been scheduled at the shelter house for Saturday, August 1 at 2:00 PM, and that Sharyn has provided Chris with publicity documents and photos for inclusion in the next edition of the Courier. Also, our CHCA Events Permit has been updated accordingly.

7. Other Business

- **Easter Bunny Thank You**
 - On behalf of the CHCA, Leslie greatly thanked our Easter Bunny helper Lauren Curran, who again this year brought so much joy to so many of our younger guests!
- **Easter Chair Thank You**
 - Leslie thanked our CHCA Easter Egg Stuffing and Hunt Event Chair Annie Schuster for her extensive shopping and signage creation prep work, and for her flawless management of the egg stuffing and baskets creation, and the egg hunt itself, which was implemented like clockwork. Leslie also thanked all the volunteers who assisted Annie for their help in both the stuffing and the egg hunt. Leslie will write the event report for the next edition of

the Courier, and Will reported that he has posted photos for the event in the CHCA's shared photos Google Drive location.

- **2026 Courier #2**
 - Leslie said that she owes Chris her President's Letter and an article for the Easter Egg Hunt. Chris said that he will send e-mails within the next week to the folks from whom he needs articles, and is targeting to receive all articles and do editing by the end of the month. Also, an article will request old neighborhood photos for the CHCA's 80th 4th of July exhibit.
- **Worthington Pre-Cycle Day (4.25.26)**
 - Lis asked the meeting participants where she should place the two Pre-Cycle Day signs the CHCA has. We decided one should go at the Selby Park apex (where the City puts their notification signs) and the other at the Colonial Hills Indianola entrance. Leslie said that she no longer puts signs at Hartford and Park Blvd because she had one stolen from there.
Note: after the meeting Will called Lis to confirm the locations. Lis noted that someone else had already placed a sign at the apex, and therefore she planned to place one sign at Selby and High St and the other at Indianola and Selby on Sunday 4/19.

8. Public Comments

- None.

9. Adjourn- Mary Ann motion, Alan second.