

Responses To Questions From Public Input of July 19, 2011

The following questions were asked during the Public Input portion of the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners, on July 19, 2011.

Q1. Has the property next to Arlington Greens Golf Course been purchased?

A. No. A contract has been approved. The contract spells out the terms under which the property may be purchased.

Q2. Has an independent appraisal of this property been completed for CARD?

A. No. An independent appraisal will be done following completion of the legal survey (which is part of the sales contract) of the property since the area is currently part of several tracts.

Q3. What is the purchase price and how much land is being purchased?

A. Approximately thirty (30) acres. The contract purchase price is \$16,000.00 per acre with the actual amount of acreage and price dependent on the actual area in the final survey.

Q4. What will happen if the CARD appraisal does not support the contract purchase price?

A. CARD will attempt to renegotiate the purchase price with the sellers or terminate the contract.

Q5. The land has been described as "swamp land", is this true?

A. No. Almost all of this property has been farmed for many years. A small area is wooded with a drainage ditch crossing it.

Q6. Why does CARD want to buy this ground?

A. To preserve the open space as part of the golf course; to preserve the surface water run-off route from the golf course; to create a tree farm and sod nursery for our parks and the golf course.

Q7. Why did CARD purchase a house on Tara Lane?

A. The 17.4 acres at the end of Tara Lane was purchased for \$395,000.00 in 2008. The property includes a pole shed and a house. The sellers were requested to remove the house from the sale but were not willing to sub-divide the property into two pieces. The property is located next to Pleasant Ridge

Park and expands the park from fifty acres to more than sixty-five acres of green space.

Q8. How is this house being used?

A. It is being used as a residence. After consulting our attorney and several local realtors to determine the rental rate that should be charged, which was in 2008, it was recommended that CARD charge \$1,000.00 per month. The house has been rented to the family of a CARD staff member at \$850.00 per month with the added requirement that they are responsible for mowing of the area surrounding the house, which is roughly five acres.

Q9. Will the Tara Lane property be open to the public?

A. The area of the property that is not part of the residence will be open for public use as part of Pleasant Ridge Park following completion of the construction and dedication.

Q10. How do voters/residents find out about/get told about land acquisition and other matters?

A. Meeting notices, legal notices, meeting minutes, agendas, budget and appropriation ordinances and the annual tax levy ordinance are posted on the CARD web site ([www.collinsvillerec.com](http://www.collinsvillerec.com)). Board meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 pm, at the CARD office and are open to the public. CARD also has an e-newsletter that citizens can sign up on the website to receive.

Q11. Does CARD have a written policy covering land purchases?

A. At the direction of the board a written policy is being prepared by legal counsel and CARD staff that will spell out the steps to be followed when land acquisition projects are being considered.

Q12. Is CARD and its annual audit in compliance with the State Statues regarding the bonds issued to purchase the Arlington Golf Club? (question & answer added 7/28/2011)

A. Yes. CARD and the annual audit are in full compliance. This matter has been reviewed by the CARD attorney, financial advisor and auditor. The bonds issued to purchase Arlington Greens were not revenue bonds that were issued under the Park Code - Section 9.1-1; instead they were "Alternate Revenue" bonds issued pursuant to the Local Government Debt Reform Act – Section 15 and therefore the requirements of Section 9.1-4 do not apply.