

***Minutes of Crestwood Village Five
Board of Trustees Meeting
January 13, 2026***

Open Session:

Trustees in attendance: Steve Berwanger (via phone), Steve Carroll, Betsy Gordon, Maryann Payne, Ed Kirkwood, Ken Freeman, Eileen Ringen

Administrator: Cathleen Blackwood

Guests present: George Elliott, Gerald Gontarz

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

Maryann Payne distributed a flyer indicating average monthly bus ridership. Ken Freeman requested the cost of CV5 bus service and Steve Carroll and Maryann Page stated that the cost was approximately \$6,700 per month prior to combining bus service with other villages as compared to the present monthly cost of approximately \$2,700 per month. Ken F stated that while the monthly savings is significant, the cost per rider is still high and suggested exploring other options to reduce costs. A brief discussion regarding alternatives to using Stout's Bus services followed. Maryann Payne shared that there will be a Thursday special bus trip to Columbus on April 16th, 2026 and noted that the Thursday trip to the Lacey mall is usually better attended than other destinations.

Betsy Gordon commented that the cleanup services are winding down and that residents generally seem to be pleased with the results.

Ken F shared that he is waiting for the balance of the quotes for a new digital sign.

Betsy G stated that she has been asked about when fence enforcement will begin. Eileen Ringen suggested that it should probably wait until the cold weather ends and fencing can be easily be removed from the thawed ground. Steve Carroll recommended March/April as a suitable time to begin enforcement. Although it was generally agreed that 4 foot premanufactured fence panels would be aesthetically pleasing and protect homeowners' plantings from deer, the board acknowledged that it could not be allowed now due to an existing bylaw prohibiting it. George Elliott stated that a previous board had made a decision in writing that $\frac{3}{4}$ panel fencing could be used for the gardening season as long as it was 3 sided and attached to the house. George E questioned if the current board was going to honor this statement which he recalled was printed in a past Hilltopics issue. Ken F questioned the

reasoning behind having to install and remove the “rabbit” fencing which the bylaws do permit. Steve C stated that these issues will be revisited and that we will attempt to change and update certain bylaws again in the near future.

Ed Kirkwood stated that the Residents Club would be meeting today and that an election would be held “to fill in the void.” He added that the Residents Club board has decided to cancel all future Karaoke Night events due to the financial losses incurred and that Linda Baumann would be informed. While disappointing, Ed K noted that Karaoke Night at Village One is free of charge on Thursday. Betsy G shared that many people have requested a talent show and Maryann P recalled the success of a past comedy show event. Maryann P noted that the show brought in many people and suggested we consider hosting another comedy event. Ed K also stated that he informed the Residents Club board that they should meet with the CV5 Board quarterly.

Cathleen B reminded everyone about the Meeting of the Associations at the Meadows on 1/14/2026 at 10AM and an intervillage meeting at CV4 on 2/12/2026 at 10:30. Cathleen B asked about the behavior of those in attendance at the JCP & L meeting on 1/9/2026. Betsy G stated that there were police stationed at each door and summarized some of the information shared by the JCP & L speaker: Manchester is trying to purchase transformers (which are difficult to find); transformers are alarmed to reveal power outages; backup mobile units are not equipped with alarms; only smart (digital) meters send outage alerts; JCP & L will be meeting with Manchester Township monthly to keep them apprised. Betsy G added that attendance was initially about 50 people which dropped to approximately 35 once it was revealed that only outage problems were going to be addressed. Cathleen B added that it was her understanding that the Mayor will be attending the upcoming 1/26/2026 MCC meeting and possibly the next JCP & L meeting. Cathleen B asked if someone could be Steve C’s backup for MCC meeting attendance and Maryann P volunteered. Cathleen B shared that Richard Fericy has volunteered to run the food pantry. Betsy G added that two other residents have expressed interest in helping who could also provide backup for Rich F. Betsy G also suggested that our overflow donations be shared with neighboring food pantries before they reach their expiration dates. Cathleen B added that we have cases of donated, soon-to-be-expired cookies which could be shared as well. Cathleen B informed Ed K that there has been concern expressed about the possibility of damage to the floor and chairs during the Sticks classes. Ed K acknowledged the concern and stated that he would address the issue and work to have it resolved. Steve B thanked Betsy G for taking detailed notes at the JCP & L meeting and sharing them with several Facebook groups for the benefit of those who couldn’t be in attendance.

George Elliott departed the meeting at 10:43

The meeting concluded at 11:55

Eileen Ringen

Secretary