



"Working Together for a Better Community"  
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## **Minutes HCCA General Membership Meeting January 7, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 by HCCA President Vincent Spaulding. Chaplain John Hawkins provided an inspirational reading "The New Year" followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the December meeting were read by Karen Lee Williams and approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Monica Evans reported that HCCA has a balance of \$3,811.40 in Wachovia Bank.

**President's Report:** Vince Spaulding reported that:

- The Board has decided to invoice membership who had not yet paid 2005 membership dues.
- The guest speaker for February will be Carrie Thornhill of MHCDO and Wayne Young of "Port of Harlem Magazine" will be the speaker for March.
- Presented the finished "Welcome to Hillcrest" booklet to the membership and stated to get copies contact Kathy Chamberlain or Karen Williams.

### **Committee Reports**

**Recreation:** Boyle Stuckley introduced Noel Teason of "Inner Stages". Ms. Teason explained the mission of "Inner Stages" which is providing tutoring and educational and musical experiences for middle school females. She appealed to the membership for volunteers and expressed a desire to have her organization partner with HCCA. Boyle announced the beginning of Hand Dancing classes at the recreation center on Friday nights from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. The question of the current mission of the Recreation Committee was brought to the floor by the membership. It was decided this was an issue to be addressed at the Board Retreat.

At the conclusion of the Recreation Committee report Vincent addressed the membership about:

- Welcoming back of Pastor Senger to the HCCA meeting having been out recovering from his illness that had placed him in the hospital.
- Reported on the Board Retreat scheduled for Saturday, January 21. He solicited the membership to e-mail him with items they wished to be placed on the agenda for the retreat.

**Fund raising:** No report

**Information:** No report

**Membership:** Willard Poteat reported for Evelyn Primas that there are now 517 households with membership in HCCA, 393 of which have paid for 2005. Vince requested that everyone who still owes for 2005 be invoiced and wants all 2006 dues paid by March 2006.

**Education:** Vincent report for Linda Jackson that the survey from HCCA Education Committee on how the Association could better serve the schools in the neighborhood had been disseminated.

**Environmental:** Mary Ross reported the winners of the Anti-Litter poster contest were presented their awards at ceremonies at their schools. She appealed to the membership for volunteers for the Committee and said the Committee met every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter. She concluded her report by stating the "Blessing of the Trees" had been moved to September 9, 2006.

After the Environmental Committee report Karina Ricks of the "Great Streets Initiative" addressed the membership. She emphasized the importance of public participation in the Great Streets planning process, especially for HCCA, because of the proximity of Pennsylvania Avenue to the community. She invited participation in the January 18<sup>th</sup> case study presentation at Union Station.

**Legislative:** Virgil McDonald requested participation and community support in upcoming meetings on the National Capital Medical Center.

**Annual Garden Tour:** Marvin Bowser reported he would be holding a meeting this month to begin planning for this year's tour.

Alice Stewart of Palisades addressed the membership and invited participation in the "Neighbors Through Art" program. The next meeting will be held on January 8, 2006.

**Hospitality:** Donna Cooley-Trice thanked the membership for their participation in making the Annual Holiday Party a great success. She asked for volunteers to help with Committee work. She also reported that the Committee had written a letter of thanks for Steve Gray, former manager at Safeway for his very generous contributions to HCCA.

**ANC:** Raymond Keith reported the ANC meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month and invited participation by the membership.

**Public Safety:** Ann Curtsinger reminded the membership of the upcoming AARP Driver Safety Program to be held at the recreation center on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. She also announced this month's Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held after the PSA606 meeting.

**PSA606:** Lt. Ronald Netter reported his priorities for 2006 are:

- Neighborhood Watch
- Organizing Meet and Greets for 606
- Crime Prevention
- Traffic control

PSA606 meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month.

**Guest Speaker: Anthony Freeman, President/CEO NCRC**

Anthony Freeman addressed the membership about the state of affairs for Skyland. He introduced his staff and emphasized the importance of the Skyland project to NCRC and the Hillcrest community. He stated that currently the most important issue facing NCRC is site control. He turned the floor over to Ted Risher who addressed the membership with the following information:

- \$16 million of the 21 million originally approved for the project has been spent,

- Currently there is 89% site control.
- There are seven remaining owners with whom NCRC is currently negotiating terms.
- The goal is to have 100% site control of the site by the end of March.
- The next issues to be addressed are:
  - Monitor court process on cases currently being considered that may have a bearing on the project. (i.e. HUD Sanctions v District of Columbia)
  - To issue RFP's for management and security.
  - Accomplish cosmetic site improvements (i.e. lighting, improving parking lot, etc.).
  - Installing a security fence around the area.
  - Finalizing financing options using both private and public funds
  - Before a Public Use Development Plan is submitted, soliciting community input.
  - And, finalizing plans for an anchor store (i.e. Target).

Because of the setbacks caused by HUD sanctions the current timeline has been altered. NCRC will be working to establish a new timeline and will report the new information to HCCA as soon as it is available.

**Council member Gray's Report:**

Vincent Gray, Council Member for Ward 7 gave the following report:

- The Ward Leadership Council will meet on Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> @ 10:00 am at MHCDO.
- There will be a "State of the Ward" presentation on Tuesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 pm at Kelly Miller Junior High school all are invited.
- The Council is establishing "Agency Constituents Awards" acknowledging D.C. government agencies who have improved their working relationships with the citizens of the city.
- Health care has entered into an exclusive rights agreement with a citizens support group establishing initiatives for health care workers living and practicing in under privileged neighborhoods in the District. The bill provides for loan repayments in the amount of \$100,000 for doctors and \$66,000 for nurses.
- The relocation of a clinic in Ward 7 has been negotiated.
- A smoking ban has been passed in the District of Columbia.
- To address the housing explosion in Ward 7 and the displacement this has caused Councilman Gray is working with tenants to form associations to help keep them find ways to buy their buildings.
- There will be a meeting on recommendations for improving the Penn Branch Shopping Center on Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Working on the establishment of Marvin Gaye Park in Ward 7.
- AID/HIV Initiative is up and running.
- Howard Ways has been hired to work on the Anacostia Waterfront Initiative.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m. and the HCCA "Annual Christmas Party" began.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Lee Williams  
Recording Secretary