

Minutes HCCA General Membership Meeting January 6, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 by HCCA President Karen Williams. Chaplain John Hawkins read an inspirational message, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Kathy Chamberlain read the minutes of the December meeting, which were then approved by the membership.

Council Chair Vincent Gray swore in the new members for the Board of HCCA for the period 2007-2008.

Council Chairman's Report: Council Chairman Gray reviewed his committee chair appointments, and listed several initiatives he is championing, including a new technology plan, opening the Wilson Building, a "one city" initiative, and a 4-day orientation for new council members. He outlined his plan for City Council hearings on the proposed changes to school governance, with a target completion date of April for legislation. Gray met with NCRC leadership to discuss plans for the new Skyland Town Center. Gray will deliver a final State of Ward 7 address on January 23 at 6:30 at a location to be announced.

Treasurer's Report: Richard Evans reported for Monica Evans that HCCA currently has a total of \$4,040.31 in Wachovia Bank.

President's Report

- Karen Williams introduced the new membership chair and reviewed the plan for keeping the membership database current
- The board positions of Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary are still vacant, and several committees need members.

Skyland Shopping Center: Ted Risher of the National Capital Revitalization Corporation announced that all condemnation lawsuits are proceeding, and NCRC is working with existing tenants on relation. NCRC has finalized an agreement with Morgan Stanley Real Estate Finance to provide equity for the project. Legislation will be introduced before the City Council to increase the TIF amount to help cover the financing gap. NCRC has responded to community concerns over housing and density by reducing the overall number of units from 700 to 440, lowering the height adding townhouses to vary density, and creating surface parking for more direct access to the primary anchor. There will be a planning charette for the community on Jan. 20th or later-- Date, time and location to be announced.

Francis Gregory Library: Lessie Mtewa announced that the library is acquiring new materials, and that it is now open on Sundays, 1-5pm. She also announced several programs and workshops taking place in January.

Committee Reports

Education: Linda Jackson reported on a meeting she and Boyle Stuckey had with Gwendolyn Payton, Principal of Anne Beers Elementary School, and other Beers teachers. The Hillcrest Community Civic Association has decided to "adopt" Beers and help make it the best it can be. Jackson outlined the needs of Beers, including equipment, teachers, chaperones, and other volunteer work. She will prioritize and categorize these needs and make recommendations to HCCA on what we should support at the next meeting.

Public Safety: Ann Curtsinger announced the AARP drivers safety class scheduled for Jan. 20th, 10am-4pm at the Hillcrest Rec. Center.

Recreation: Boyle Stuckey announced the purchase of new uniforms by Friends of the Hillcrest Rec Center for the Hillcrest Basketball team, and invited everyone to watch an exhibition game following the meeting. He also announced that there will be a section of the Hillcrest newsletter devoted to what's going on at the Rec. Center.

Environmental: Mary Ross presented a plaque to Katy Chamberlain for service in anti-littering efforts.

ANC 7B: Ray Keith, chair of ANC 7B, announced the departure of two commissioners, Vincent Spaulding and Ken Davis, and their replacements Phillip Hammond and Howard Ways. Meetings are 3rd Thursday, 7-9pm at Ryland Methodist Church.

PSA606: Lt. Netter reported a drop in crime for PSA 606 for 2006, but pointed out that theft from auto and stolen autos continue to be city-wide problems. He encouraged residents to attend the PSA/Neighborhood Watch meetings 3rd Wednesdays at 6pm at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Comforter.

6th District Commander Robin Hoey announced that he pulled an additional 65 illegal posters from public space, and that our community has educated him on the damage such posters do to the appearance of the neighborhood. He announced a "back to beat" program where each officer will be assigned a 4-6 block radius. Hoey will conduct Townhall meetings for 6th District residents to obtain suggestions and feedback. There will be better communication in 2007. Stay tuned for a better dispatch system where residents can call the 6th District for certain types of crime rather than 311 or 911.

Guest Speaker: Michael Carter, Deputy Director, Department of Public Works

Mr Carter reviewed the roles and responsibilities of DPW, including solid waste removal, parking enforcement, abandoned vehicle removal, and repair of DC Government vehicles, outlining the improvements being made in each category. DPW is acquiring 40 new sweepers and litter vacs, and will hire 200 additional leaf collection personnel. Leaf collection will be streamlined and made more efficient next year. Questions about alley cleaning, more accurate scheduling of leaf collection, litter pickup on Pennsylvania Ave, were answered.

The 50/50 raffle was held, then the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Chamberlain