



"Working Together for a Better Community"
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Minutes HCCA General Membership Meeting February 2, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 by HCCA President Karen Williams. Chaplin John Hawkins read an inspirational passage, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the January meeting were read by Linda Jackson and approved by the membership.

Treasurer's Report: Monica Evans reported that HCCA currently has a total of \$4,246.32 in Wachovia Bank. It was moved and seconded to accept the Treasurer's report as read.

President's Report

Per approval of the membership, the President wrote a letter to the DC Council in support of the legislation on noise abatement. She indicated that the Board retreat had been rescheduled for March 29th and urged the members to send any issues they were interested in to the President so the Board could address them during the retreat. The president explained the approved board policy on delinquent dues paying members and the process by which they would be dropped from the rolls.. Essentially, HCCA Board wanted to try and get people to come back who were dropped from the rolls for non-payment. These individuals would no longer receive the newsletter.

President Williams also noted that the line up for speakers in the coming month was Ginny Cooper (librarian) invited for March; Chancellor Rhee for April; Nat Gandhi for May and someone from the Communication Center in SE for June.

Committee Reports

Information:

Phil Hammond gave the ANC 7B report for Robin Marlin. He noted that new officers were elected at the January meeting and included Chair – Phil Hammond; Vice Chair – Thetus Boyd; Treasurer – Ray Keith; Secretary – Robin Marlin.

Mr. Hammond also announced speakers for the next 2 months' ANC 7B meetings – Ginny Cooper for February and Linda Argo for March. He also indicated the ANC 7B was in favor of the Skyland project but had not taken a formal position on the housing component yet. He expected that vote would be taken by May. In addition, the project on Branch Avenue still had permit issues that were being addressed.

Vince Spaulding introduced Sharon Strange who gave an account to the members of horrendous problems she had with contractors working in the Hillcrest neighborhood for some time. She spoke of deposits that were lost, her experiences with DCRA, investigators, attorney costs, stress resulting from her ordeal and a number of other issues she faced during her long ordeal.

Francis A. Gregory Library

Willard Poteat introduced Cheryl Allen who is the interim librarian since Ms. Mtewa left. Miles Steele requested that she come but Ms. Allen was not prepared to give a report as she was notified late about the HCCA meeting. However, she promised to report on library activities at the next meeting.

Environmental:

Mary Ross announced a number of activities: environmental contest in the local public schools; cleanup on Sat. May 18th; hike through Fort Circle Park; fundraiser selling pickup sticks.

Recreation:

Boyle introduced Ralph Barnett who made an announcement about the Distinguished Gentlemen of Hillcrest, a group of men meeting to do community service and assist the youth and be positive role models. He spoke of the Thanksgiving celebration that was held and their age and awareness program. They are looking for more men and ideas for this group and announced their next meeting scheduled for Feb. 6th at 7PM at the Rec Center.

Police Report

Lt. Netter described a number of incidents in the community and encouraged residents to read the safety tips that were sent out. He noted that unified PSA notices will be sent and that MPD/DC was centralizing their computer systems to have consistent crime reports across the city which would also aid in comparisons from one community to another. He provided a number to reach him – 202-698-1315. He also noted that the community outreach coordinator for 6th District is Julia Irving. She is the internal MPD/DC internal advocate for our community. Her email is Julia.Irving@dc.gov

Guest Speaker: - Emeka Moneme, Director, DC Department of Transportation

Mr. Emeka Moneme, the morning speaker, was introduced and he described many of the FY 2008 activities that DDOT was undertaking. He noted that he wanted to meet with Hillcrest on an annual basis to discuss the priorities and get our input. He gave highlights on the status of some of the ongoing projects including: Pennsylvania Great Streets project, including traffic flow issues; reconfiguration of 11th St. Bridge; and other issues. He noted that there was still more planning to do on great streets project and they would be soliciting more community input. Discussion ensued about the bus lines and changes to be made to ensure better performance. Additional questions were raised and answered by Director Moneme. He indicated that he would get someone out to the relevant traffic intersections to take a look at some of the complaints being made by the members.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Following adjournment, Council Chair Gray, Councilmembers Alexander and Brown held the regular roundtable discussion with interested HCCA members.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Jackson
Acting for Recording Secretary