

Hillcrest Community Civic Association

"Working Together for a Better Community"

www.HillcrestDC.com

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Minutes of the Membership Meeting March 5, 2016

The meeting of the HCCA was called to order by Michelle Phipps-Evans, 1st Vice President at 10:45am.

A. Frank Anderson, Chaplain gave the inspirational message and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes and the Treasurer's Report

The Recording Secretary, Deborah Johnson read the minutes of the February 6, 2016 Membership Meeting. The minutes were approved.

A summary of the Treasurer's Report for March 5, 2016 was given by Monica Evans, Treasurer.

<u>PSA606 Report</u> – Lt. Monk assisted, by Officer Persaud gave a summary of the crime report comparing last year to the same time this year 2016. Regarding the burglary on February 12th on the 3100 block of Alabama Ave, the subject was apprehended. A concerned citizen reported strange behavior of an individual. Small items including jewelry, stolen from a home were found on his person. Theft closures were from shoplifting at the CVS and Safeway. 6D received an award for the greatest reduction in crime and the 6D Commander received the Commander of the Year award.

PSA meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:00pm at East Washington Heights Baptist Church. All were invited to attend.

Announcements – ANC 7B, Friends of Frances Gregory Library

Michelle Phipps-Evans explained that the Board is planning a combined Ward 7 candidate forum. This will be a non-partisan event expected to be held sometime in April or May.

ANC 7B – Robin Marlin gave the update. The Commissioners who were at the meeting were introduced. ANC 7B meets every 3rd Thursday of each month. Commander Taylor attended their last meeting. For this month's meeting a representative of the "Dream Center" on 28th Place for kids will give an update. They are also asking for representatives from the Fire Department to come to speak on recent fires.

Frances Gregory – Robin Marlin asked all to join the Friends of Frances Gregory. She reminded all of the Chili Cookoff and asked for volunteers to make chili.

Jocalyn Jones, Branch Manager of France Gregory gave an update on activities at the library for the month and monthly events.

Federation of Citizens Associations – Donavan Anderson gave the update. The last meeting went well. The announcement for the next speaker will be on their website soon.

Department of General Services/Department of Human Services – Representatives spoke briefly on homelessness and the short term facility in Ward 7. It will be located at 5004 D Street, NE. This is a new construction on a city-

owned site. It is expected to be a 3,000 square foot building with 35 units. It will have program space and recreation space for youth. Cost for this project is about \$10 million. The Homeless DC Initiative is one to eliminate homelessness in DC. These facilities are specifically for closing DC General for good as a homeless shelter. 280 families receive services at DC General.

No Ward will have more than 50 families.

There will be a March 17th Council meeting on this issue. They may be able to come back in April to speak to the Membership about more specific plans.

Committee Reports

Street Traffic - Yantee Neufville (for Linwood Robinson)

By March 28th, a major Branch Avenue resurfacing and storm water collection project will start inbound and outbound between Pennsylvania Avenue and Southern Avenue. The project will close one lane at a time and take about 4 months to complete.

<u>Communications</u> – Ruth Lewis

Ruth Lewis asked all to submit articles for the Newsletter. Submissions are due on the 15th of each month. She gave her contact information.

Fundraising - Michelle Peete

Michelle Peete gave an update on the Casino Trip. Bus leaves at 9:30 on March 31st returning at 4:30pm.

Education and Recreation – Jeanne Contardo

The Scholarship Application will be open to graduating seniors. Applications are due May 1st. Jeanne asked the Membership for approval to raise the scholarship award to \$2,000. Motion was approved.

Membership – Phil Hammond

Phil Hammond continued to encourage all to renew their membership in the HCCA. He advised that those who have not paid may receive a phone call or post card reminder.

Legislative Committee - Robin Marlin

All were invited to join the Committee. Robin Marlin gave an overview of the kinds of issues the Committee is expecting to handle. All interested should contact her.

Environment Committee - Mary Ross

All were reminded of the Alger Park cleanup. It starts at 9:30am on April 23rd.

Community Concerns

Access to the recreation center – the representative for Yvette Alexander indicated he would help with this situation.

Guest Speakers

<u>Tony Dugger</u>, The Commission on Fathers, Men and Boys. Mr. Dugger spoke about the program. It has existed for seven months. The Commission was created in 2014 due to legislation. The Commission is a twelve-member board and is located in the office of the Deputy Mayor for Greater Economic Opportunity.

<u>Rahman Branch</u>, Office of African-American Affairs. Their targeted areas are economic, housing and education opportunities. Programs include "A Space to Dream" and the "Exceptional Men of Color Program." They also train adults including financially fit DC which intends to get every resident in DC in good financial health.

<u>Councilmember Yvette Alexander</u> gave an update on the budget, a feasibility study for Ward 7 and on education including middle school. She also gave an update on Skyland. She indicated that Walmart is not interested in coming regardless of incentives. A lease was signed so no other retailers could come to the property until the lease agreement is settled. The agreement is between the developer and Walmart.

50/50 Raffle – Earl Williams (\$26.00)

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:35pm

Respectfully Submitted

Deborah Johnson, Recording Secretary