



"Working Together for a Better Community"
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Minutes HCCA General Membership Meeting April 1, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 by HCCA President Vincent Spaulding. Chaplin John Hawkins provided an inspirational reading "Thank God", followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Treasurer's Report: Richard Evans reported for Monica Evans that HCCA has a total of \$3,887.25 in Wachovia Bank.

President's Report

- The by-laws are not posted on the HCCA web-site.
- The HCCA Nomination Committee calendar: October-report ballot to membership; November-election. Vince will ask Ken Davis to chair the committee.
- The HCCA Board Retreat Briefing will be facilitated by Connie Spinner at the May membership meeting.
- The "Celebrate Spring" celebration raised \$175.00 towards its \$325.00 budget. There was a request that the HCCA fund the remaining \$150.00. The Board voted to grant the request.
- The Lorraine Whitlock Dinner will be held on April 10th at 7:00 p.m. The Board is still looking for 10 people to pay to sit at the HCCA table.
- The following motion on the HCCA policy on political speakers was made and passed by the board: The HCCA will not allow political candidates to speak at monthly meetings unless all candidates running for that office are invited. The ward 7 council member will have a regular place on the agenda. Should the ward 7 council member be running for political office, that council member will be allowed to speak, but only about ward 7 business. He/she will not be allowed to mention the candidacy or any of the issues pertaining to the race.
- Proposed Guest Speakers for June- the principals of the three DCPS located in Hillcrest.

Committee Reports

Recreation: Boyle Stuckley reported the following:

- This month's theme at the Hillcrest Recreation Center is Japan. There will be several events around this theme.
- D.C. Firefighter's Recruitment Drive held at the Recreation Center drew many more applicants than expected. The number of applicants caused several problems at the center and in the surrounding community. After discussion it was decided to attempt to form a committee to screen usage permit applications in the future.

- There has also been a problem with children fighting in the recreation center. No resolution for this problem was suggested.
- The "Friends of Hillcrest" will hold a recognition ceremony for Sam Williams at the May HCCA meeting.

Fund raising: Richard Evans reported the following fundraising events:

- May 6th book signing by Mr. George Norfleet author of "A Pilot's Journey Memoirs of a Tuskegee Airman";
- May 20th, bus trip to Charlestown Slots;
- July 15th, bus trip to Dover Downs;
- June 3rd, "Fish Fry";
- September, Crab Feast;
- August, Bingo Night

Information: Willard Poteat introduced Ted Risher who gave the membership the following update on Skyland.

- NCRC maintains over 91% site control at Skyland. NCRC has acquired title via private negotiations and condemnation over 67% of the site;
- NCRC and the owner of the land under CVS have come to terms on price and have agreed to transfer the property via friendly (uncontested) condemnation. The CVS land represents approximately 6.5% of the total land area;
- NCRC and the owner of the land under Shoe City have reached agreement on price and the owner has resolved title issues. The Shoe City land represents approximately .60% of the total land area;
- NCRC is waiting for the remaining two condemnation complaints to be resolved. They are the Burka property (approximately 22% of the site) and the Desilva property (Skyland Liquors);
- NCRC is negotiating with several commercial lenders on construction and permanent financing;
- NCRC issued a request for qualifications for planning firms in February 2006;
- NCRC has requested requests for proposals on master planning and traffic studies services for the project;
- NCRC has integrated its internal assets management team with Diversified Property Services to handle relocation activities; Diversified Services will develop a schedule so that all tenants can set reliable timetables for their remaining time on site.

Membership: No report.

Francis A. Gregory Library

Lessie Owens-Mtewa from the library reported the activation of a Blue Ribbon Commission on Libraries listening sessions for community input and the following programs in the month of March.

- Computer classes;
- Spanish classes;
- chess sessions, Monday & Tuesdays, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.;
- Children's Room, "EggPressions", April 15th, 1 to 3 p.m.;
- African-Hispanic Lecture Series by C.J. Gibbs - dates to be announced.

Education: Linda Jackson reported the Education Committee is compiling the results of the survey. She also reported members of the committee are doing site visits to the neighborhood schools and there will be a meeting with Council member Kathy Patterson and the chairs of the Education and Recreation committees, to discuss the state of the schools and recreation centers in Hillcrest.

Environmental: Mary Ross reported May 20th has been chosen for a Community Wide Clean-Up. Spring school cleaning campaign will take place on May 14th. Planning is still progressing on the “Blessing of the Trees” ceremony.

Legislative: No Report

Annual Garden Tour: Marvin Bowser reported the theme of the 13th Annual Garden Tour is “Curb Appeal.” The tour scheduled for June 17th at 11:00 a.m. will cost \$10.00. This year the committee is going back to the guided tour format with a reception to follow the tour.

ANC: Raymond Keith reported the ANC meets the 3rd Thursday of every month and invited participation by the membership. At this month’s meeting there will be a presentation for the Anacostia Waterfront Project.

Public Safety: Ann Curtsinger’s Public Safety message was “Tip’s on Hiring Contractors”.

PSA606: Lt. Ronald Netter handed out the monthly crime report and addressed the membership about the reduction of crime in the PSA. PSA606 meets on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

Guest Speaker: Kathleen Burke and Candice Washington, Trinity University

Our speakers explained the Trinity University the concept behind and the development of the Trinity University Associates Degree program at THEARC.

Council member Gray’s Report:

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

2007 Budget

- There have been several million dollars appropriated to the Francis Gregory, Anacostia and Benning libraries, all libraries in Ward 7 will be replaced in the next 5 years;
- There will be baseball in D.C.;
- There will be a Baseball Academy whose purpose is to rejuvenate youth baseball, provide educational experiences and help with life skills, located in Ward 7;
- Hillcrest Recreation Center was approved funds to work with an outside contractor to complete the facility;
- Funds have been approved to create a campus plan for the 161/2 acre area around the Senior Wellness Center, the Hillcrest Recreation Center and Winston ES School;
- The D.C. Public School modernization bill was passed;
- The park at Division Avenue and Foote Street will be renamed the Marvin Gaye Park.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Lee Williams
Recording Secretary