



"Working Together for a Better Community"
www.HillcrestDC.com

Minutes HCCA General Membership Meeting May 6, 2006

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

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

Treasurer's Report: Monica Evans reported that HCCA has a total of \$3,787.90 in Wachovia Bank.

President's Report

- Membership dues are due for 2006;
- The end of this meeting will be devoted to Retreat Summary;
- Ken Davis has agreed to chair the Nominating Committee. The HCCA Nomination Committee calendar: October-report ballot to membership; November-election;
- Neighborhood Watch will speak at the July meeting;
- Book signing today by Ken Norfit, Hillcrest resident who was a Tuskegee Airman.

Committee Reports

Council member Gray's Report:

Vincent Gray, Council Member for Ward 7 gave the following report:
2007 Budget:

- Reference the controversy about the Great Streets Budget being spent on other projects, the plan on how the money was to be spent was never submitted so 9.6 million dollars of projects that need to be done were approved the rest of the 16.6 million remains in the DDOT budget;
- Additional money has been approved for the "Arts Collaborative and the HIV/Aids Initiative;
- funds have been approved for temporary buildings for Anacostia and the Benning Road Libraries;
- 3.4 million dollars appropriated to the Francis Gregory;
- new rental subsidy, emergency assistant and energy assistance programs have been approved;
- legislation has been introduced to rename the Benning Road Bridge the Lorraine Whitlock Bridge;
- monies have been approved for new communities in Deanwood and Lincoln Heights; and
- legislation for affordable housing for teachers has been introduced.

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

- NCRC maintains over 98% site control at Skyland;
- Skyland Liquor is the one remaining piece and negotiations are continuing;
- negotiations are continuing with Target;
- plans are continuing to secure financing;
- NCRC has hired a Master Planner who will come on board next month;
- plan to start re-location of existing businesses in February 2007; and
- the new center will be 300,000 square feet.

The new Manager from Safeway Kathleen Anderson introduced herself to HCCA. She gave a brief overview of her past experiences with the company and her management plan. She answered questions from the membership.

Francis A. Gregory Library

Lessie Owens-Mtewa from the library reported the following:

- Clean-up Day in April;
- Two lectures by C.R. Gibbs, May 6th at 2:00 p.m. “Vanished Past/Hidden Future” and on May 13th , “Great Black Women”;
- Advanced computer classes; and
- on May 22nd the kick-off of the Power Reading Program.

Education: Linda Jackson reported that the three principals from the neighborhood school will be present at the June meeting.

Environmental: Mary Ross reported the May 20th Community Wide Clean-Up has been moved to May 13th.

Legislative: Virgil McDonald announced the Ward 7 Democrats Annual Conference to be held on Saturday, May 20th at Kelly Miller Middle School. Virgil has arranged for Claudia Huston, General Council for the D.C. City Council to be the guest speaker at the June HCCA membership meeting.

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. Tickets are now on sale.

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

Connie Spinner led the membership in an overview of the Annual Board Retreat. The membership made the following recommendations:

Organization

Good	Change
Policies and developing issues	
Membership retention; a way to communicate with HCCA members, i.e. seniors, individuals unable to attend meetings	How can we implement a communication tool?

Communications tool e-mail.	
Getting youth involved- maybe organize a group of youths to take message to seniors and individuals unable to attend meetings	Make HCCA meetings more family friendly
Attract young families	
Find ways to involve youth (schools, recreation center, library)	Unite them
Create HCCA database	
Indicate HCCA individuals who need assistance.	

Leadership

Good	Change
In some organizations people are talked to; appears Board included everyone's ideas, there was a great deal of interaction	Need to bring more cultural development to the community.
Broad base of leadership in organization, people being recognized for what they do.	Make members more aware of cultural activities.
Go after inactive members	Need good leaders regardless of age. Make Board position for younger person, i.e. High school representative.
Leadership Academy	Have mentoring process current leaders mentor others.
Early leadership good.	Solicit leaders more frequently than annually.
Current Board/leadership more organized.	
Bring community resources to table.	Need to expand pool from which we draw new leaders including young people.
Leaders are credible and respected.	
Structure is good.	
Leadership succession is good.	

Communications

Good	Change
Create door to door recruitment.	Promote activities through churches.
Use Neighborhood Watch.	Emphasis on new home owners.
Continuation of newsletter.	Emphasis on young adults (21 to 45).
Increase disaster skills	Implement a junior civic association.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Lee Williams
Recording Secretary