



Hillcrest Community Civic Association

"Working Together for a Better Community"

www.HillcrestDC.com

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Minutes of the Open Forum Meeting August 2, 2014

The open forum meeting of the HCCA was called to order by Michelle Phipps-Evans in the absence of Karen Williams, President at 10:40am. Michelle led the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes and the Treasurer's Report

The Recording Secretary, Deborah Johnson read the minutes of the July 5, 2014 Membership Meeting. The minutes were approved as read.

A summary of the Treasurer's Report for August 2, 2015 was given by Monica Evans, Treasurer. The Treasurer's Report was approved by the membership.

Membership Committee Report/Welcome New Members and Guests

New members - Yamilee Dambreville who was recruited during the community walk.

HCCA Board Meeting/President's Report

The current HCCA Board Members term ends in December. A Nominating Committee needs to be established. We ask for volunteers for a Chair and members of this committee.

Anthony Foster from DDOT spoke briefly about the transit subsidy program for students. Students need a DC One card from their school. Check eligibility by August 18th online to DDOT to be ready when school opens.

Announcements

ANC – Robyn Marlin give an update on ANC actions and activities. No bus stops will be removed from our neighborhood according to WMATA. Three ANC 7B seats will be vacated. They need to be filled. August 21st is the next meeting. She asked the Membership to join the Friends of Frances Gregory Library.

PS606 report – Lt Hodge reviewed the crime report with the membership. The next meeting will be held on August 20th. As of September 1st, \$75.00 fine will be issued for throwing trash in public spaces. Sgt Drummond has replaced Sgt Harvey who is now at the main station. We will meet Sgt Drummond at next month's meeting.

The police will visit a problem group home in the area. All were asked to pay close attention to youth in groups wandering around the neighborhood.

HCCA 25th Anniversary – Julie Rones

Gave an update. There will be a silent auction. Julie asked for donations. See Sheila Brown to contribute. Tickets are available from all Board members.

The Membership was asked to approve \$1,825.00 for the cost of a video presentation and related equipment. The Membership approved the \$1,825.00.

National Night Out

Fairfax Village National Night Out information was distributed the Membership.

National Night Out will also be held on August 5th at Naylor Gardens at 30th and Naylor Road.

A representative for Councilmember Yvette Alexander gave an update on activities.

HCCA COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee- Phillip Hammond

On July 12th a community walk was held. The group covered 65 homes. He thanked all who participated and all who renewed their HCCA membership. There is a plan to do this more often.

Environmental Committees - Mary Ross

The theme for the Poster Context is Save the Monarch Butterfly. 5 to 17 year olds will be invited to the Poster Party. It will be held at the home of Mary Ross. The material for the posters will be provided to the participants at the party.

Street, Traffic and Transportation – Mark Johnson

The exit from the 11th Street Bridge is open.

Public Safety – David Kirkpatrick

All are asked to come out to National Night out at Naylor Gardens and to wear HCCA t-shirt or Neighborhood Watch t-shirt. Chief Lanier said that the police substation will remain open through 2015.

Education Committee – De’Andre Anderson

The test scores of the DC schools was reviewed. Randall Highlands sent a letter thanking HCCA for our \$266.25 contribution. August 23rd is school beautification day. All were asked to volunteer at Anne Beers and Randall Highlands. The event will be held from 9:00am to 1:00pm.

Fundraising – Sheila Brown

The committee will meet in August to discuss 2015 plans for fundraising. Please provide suggestions. A holiday celebration is being considered. The Committee is looking for volunteers for this event.

Open Forum Comments

- Need a petition to have more police assigned to this neighborhood. An increased police presence is needed in our community. Put this in writing. Walmart is coming so this will be needed.
- Need better explanation for why we need a substation in our neighborhood. A strong argument is needed.

- Invite Chief Lanier to speak at the September meeting.
- Need a current list of the group homes in the neighborhood. An all- inclusive list is needed.
- Call 911 more often when seeing suspicious activity.
- Maintain a directory of contacts related to issues of concern for the neighborhood on the HCCA website.
- On the Pepco/DDOT project meetings (underground work) – information is needed on what they are doing and how we will be affected.
- Partner with other communities organizations other than Palisades such as Penn Branch and Deanwood. Reach out to other organizations in Ward 7. This will increase community strength.
- Hold an all Ward 7 Civic Associations meeting.
- Put more of our concerns in writing. Write letters of complaints. Encourage all to do this more often.
- E-mail minutes to the Hillcrest listserv.
- How do we have a say on tree cuts in our neighborhood? Tree cutting is a concern.
- Take position on issues in writing. HCCA needs to do this again. Take a position in writing as a group.
- Revisit the Legislation Committee. Reframe it into what the Membership wants it to be. This is very important.
- Look at the By Laws because they are antiquated. Establish an ad hoc committee to review the By Laws. Review established committees. Decide on new ones.
- Bring someone from Frances Gregory into the meetings to talk about Library events.
- Re-establish the committee to monitor the Good Hope Market Place.
- Hold our Councilmember more accountable.
- Be able to sign up for committees on the HCCA website. Have signup sheets at the meetings for people to sign up when asked.

50/50 Raffle Winner – Yvonne Coates (\$19.50)

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:45pm.

Approximately 45 people attended the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted

Deborah Johnson, Recording Secretary