

Hillcrest Community Civic Association

Monthly Meeting

September 4, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 by HCCA President, Vince Spaulding. Chaplin Hawkins led the membership in a prayer for Labor Day, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The July and August minutes were read by the Recording Secretary and approved by the membership.

Dennis Logan's stated in his treasurer's report that the HCCA's current balance is \$3,062.07.

Vince identified additional items to be added to the meeting agenda. 1) Awards will be given at the 15th Anniversary Banquet for those who have served Hillcrest for the past 15 years, but those who have performed exemplary service Hillcrest for less than 15 years will be recognized at the annual Christmas Party. Vince announced to the membership that tickets for the banquet can still be purchased from board members and there is still time to sign up to be a Patron or place an ad in the program booklet. 2) There has been a request for additional police cars to patrol 32nd Street because of an incidence of tire slashings in the area. There was discussion of the coverage provided by the media for similar incidents in upper northwest and the lack of coverage for Hillcrest. These are the type of issues that should be addressed by the Strategic Communications Committee.

The Skyland funding issue has been settled. The Government Printing Office sale is going through and the 108 funds will supply the revue for the project. There will be a meeting in October to provide the community an opportunity for input on new vendors for the shopping center.

Vince announced the decision to have new D.C.P.S. Superintendent speak to the general membership at the October meeting and the newly elected Ward 7 Councilperson will be asked to speak at the November meeting.

Committee Reports

Nominating: The HCCA nominating committee has reviewed the by-laws and established criteria and timelines for the 2005 election of officers. The Nominating Committee has been formed. Kenneth Davis has volunteered to chair the committee. Faith Lyles, Marvin Bowser, and Reverend Burke have agreed to serve on the Committee.

1. September 4th meeting; notice is given to the membership of the forthcoming election in November.
2. October 2nd HCCA meeting a slate of officers will be presented to the membership.
3. The election of new officers will be held at the November 6th.
4. The new board terms will begin on January 1, 2005.

Education: Linda Jackson reported that she had attended the National Math and Science Coalition meeting at Ann Beers ES on August 25th. This program is normally instituted on the high school level. Carrie Thornhill has been elected to chair this committee. The new D.C.P.S. superintendent will join the coalition. The issue the Education Committee is addressing is where do students who have graduated from this program attend middle and high school. The principal at Randall Highlands ES wants to meet with Linda to see how the HCCA Education Committee can assist with their programs. The mayor and superintendent spent a great deal of time in ward 7 schools during the beginning of the school year.

Fundraising: Faith Lyles reported that Gloria Logan was collecting money for tickets, ads and patrons for the 15th Anniversary Banquet. Winners of the 50/50 must present winning ticket at the end of the meeting in order to collect their/or designates winnings.

Information: Willard Poteat reported on the proposed addition of 6 group homes in the Hillcrest area. HCCA is not against having its fair share of group homes in the neighborhood but Hillcrest currently has 36 Community Based Residential Facilities. The residents of Hillcrest feel this is an inequitable number of CBRFs , and these facilities should be distributed equitably throughout the entire city. Vince responded, while he is aware of the issue but as a civic organization we are not able to respond to every application for a CBRF, this is an issue better addressed by the ANC. He suggested the Legislative Committee of HCCA should investigate the current city laws and ordinances and work with the ANC to address the problem. HCCA should act not in a reactionary way but address quality of life issues in a proactive manner.

Linda Jackson reminded the membership about "The Neighbors Through Art Program" on October 24th.

Membership: Gloria Logan reported that the membership rolls now number 395, with 2 new members. The president stated the goal was to have at least 600 members and requested that each member recruit at least 1 new member.

Education: Linda Jackson reported she had attended the National Math and Science Coalition meeting at Ann Beers ES. This program is normally instituted in high schools. Carrie Thornhill has been elected to chair this committee. The issue the coalition is now addressing is what middle and high schools do students who have graduated from this program attend. The principal at Randall Highlands ES wants to meet with Linda to see how the HCCA Education Committee can assist with their programs. The new D.C.P.S. superintendent will join the coalition. The mayor and superintendent spent a great deal of time in ward 7 schools during the beginning of the school year.

Legislative: Vince made an appeal to the members to join the legislative committee to help the HCCA could become proactive with quality of life issues and not reactive to individual events.

Neighborhood Watch: There have been several incidents of tire slashing in Hillcrest. These events in our area did not receive the media coverage that similar incidents in upper northwest produced. This is an issued for the Strategic Information Committee to address. There is also a request for M.P.D. to add extra patrols to the area. HCCA is paying for 20 cells phones issued to the M.P.D.C. to assist with their patrol and response of the Hillcrest area.

Lt. Netter gave the PSA 606 Crime Report. Lt. Netter reminded the membership that reducing crime is a joint effort, not just a police effort. We, the community can bring about change in our neighborhood, when we work together.

Board of Directors Strategic Direction Summary, 2005-2008: Vince Spaulding, Carrie Thornhill and Marvin Bowser reviewed the results of the board retreat.

- **Overview:** First the report concentrated on the accomplishments of HCCA. Continued success of HCCA is depended on increasing the leadership ranks; addressing organizational issues, such as: attracting new neighbors and younger residents into active participation, and improve HCCA participation city-wide.
- **Organizational Issues:** Dedicate an HCCA meeting to establish and agree on goals, objectives, and annual calendar of events; build a financial reserve suitable for new initiatives; investigate communications options for transmitting information to membership.
- **Leadership Issues:** Veteran leadership is retiring, many positions unfilled. There is no committee responsible for recruiting new leadership, leadership development not connected to membership recruitment. The Strategic Direction

Summary concluded that HCCA needed to:

- Consolidate and clarify committee structure and develop descriptions for all committees.
- Identify back-up volunteers for critical positions and consider succession planning for key posts.
- Nurture new community leadership.
- Consider creating a "Quality of Life" and a "Membership and Nominating" committees.

Feedback to report for membership: The majority of membership in attendance agreed with the report of the Committee and added he following Quality of Life issues to be addressed:

1. Street lights out in the neighborhood
2. Dumping of trash in parkside areas and streets
3. Removing signage from neighborhood
4. Develop a way of tracking incidents and results of HCCA invention

Community Concerns:

- Request that the Hospitality Committee be represented on the Board of Directors
- That the HCCA revisit the time and date of its meetings.

Paula Spaulding won the 50/50 and donated her winnings back to HCCA. **Thank you Paula.**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05

Respectfully submitted
Karen Lee Williams
Recording Secretary