



"Working Together for a Better Community"
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Minutes HCCA General Membership Meeting October 1, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 by HCCA President Vincent Spaulding. Chaplain John Hawkins provided an inspirational reading "End of Summer" followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the September meeting were read by Karen Lee Williams and approved with minor corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Monica Evans reported that HCCA has a balance of \$5,351.06 in Wachovia Bank.

President's Report: Vince Spaulding reported that:

- Vince thanked Ken Davis for use of the Public Address System
- We are paying \$30.00 per month to have the chairs set up for the monthly HCCA meetings.
- The D.C. Federation of Civic Associations Dinner will be held on October 28th at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale for \$40.00 per person.
- There will be a meeting on October 6, 2005 at the Lutheran Church of Holy Comforter to discuss the proposed development on Gainesville Street.
- The Chairmanship of the Strategic Planning Committee is vacant. The HCCA is currently recruiting new members and chair.

By-Laws: Carrie Thornhill and Kenneth Burke read the new proposed by-law changes that will be voted on at the November meeting. A written text of these changes will be published in the November newsletter.

Committee Reports

Recreation: No report.

Fund raising: Richard Evans reported the fund raising committee has decided to cancel the crab feast scheduled for October, until a later date, yet to be determined. The bus trip was successful but profits were undermined due to poor participation, probably because of Katrina.

Information: Willard Poteat reported the CJAN Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 27th at the 6th District Headquarters. He introduced Matt Morin from NCRC. Mr. Morin gave a written report to the membership and reported that NCRC is totally focused on the acquisition of the property at Skyland. NCRC is continuing to work to secure funds for the project and these funding issues are being resolved. NCRC is still on schedule for total acquisition of the property by the end of November with March 2006 as the target date for groundbreaking. NCRC is working with the current tenants to help with relocation efforts.

Carrie Thornhill made a motion for a community meeting on the topic of Skyland to occur early in 2006.

Dorothy Thomas of the Serenity Players announced they have moved to their new home at the ARC, 1901 Mississippi Avenue, SE. First performance will be Friday, October 21 @ 1:00.

Council member Gray's Report:

- He is fighting for the National Capital Medical Center. The council is working on an exclusive rights agreement with Howard University Hospital.
- The council is sponsoring a bill for a loan repayment program for medical workers living in the District of Columbia. Other incentives include tax breaks, etc.
- The Ward 7 Economic Development Council met.
- Comcast is sponsoring a State of the Ward Summit on January 24, 2006

Membership: Anthony Bolling reported that HCCA has reached its goal of recruiting 500 households.

Education: Carrie Thornhill introduced the new principal of Anne Beers Elementary School Sherri Eckthorn.

Environmental: Mary Ross reported she sent out letters to the three neighborhood schools about the fall Anti-Litter Campaign scheduled for October 28th.

The Fall Hike in Fort Circle Park will take place on October 29, 2005 from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Mary stated her committee was moving forward with planning for the "Blessing of the Trees" festival, planned for May 2006.

Legislative: Virgil McDonald and Robin Marlin gave report cards on council members currently running for Mayor, Fenty and Cantina.

Hospitality Committee: Dorothy Henry reported the committee is currently planning for the Annual Christmas Party.

Annual Garden Tour: No Report.

Public Safety: Anne Curtsinger reported that September was kick-off for the National Capital Region Emergency Preparedness Plan. She urged the membership to develop a family plan and to be aware of our children's school plan.

PSA606: Lt. Netter, PSA 606, distributed a summary report showing the numbers of crimes in most categories are down, but stolen autos and theft from autos continue to be a problem. He reported that officers from PSA 606 will attend ANC meeting in the future.

Guest Speaker: Lucy Murray "Friends of Hillcrest" introduced Kimberley Flowers, Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation. Ms. Flowers explained the Department is responsible for maintaining the city's park system and providing recreational opportunities for the citizens of the District. Ms. Flowers highlighted some of the Departments accomplishments since she has taken over.

- DPR has secured a relationship with Kaiser Permanente Foundation to pay the fees for use of swimming pools for District citizens.

- Partnership with the Department of Agriculture to provide free meals at recreation centers last summer.
- The establishment of late night Youth Tennis Programs.

Community Concerns

- This month the ANC will vote on their position on the National Capital Medical Center
- There will be a meeting on October 6th reference the proposed building of the townhouses on Gainesville Street.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Karen Lee Williams
Recording Secretary