



"Working Together for a Better Community"
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Minutes HCCA General Membership Meeting November 5, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 by HCCA President Vincent Spaulding. Chaplain John Hawkins provided an inspirational reading "Equality" followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Treasurer's Report: Monica Evans reported that HCCA has a balance of \$4,815.48 in Wachovia Bank.

President's Report: Vince Spaulding reported:

- The Annual HCCA Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 3rd, at the Church of the Holy Comforter.
- There will be a tree planting today in Fort Davis Park from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Pastor Senger was recognized by the Federation of Civic Associations for 30 years of service to the community including his tenure as President of HCCA.
- The League of Women Voters has scheduled the 1st Mayoral Debate at the UDC School of Law on November 9th, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

By-Laws: Kenneth Burke read the proposed by-law changes. The membership voted unanimously to accept the changes.

Committee Reports

Recreation: Boyle Stuckley reported that there would be a "Clean up Campaign" for the area around the Recreation Center on November 12th. The next meeting of the "Friends of Hillcrest" will be held on Wednesday, November 30th @ 7:00 p.m. The Friends are sponsoring a basketball tournament MPDC vs. DC Fire at the recreation center.

Fund raising: No report

Information: No report

Membership: Evelyn Primas reported there are currently 360 households who have paid their 2005 membership dues.

Education: Carrie Thornhill reported the DC STEM Summit held on October 22nd was a great success. She thanked the Board for the \$250 ad placed in the program and HCCA support for the summit.

Environmental: Mary Ross reported the fall Anti-Litter Campaign scheduled for October 28th was a success. Randall Highlands collected a dumpster of trash. Anne Beers the other community school to participate collected far less. The 1st place winner was Randle Highlands.

The committee is proceeding with the planning of the “Blessing of the Trees Festival” scheduled for May 20, 2006.

Legislative: Vincent reported to the membership the Resolution to Support the National Capital Medical Center as a full service, state of the art medical center was presented to the Board for approval. Virgil McDonald Legislative Chair drafted the resolution.

Annual Garden Tour: No report

Strategic Communications: Chair Person needed

Hospitality Committee: Donna Coley-Trice reported the Annual Christmas Party to be held on Saturday, December 3, 2005 at the Church of the Holy Comforter. She requested contributions from the general membership. She circulated an alphabetical listing giving suggestions of items needed for the event.

ANC7B: Raymond Keith reported the ANC meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Ryan Memorial Church.

Public Safety: Kathy Chamberlain presented a Certificate of Accommodation to Officer Wendell Cunningham for his service to the community. Ann Curtsinger reported that the DC Resource Center for Aging and Persons with Disabilities is attempting to compile a database of people in our community with special needs.

PSA606: Lt. Bigalow circulated the PSA Crime Report and theft from autos is up. There has been a 100% rise in auto thefts and there has been a spike in robberies. Some of these crimes have occurred because of carelessness on the part of the citizens of PSA 606. (i.e. leaving your car with the motor running, and not being aware of who is around when you leave your car). Lt. Bigalow reminded the membership that paying attention to your surroundings and being aware of your actions is one of the best ways to deter crime.

Guest Speaker: This month’s guest speaker Derrick Woody is the Coordinator, DC Great Streets Initiative. The Great Streets Initiative is a multi-year, multiple agency effort to transform under-invested corridors into thriving and inviting neighborhood centers using public actions and tools, as needed, to leverage private investment. Pennsylvania Avenue from 2nd Street, SE to Southern Avenue is on the list of streets to be transformed.

Council Member Fenty Remarks

Council member Fenty, mayoral candidate gave remarks on his candidacy and his support of the Great Street Initiative.

Community Concerns

- The membership expressed a great deal of concern, indicated by the number of complaints on the Hillcrest list-serve about the traffic back-up on Branch Avenue.

NCRC Report

Marissa Gaither from NCRC reported the use of GPO funds for acquisition of Skyland has been approved by DHCD and HUD. NCRC is working with DHDC to set up a system to draw down on those funds and should have a system in place very soon. NCRC will re-engage property owners at a.s.a.p. to restart the private acquisition process. The financing delays have affected the original schedule. NCRC is working to establish a new timeline.

NCRC will continue to manage the condemnation process and obtain title to 6 affected properties a.s.a.p. NCRC is also tracking legislation currently in Congress dealing with the use of public funds for projects involving condemnation.

NCRC is investigating different methods to optimize both public and private financing options for Skyland. NCRC is still looking at different options for development but the top priority for the site is still to acquire a national retailer. The community will continue to be involved in the planning process.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Lee Williams
Recording Secretary