

**Minutes Monthly Membership Meeting
October 2, 2004**

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 by HCCA President, Vince Spaulding. Phillip Hammond read an Inspirational Reading "Celebrate Life", followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dennis Logan's stated in his treasurer's report that the HCCA's current balance is \$4,525.33, including the \$1,285.52 from the 15th Anniversary Banquet.

Vince announced that Vince Gray and Kwame Brown would be the guest speakers at the November HCCA Meeting. There will no speaker at the December meeting but we will have a pot luck dinner/luncheon and award outstanding volunteers.

At a meeting on September 23 there was discussion on how to disburse the funds form the sale of GPO. The property will be appraised and offers will be given to the 44 tenants currently in Skyland Shopping Center. There will be a meeting on November 13th to provide the community and opportunity for input on new vendors for the shopping center.

Committee Reports

Nominating: The HCCA nominating committee presented a slate of candidates for the November 6th election. There are still several vacancies. The installation of new officers will be December 4th. The new board terms will begin on January 1, 2005.

Recreation: Mark reported that the 15th Anniversary Banquet was a success. He thanked everyone who worked so diligently to make the event a successful. After expenses the banquet produced a net profit of \$1,285.52.

Neal Stanley Interim Director Department of Recreation reported the Hillcrest Recreation Center received its occupancy permit on October 1, 2004 and the dedication will be on October 13, 2004 at 2:00 p.m. He is trying to push back the time so more residents can attend. Mr. Stanley reported that the Department of Rec. will clean up the area and for residents to report any issues for clean-up. The walking path between the Senior Citizens Center and the Recreation Center will cost approximately \$600,000. He is waiting for a reply from the Army Corps of Engineers whose help will be needed to complete the path.

Fundraising: 50/50 is being held in back of meeting room. Please participate.

Information: Willard Poteat turned over his committee report time to Reverend Russell from the Chartered Family Health Center. Washington D.C. has the worse record of health care in the county. The average life expectancy for African American males in D.C. is 57.5 years and the national average is 64.5 years. He urged members to seek out health care before they have problems.

Membership: Gloria Logan reported that the membership rolls now number 400. The president stated the goal is to have at least 600 members and requested that each member recruit at least 1 new member.

Education: Linda Jackson reported "The Neighbors Through Arts Program" will be held on Sunday, October 24, 2004 at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library. Linda also reported that she had attended the National Math and Science Coalition meeting at Ann Beers ES on September 22nd. Carrie Thornhill announced Dr. Janey the new D.C.P.S. superintendent has agreed to join the Coalition. The NMSC is still addressing the issue of placement after graduation from Anne Beers ES. Dr. Anthony Fears, Principal of Anne Beers ES has won the Marcus Foster Distinguished Educator Award. Linda made an appeal for new Education committee members.

Public Safety: Phil Hammond announced that the annual community clean-up will take place on Saturday, October 16, 2004 from 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon. He also announced several programs sponsored by D.C. Greenworks; 1) D.C. Rainkeepers grants rain barrels and installation workshops to D.C. residents who want to protect our rivers by using rainwater for watering trees and lawns; 2) Garden Resources of Washington will offer grants up to \$1,000 for community and youth greening projects; and 3) The National Cherry Blossom Festival is granting trios of Cherry Blossom Trees to community groups throughout the District. D.C Greenworks can be contacted at 518-6195. For tree pruning from PEPCO call 727-1000.

Legislative: The new chair of the Legislative Committee Virgil McDonald announced that he has formed a committee of the following members: Linda Johnson, Monica Evans, Tony Robinson, and Brandi Williamson. They held their first meeting and are moving forward addressing issues for the committee. One issue is that of group homes in Ward 7 and the city at large. At the same time the committee was holding its meeting there was a meeting at the City Administrators Office on the group homes. The City Administrator made a commitment to notify HCCA when new permits are issued and to report to HCCA where the existing group homes are in Ward 7

ANC7B: Kathy Chamberlain reported the next ANC meeting is October 21st; Ann Witt from the Department of Motor Vehicles will be the guest speaker. Kathy will be meeting on the feasibility of placing photo radar somewhere on Branch Avenue. At the last ANC meeting it was agreed that it would be a duplication of effort for each neighborhood to work individually on the issue of group homes (community based residential facilities). A better strategy would be to combine efforts and information and work as a larger committee.

Neighborhood Watch: Ann Curtsinger the new Neighborhood Watch Coordinator reported on the Anti-Car-Theft Fair held at the Benning Road Boys and Girls Club on Saturday, October 9, 2004. She also reminded the membership about the PSA meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

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. He noted there was a 30% reduction in crime from August. He asked us to read the report for safety tips that will help to further reduce crime.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Clifford Janey, Superintendent, D.C. Public Schools
Dr. Janey addressed the membership with his vision for change in the D.C.P.S.

Announcements: The D.C. Federation of Civic Associations, Inc. Annual Awards Banquet will be held on Saturday, November 6, 2004. Lunch will be served at 10:00 noon. The cost is \$40.00 for adults and \$10.00 for children 10 and under.

The Friends of the Francis Gregory Library meeting will be changed back to the first Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:04

Respectfully submitted

*Karen Lee Williams
Recording Secretary*