



Hillcrest Community Civic Association

"Working together for a better community"

[www.HillcrestDC.com](http://www.HillcrestDC.com)

P.O. Box 30895, Washington, D.C. 20030-0895

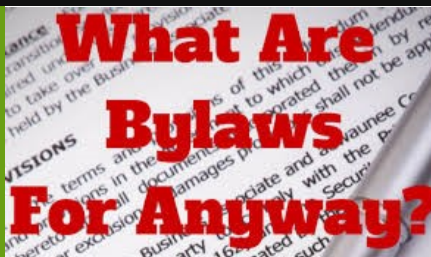
# HILLCREST NEWSLETTER

Hillcrest Community Civic Association Newsletter

August 2018

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## The Bylaws of the Hillcrest Community Civic Association

For August, we will discuss the proposed changes to the Bylaws of the Hillcrest Community Civic Association.

Please come prepared to hear the reasoning behind the updates, to make recommendations, as well as to ask questions and discuss your concerns. We look forward to hearing from you. If you are unable to attend the August meeting, but want to submit suggestions, please e-mail Boyle Stuckey at [bstuckey@hillcrestdc.com](mailto:bstuckey@hillcrestdc.com).



## Special Points of Interest

### HILLCREST COMMUNITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING

Hillcrest Recreation Center  
32nd and Denver Streets, SE  
Saturday, August 4, 2018  
11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

PSA 606 POLICE  
COMMUNITY MEETING  
East Washington Heights  
Baptist Church  
2200 Branch Ave., SE  
Wednesday, August 15, 6 PM

ANC 7B MONTHLY MEETING  
Ryland Epworth Methodist  
Church  
3200 S St., SE  
Thursday, August 16, 6:30 PM

In November 2018, the HCCA will hold elections for new board members. All positions are up for reelection. Earl Williams has volunteered to chair the nominating committee. He and his committee will search for HCCA members to run for the following positions.

- President
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Treasurer
- Recording Secretary
- Chaplain
- Parliamentarian

Committee chairs: education, environmental & beautification, recreation, public safety & emergency preparedness, membership, communication, street, traffic, & transportation, and fundraising. If you are interested in joining the nominating committee or have an interest in running for a position, please contact Earl Williams at [wearwilliams@verizon.net](mailto:wearwilliams@verizon.net) or (202) 573-0133.

# Let's Bring Back Community

by RaShonda Riddle

In May, one of our neighboring communities, Penn Branch, hosted its first ever Porchfest. While I've lived in Hillcrest for almost two years, I admit I don't know many of my neighbors so I thought this would be a great opportunity to get the family out and have a good time. To say Porchfest was a success would be an understatement. There was an amazing turn out of our diverse community and I'm confident in saying everyone who attended enjoyed themselves.

The organizer, Ayanna Smith, is a huge advocate for the community and after Porchfest she suggested we don't stop with that one event, but instead go outside on Wednesday evenings to meet and get to know our neighbors.

My husband and I, along with our 7 month old, decided to accept her challenge and hosted an event at our home called "Wine Down Wednesday" on 36th Street and invited all of our neighbors on 36th Street and 36th Place (between U Street and Alabama).

We went door to door and passed out flyers and didn't know what to expect. That evening we had over 20 neighbors join us on our screened porch over the course of three hours. We had neighbors who've lived in Hillcrest for just 9 months and one for 53 years. It was great to hear stories about the old Hillcrest and the people that had once lived on our street. Fun fact, a Tuskegee Airman lived at the corner of 36th Street and U Street.

Since then, we've attended a retirement party and a 4th of July BBQ hosted by our neighbors. We love Hillcrest, the Hidden Gem of DC, and look forward to continuing to get to know our neighbors. Let's all think of ways we can keep the momentum going and bring back a sense of community.



## The June Hillcrest Community Civic Association Cleanup

The Environmental Committee of the Hillcrest Community Civic Association would like to thank everyone who made the June clean up a huge success. Early on the morning of June 30th, eighteen committed residents met in the parking lot of the East Washington Heights Baptist. Volunteers of all ages participated and there were enthusiastic first timers who brought their infants and toddlers for the experience. They picked up litter in front of homes on Alabama Avenue, Suitland Road, and Branch Avenue.

Special thanks to the following participants who made the clean up a success: Iris Avery, Howard Bonds, Kathy Chamberlain, Audrey, Jeanne & Christian Contardo, Mary Hammond, Pilar, Robert, Iris & Ana Jarrin, Rita Lowry, Jake, Catherine & Eric Mello, and Mary Ross. Phillip Hammond assisted with coordination of the event and provided materials. Additionally, Officer Persaud, MPD provided traffic safety.

The Environmental Committee's goal is to encourage residents to pick up litter from the front (treespaces) and rear (alleys) of their homes on a regular basis, as well as, to practice the correct and proper disposal of their household and recyclable debris for weekly collections.

For future clean ups, the committee welcomes your ideas and recommendations on keeping our sidewalks, streets and alleys litter free. To make your task of picking up litter easier, we have pick up sticks for \$20 each. I would also encourage you to call 311, the Mayor's Call Center to request to be put on the Department of Public Works schedule for manual or mechanical street cleaning and alley cleaning. As tax paying and voting residents, we are entitled to **"QUALITY OF LIFE SERVICES."**

**PS.....We look forward to seeing you in September for our next clean up! THANK YOU, AGAIN....**

Submitted by:  
Phillip Hammond  
Clean up Coordinator

## **DDOT's Failing Efforts to Satisfy the Community**

If a stranger to Hillcrest had been passing by the intersection of W and 31st Streets, SE on Tuesday evening, June 26, she or he might have been puzzled by a crowd of about 30 persons congregating on the corner.

The people were there for an information meeting with the District Department of Transportation (DDOT). That agency wanted to discuss the "Alger Park Upland Low Impact Design Project (APULIDP). You may recall that some months ago, another city agency, the District Department of the Environment, had managed a major effort to improve the Alger Park stream and its surroundings. That project had been completed in a manner that was applauded by many.

Now DDOT was announcing that they had been given a mandate to improve some of the streets uphill from Alger Park to help alleviate storm water run off and to calm street traffic as well. The initial DDOT plan showed the creation of several so-called "bump-outs" which are curb intrusions (a maximum of four feet from the curb) that eliminate some parking spaces.

Most of the people present were not particularly happy about what they were hearing—for two different reasons. The neighbors around the intersection of W and 31st Streets were unhappy because the DDOT plan would eliminate about 21% of the parking places on 31st Street forever. Neighbors from another street several blocks away were unhappy because they had an erosion problem in the roadway pavement on a dangerous curve that DDOT had done nothing about for a long time. (To be truthful, DDOT had placed two cones in the street to warn motorists.

Each group was unhappy. The first group was unhappy because of what the city was PLANNING ON DOING to the streets in their neighborhood. The second group was unhappy because of what the city had FAILED TO DO in their neighborhood. In an e-mail from DDOT dated June 29, one official with APULIDP excused the inaction saying that the "issue at V Place [and 30th St. is] outside of our project area."

A second "sidewalk meeting" (also sponsored by DDOT) was held on July 10 near the original meeting place. This crowd was even bigger than the first meeting. DDOT would not commit to saving the loss of 21% of parking spaces on 31st. St.

A delegation of DDOT officials did agree to walk several blocks to the problem area at V Place and 30th Street. (The two cones were still sitting at the curve where they had been placed months ago by DDOT.) Quick action was promised on this danger.

Five days later the two cones were still sitting in the same spot.

There is a solution to the unhappiness of the two Hillcrest groups. (1) Curtail the plans for 31st and W Sts. SE and (2) Do something about the dangerous roadway erosion at V Place and 30th Streets!

## **ANC 7B04 Single Member District Meeting Report**

On Wednesday, July 11, Mr. Phillip J. Hammond, ANC Commissioner 7B04, hosted a single member district meeting concerning the Shops at Penn Hill (formerly known as Penn Branch Shopping Center). According to the sign in sheets, over 75 people were in attendance. When the meeting was called to order, the communities of Penn Branch, Hillcrest, Ft. Dupont and Fairfax Village were well represented.

Jair Lynch Real Estate Partners was represented by Jair Lynch, Developer and Anthony Startt, Investment Manager. Mr. Startt provided a detailed update particularly as it relates to zoning issues. Following the presentation, community members asked questions about the various stages of development including zoning, construction and design.

While there was not an abundance of information available about the actual design, the community again had the opportunity to present its concerns and the development Partners were able to dispel some of the rumors. The Partners committed to continue engagement with the ANC and the community at large throughout the zoning stage and the entire project.

The follow up of the 2 part zoning hearing is scheduled for July 23, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. All interested in this matter have been encouraged to attend and/or submit written testimony.

Being submitted for ANC Commissioner Phillip J. Hammond, 7B04

## HCCA WINE RAFFLE!



Purchase your \$20 raffle tickets today!. There will be as many chances to win as there are bottles of donated wine. Every winner will receive 50 bottles of wine.

Winners will be announced at Hillcrest Day on September 22, 2018. Contact anyone on the Fundraising, Education or Hillcrest Day committees to purchase tickets.

The Wine Raffle is the perfect incentive to invite neighbors to join the HCCA! Every member who brings two new paid members to the HCCA will receive one free entry into the wine raffle.

Every new paid member to the HCCA who donates a bottle of wine will receive entry into the wine raffle as well.

### Got Ideas!

Email ideas or articles for newsletter by the 15th of the month to:  
[hillcrestdc\\_newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:hillcrestdc_newsletter@yahoo.com)

### Pay 2018 Dues

Make checks payable to HCCA  
Send to: P.O. Box 30895  
Washington, DC 20030  
Or

[www.hillcrestdc.com/hcca/paydues.html](http://www.hillcrestdc.com/hcca/paydues.html)

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Join the conversation on our listserv:  
[Hillcrestdc@yahoo.com](mailto:Hillcrestdc@yahoo.com)

Hillcrest Newsletter brings you the information of the community

### HCCA Board

Karen Williams, President  
Michelle Peete, First Vice President  
Boyle Stuckey, Second Vice President  
Yvonne Dupree, Secretary  
Monica H. Evans, Treasurer  
Kenneth Burke, Parliamentarian  
Ruth V. Lewis, Chair, Communications  
Jeanne Contardo, Chair, Education  
Mary Ross, Chair, Environmental and Beautification  
Philip Hammond, Chair, Membership  
James Short, Chair, Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness  
Michelle Evans, Chair, Recreation

  
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