

HCA General Membership Meeting
Wednesday, November 16th, 2016 at 7:30 pm

In the all purpose room at The Center for the Handicapped
10501 New Hampshire Ave, Silver Spring, MD

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm

1. Introduction & Agenda from Margie Goergen

2. Guest Speaker - MCPD Vehicle Enforcement considerations
 - Officer Phil Butler from the MCPD Commercial Vehicle Unit spoke regarding the considerations and rules for vehicle inspections in Montgomery County, and fielded many questions regarding concerns specific to Hillandale -- including speeding, large commercial vehicles parked on neighborhood streets, and tractor trailers cutting through the neighborhood.

3. Guest Speaker - Home Health & Environmental Hazards
 - Stephen Boie, a long-time home inspector in this area, provided an informative Q&A session on the most common home health hazards and how to deal with them. His talk focused on the problem areas particular for mid-century homes like Hillandale, and he had plenty of questions from the audience focusing on radon, lead paint, mold, ducts, & asbestos.

4. Community Response to racist vandalization at local church
 - Margie spoke about her visit to the church and conversations with church leadership on how the community might help. At the moment they are seeing an outpouring of offers, and didn't quite know what they might need, but will continue the conversation as needs arise.
 - HCA has prepared a letter of support (attached)
 - Montgomery County has introduced a resolution affirming a commitment to inclusion. It recommends calling the police for any acts of intimidation witnessed.

5. HCA Announcements
 - The Hillandale Holiday party will be December 4th from 5:00-7:00pm here in the CHI center. It is a potluck, family-friendly event and all are welcome to attend. Volunteers are needed to help with setup and cleanup (email programs@hillandale-md.org to volunteer)

- HCA has begun a speeding education campaign to remind neighbors and visitors to drive safer. A host of signs will be placed along streets with speed issues (only with permission of each homeowner) for several weeks at a time. Then moved to other streets. Cresthaven in West Hillandale is the first street to get the treatment, but suggestions for other streets should be sent to programs@hillandale-md.org
- HCA will be mailing out membership drive emails in the coming month. This will be the last chance to update your entry in the 2017 Community Directory.
- The new pavilion at the Hillandale Local Park has opened. HCA is planning a ribbon-cutting social for the spring.
- The county's next meeting on the Short-Term Rental legislation (the "Air BnB" rules) is on December 5th.
- The Coca-Cola plant on Elton has made great strides in reducing the number of big-rig delivery trucks cutting through Hillandale Forest, but it remains a problem. Eileen has notified the major GPS companies that the road is closed to trucks, as most of the remaining offenders are being guided through the neighborhood by their GPS devices.

6. Closing Remarks

- As always, anyone wishing to work on an issue for the community is welcome to engage the HCA Board for additional support & resources.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02pm

Board Members for 2016-17: Margie Goergen-Rood (President), Shana Davis-Cook (VP/), Andrew Harris (VP-Programs), Ken Harringer (Treasurer), Heather Thomas (Secretary/Membership), Luann Spiller (Past-President/Housing), Jeff McNeil (At-Large OH), Virgil Tudor (At-Large WH), Tom Helfand (At-Large WH/Schools), Ava Penny (At-Large HF), Ross Sutton (Bulletin/Garden), Kimberly Pfirrmann-Powell (Historian/Membership), Phyllis Solomon (Nat. Resources), Clay Teunis (Watch), Russ Harris (Web), Kay Taub (Greeter), Eileen Finnegan (Zoning), Bill Thomas (Development)

Letter from HCA in response to racist vandalization at local church

This letter of condolence and support was signed by membership at the HCA General Meeting on November 16th, 2016 and delivered to the church the next day.

Dear Rev. Dr. Robert W. Harvey and the Episcopal Church of Our Saviour congregation,

The Hillandale Citizens Association on behalf of the Hillandale Community is truly saddened by the recent hate crime perpetrated at your beautiful church. It is disheartening to think that this heinous action occurred in our own community and in other places of worship in the Silver Spring area.

Hillandale is a wonderful weaving of many ethnicities, races, religions and cultures and as a diverse community we are stronger and far better for these attributes. To attempt to intimidate a community and defile a sacred house of worship is completely unacceptable.

Know that the Hillandale community and the Hillandale Citizens Association stands ready to support and assist you and the congregation in any capacity that you deem worthwhile. Please reach out to us and we will respond.

You are after all our neighbors and our friends. You are a strong presence in the Hillandale community to which we all belong and we will stand ready with you against hatred and intimidation.

May you and your congregation find comfort and peace in knowing that we are here for all of you.

Hillandale Citizens Association