

**HCA Executive Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 26th, 2018 at 7:00 pm**  
**10202 Lariston Lane**  
**Silver Spring, MD 20903**

Attendance:

Margie Goergen-Rood (President), vacant (VP)\*, Andrew Harris (VP-Programs), Ken Harringer\* (Treasurer), Heather Thomas (Secretary), Luann Spiller\* (Past-President), Jeff McNeil (At-Large OH), Virgil Tudor (At-Large WH), Tom Helfand\* (At-Large WH), Ava Penny (At-Large HF), Lillie Brown (At-Large HF), Ross Sutton\* (Bulletin/Garden), Russ Harris\* (Web), Eileen Finnegan (Zoning), Willa Reeves\* (Greeter), Bill Thomas (Developer Liaison), Shana Davis-Cook (Bylaws)

\* *Not present*

*Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm*

- **Misc Business** - Budget questions
  - Could we add organizing a cleanup/touchup of Hillandale corners in the spring (consensus was to add it to the budget; board to discuss at April meeting)
  - What is the property listed on the budget?
  
- **Draft Letter to DoT** regarding Traffic Study surrounding Powder Mill interchange
  - There was debate among the board members, whether we should be gathering additional community feedback prior to asking for further study
  - The board consensus was
    - to continue the engagement with DoT by sending a letter soon, in order to foster collaboration and emphasize the hearing examiners report that our area is long overdue for a properly scoped study. The desire for a better plan for our traffic issues was a common theme in our previous feedback from the community.
      - Other points to emphasize in the next draft:
        - We need this now (but don't demand FY19)
        - The study should not be strictly limited to the LATIP intersections, but the more holistic study recommended by the hearing examiner -- which would include the Riggs-Powder Mill intersection, and south to the interchanges with the beltway.
        - Traffic includes more than intersection throughput -- bike trails, safe pedestrian paths and crossings, as well as public transportation should be included in planning the necessary infrastructure at the Hillandale corner.

- To make traffic a focus for HCA efforts in the near term; and even see if there is community support for a more focused committee or sub-group to lead the engagement with county, state, and residents.
  - **HCA Focus Areas** - Board discussed the feedback from the Town Hall meeting in January, looking for areas where we could focus efforts with current resources to get meaningful results.
    - Most areas of concern received some support from members of the board
      - FDA Master planning, Beautification of common areas, School Improvement/Volunteering, Zoning Enforcement, Response to New Zoning or Laws, and Community Education on Zoning/Law
    - Two focus areas emerged with the most support, these are where the board will put current efforts and hopefully see progress toward community goals
      - Transportation, including
        - Building a community group to learn and engage with decision makers about the large-scale solutions for the community's traffic concerns with New Hampshire Ave
        - Advocating for local mitigations for neighborhood speeding -- speed bumps, targeted enforcement, renewed emphasis on the sign campaign
        - Pedestrian safety on neighborhood streets - crosswalks and sidewalks
        - Bike trails and public transportation connectivity
      - Community Unity
        - Increase volunteer opportunities and outreach to get more neighbors engaged in Hillendale and working to address issues affecting it
        - Host additional event in the spring (as a companion to existing NNO in August and Holiday Party in December); ideas include:
          - Spring dinner/picnic (maybe with May HCA meeting)
          - Kite Day
          - Community Clean up Day
- **Next HCA General Meeting : Thursday March 21st**
  - Goal 1: Communicating the priorities that the board decided on and ask for neighbor support and engagement
    - Forming a Traffic Group to focus on larger New Hampshire Ave corridor issues
    - Spring event - seeking ideas and volunteers to pull it off
    - Volunteers to serve on the next board - nominations for May elections
  - Goal 2: Focus on neighborhood streets to create a prioritized action list:
    - Which streets are of highest concern?
      - Cresthaven, Royal, Schindler - speeding near schools
      - Cresthaven - sidewalk ends before New Hampshire Avenue
      - Naglee/Parkman - cut through and speeding
    - Pass along history of successful/unsuccessful efforts to date
      - Hillendale Forest speed bumps
      - Speeding sign campaign
      - Past requests for speed bumps on Cresthaven

*Meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm*