



## HCA General Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Thursday, 13 June, 2024

**Time:** 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**Place:** CHI / WeAchieve Center / 10501 New Hampshire Avenue / Silver Spring, MD

**Program Topic:** HCA business meeting and Panelist Discussion: District 20 Delegation

**Meet and Greet:** The doors opened at 7:00 pm. There were about 60 people in attendance, including the presenters.

**Meeting Opening:** The meeting was called to order by the HCA president at 7:30 p.m.

### **Program:**

The HCA president introduced the topic and had our guests introduce themselves and talk about activities in our area relative to their focus.

**Delegate David Moon** has served all 10 years of service in the House, is currently the majority leader, and serves on the judiciary committee focused on legal issues.

### **The report includes the following:**

- Money is coming back to the district including \$6 million for Viva White Oak, \$2 million for the White Oak Sears area
- Crime rates dropping in Baltimore and Montgomery County, but gun violence continues to be a part of ongoing conversations
- Pandemic federal funding money is no longer available
- Issues surrounding our population in this county not growing and the balancing act needed over the next few years as they work on the issue
- The transportation budget is in crisis because it is based on gasoline taxes, which are yielding much lower revenues than before. This is due to the numerous people working from home and the increase in EVs.
- The state added a one-dollar tax for each pack of cigarettes.
- Housing and child-care costs are keeping many mothers from the workforce. The absence of these mothers in the workforce, in turn, exacerbates the lack of workers: there are now about three job vacancies for every available worker.
- Maryland has a severe shortage of housing and needs hundreds of thousands of new housing units to be built shortly.

**Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins**, representative since 2017. She is the Vice Chair of the Ways and Means Committee and serves as Chair of the black caucus in Maryland,

which is the largest black caucus in the country (represents almost half of the Maryland House Democrats)

**The report includes the following:**

- Discuss the education bill to utilize national best practices of our community schools to ensure they are effective. A community school model includes wraparound services (feeding a child who comes to school hungry for instance) to ensure that need is met so that effective learning can happen.
- Bill passed “Grow your educator” to address our teacher shortage.
- The Access Care Act focused on healthcare access for undocumented immigrants in Maryland. This provides access to healthcare using their funds.

**Delegate Lorig Charkoudian, representative since 2019.** Delegate Charkoudian works on the economics matters committee.

**The report includes the following:**

- Working on bills that address affordable housing.
- Pedestrian safety (with a concentration on New Hampshire Ave).
- Energy efficiency.
- Quality of life items including noise cameras.

**Jenna O’Connell representing Senator Will Smith (who was unable to attend)**

Reported were Senator Smith's legislative accomplishments and focus on public safety.

**Those accomplishments include the following:**

- Passage of SB299 (use of naloxone drug to reverse effects of opioid overdose),
- SB 488 (Gun Reasonability Act),
- Tightening up bills related to juvenile justice,
- Working on landlord and tenant-related rights in housing,
- Building affordable housing and expanding rules for disabled veterans in terms of disabled parking requirements.
- Working on the Nicole Diaz Fire safety bill related to fire safety equipment and signage.

Additionally, mentioned is that the D20 team is getting \$16 million for schools.

Several questions were asked by the audience and based on those questions the following insights were presented:

- Senator Moon is to follow up on historic cars being a noise nuisance in terms of noise nuisance.
- A study looking at overcrowding of hospitals has been delayed due to an increased scope. The study is now examining the entire medical ecosystem to identify missing components that contribute to ER backup, including lack of step-down care and acute beds in hospitals.

- Results of what happens with the White Oak SEARS area is dependent on what can be worked out with the owner of that lease.
- A reminder/announcement was made to invite the community to the East County Meeting on Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> where this same D20 team would be meeting with the full community again.

**HCA Business Meeting:**

HCA President recognized a representative from Sterling Care Assistant Living facility – Jackie Brown to speak about their new project in the area of their current facility. The addition will be 17,000 square feet with 32 additional rooms. Robert Antonetti is the lander's attorney who is representing Sterling.

**Approval of the Minutes:** The April General HCA minutes were sent out in an email to the community. A motion was made and passed to approve those minutes.

**Committee Reports:**

The HCA VP of Programs invited neighbors to the National Night Out. He explained it is supported by police, first responders, and the community. The Friends of White Oak donated an ice cream truck. The event is held on August 26, 2024.

HCA president encouraged the community to attend the WRS meeting on June 27 from 6 to 8 pm at the Montgomery College, East County Education Center regarding the development at the National Labor College. It is an important meeting so that the Hillandale community has a voice in this endeavor.

The Treasurer Report was provided by the Membership Committee Chair who also reports that we continue to move constantly towards our goal to have \$7000 in budget for 2024. The full treasurer's report is in the appendix.

The HCA President mentioned that the next Executive board meetings will be at the police station on Sept 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. He invited the community to attend.

The HCA President asked for help on behalf of the Beautification Committee for the community to come out to help with area cleanup projects. He said that he would have the Beautification Committee Chair publish the dates of any events so that the community could participate.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 PM by the HCA President.

**HCA Next Meeting:** HCA Executive Board – September 12, 2024 at 7:00 PM @ Montgomery County District 3 Police Station 1002 Milestone Dr. Silver Spring, 20904 (Meeting is open to all HCA members)

## Appendix

Hillandale Citizen's Association, Inc.

### Treasurer's Report

Month Ending MAY 31, 2024

<b>CASH BALANCE</b>	<b>\$21019.57</b>	(Previous)
Checking Account-8344	\$5953.42	\$7147.79
Money Market-0525	\$6496.15	\$6483.89
CD	\$8570.00	
<b>INCOME</b>	<b>\$327.99</b>	
Interest-MM	\$ 12.26	
PayPal Transfer (Membership)*	\$ 75.73	
Deposits (Membership)	\$240.00	
<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$1501.10</b>	
WSSC	\$ 11.34	
M. Schlissel-Welcome Committee	\$ 20.39	
Paul Rood-Meeting Expenses	\$ 59.67	
Paul Rood-Pavilion-Natl. Night Out	\$110.00	
Print One-Mailing	\$508.70	
Cresthaven E.S.	\$200.00	
Roscoe Nix E.S.	\$200.00	
Francis Scott Key M.S.	\$200.00	
Springbrook H.S.	\$200.00	

\*PayPal Fees \$4.27