Hillcrest Residents Association Minutes

December 13, 2021

**Attending:** Jan Hollenberg, Laurel Lawrence, Karen Konarski-Hart, Beth Person, Marian Boyd, Tommie Kelley, Barbara Miles, Katherine Barnett Jones, Antoinette Johnson, Jan Hollenberg Caroline Reddmann, Ross Noland

**Absent:** Janet Flegal, Pittman Ware

Chair Luke Kramer called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion made by Jan Hollenberg to approve the Minutes. The motion was seconded by Karen Konarski-Hart and passed unanimously.**

**Treasurer’s Report:** Jan Hollenbergpresented the attached Treasurer’s Report. Harvestfest receipts were over $3,000 gross revenue. $1,450 of that was memberships. November’s ending balance was $17,626. Hollenberg gave an IRS update, adding that we are going to send a letter in requesting leniency regarding the $5,000 fee for not filing. A minor change in by-laws needs to be made.

**Motion made by Marian Boyd to approve the Treasurer’s Report. The motion was seconded by Karen Konarski Hart. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Public Officials:**

Luke reported for Tippi McCullough: We just finished the Special Session thankfully in 3 days which was called to take up the Governor’s individual income and corporate tax cuts and the combining of our 3 tax tables into 2., which passed. There were a few other bills that involved technical cleanups or repeals that also all passed.  We will begin our fiscal session next year on February 14th which should last for 30 days unless extended up to 15 additional days by a 3/4 vote of the House and Senate.  Tell anyone to contact me if they have any questions:  Tippi.McCullough@arkansashouse.org.  Thank you for all you do.  Merry Christmas to you all!

Kathy Webb reported that the City Board voted on redistricting maps. Hillcrest remains in Ward 3. Ward 3 kept all and expands to 12th Street Corridor. Sometime between now and the end of the year, we will vote on the budget which must be approved by the end of the year. Talking about violence reduction plans and youth activities. Some coming from Youth Commission.

Is it too early to know if the City can use any of the infrastructure money for simple projects? Webb said she can send out a break-out.

Wendy Woods addressed the group and reminded us that she is running to be our judge on the Court of Appeals. She left a petition for signatures for her name to be on the ballet. The election will be May 24.

**Holiday Decorating Contest:** 2021 get some of this from last time**.** Voting to be extended until Friday the 17th. Christmas tree lighting was one of the best we have ever had.

**Communications committee:** Website information.One more meeting with membership committee. Please sign up for e blast and like our Facebook page.

**Education Committee:** Ross Noland was pleased to announce that the School Milage passed.

**DOD Committee:** Quick update on DOD. Not a lot to report on. The group opposed to our recommendations has requested that the committee come back with something a little more cohesive for us to present to the community. This was opened up for comments to make.

Comments from membership: (Paraphrased to capture general content of comments.)1)When we do this, two or three comments may not be enough when we get to the official public comments. 2)What do you need from us if we support this. Once we have recommendations, we will be at a point that we will vote on and officially support. 3)When can we expect the final recommendation?

4) As the son of the former board member, who was involved in the original DOD, it has been very nice to see that this board is working hard to save our historic neighborhood. And good with opinions and consensus. 5) There are many people in the neighborhood who support the recommendations, and we need to know what we can do to show our support. Their vocal disagreement is a loud voice from a few, overshadowing the support of many. 6) We have been “kicking the mule” a long time on this, we should proceed with getting this passed.

Board members responded to these comments updating our process and progress and assuring the members that we will actively collect signatures of support as soon as we have our final recommendations.

**Preserve Arkansas Awards:** Bob Keltner won an award for his Preservation movie for Hillcrest. It was also noted that Jim Pfeifer won an award for his articles in Hillcrest Newsletter; and Doug Martin won an award for Hill Station.

**Membership Committee:** Boyd reported that she has gotten lists of potential members from only three board members. Waiting for more before sending the recruitment emails out. The committee is behind on thank you cards and plans to go ahead and switch to a letter instead of hand-written notes. Boyd asked if we are at a point where we can generate the mailing labels from Quick Books, and Katherine Barnett Jones said that we are.

**Arts & Aesthetics:** Boyd reported that the RFP for the mural at Canyon Grill is on hold until we get an answer from HMA. She added that we hope to have the RRP ready to go in February with the idea of starting the project in the spring. Boyd reported that it is becoming more necessary to get a new chair or co-chairs for Arts and Aesthetics, and that she will continue to help on that committee but is not able to chair two committees much longer.

Travel Club: Boyd talked about an idea to try a neighborhood travel program with a pilot trip to Spain and Portugal. Three board members are working with Katherine Lu on a proposal. Boyd has concerns about making this an official HRA project, but hoped that the board would support and communicate about the trip in social media.

**A motion was made by Karen Konarski Hart for the board to support and promote the trip, with no HRA monies to be involved. The motion was seconded by Caroline Reddman. The motion carried unanimously.**

**As there was no other business, Konarski-Hart made a motion to adjourn. Miles seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:35.**