**Hillcrest Residents Association Minutes**

March 13, 2023

**Attending:** Antoinette Johnson, Laurel Lawrence, Karen Konarski-Hart, Janet Flegal, Jan Hollenberg, Pittman Ware, April Panian, Jessica Saunders

**Absent:** Ross Noland, Karen Ryall, Caroline Reddman, Barbara Miles

Pittman Ware called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion made by Jan Hollenburg to approve the Minutes. The motion was seconded by Antoinette Johnson and passed unanimously.**

**Treasurer’s Report:**

Jan Hollenberg reviewed the treasurer’s report and reported that there was $600 in new membership fees. Balance ending at $18,700+. Currently still waiting to hear back from IRS on the $5000 penalty that we are hoping to get back.

**Motion was made by xxx to approve the Treasurer’s report xxxx seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.**

**Public Officials:**

**Kathy Webb:**   
\*12th Street Meeting  
 -Attendance was up - had around 25 attendees instead of the usual handful of people.

-Eric Hensley the new Major was at the meeting so got to meet everyone that attended.

-Violent crime down 26% and Property crime down 9% in Ward 3 this month. The city overall is

down.

-Car theft is down in Ward 3, but not by much. Kathy urged everyone to not leave valuables in

their vehicles especially weapons.

-Ward 3 is split into 3 divisions: 12 St Division, NW Division, SW Division

-Moral is very good at the police department

\*Short Term Rental Meeting

- Will be Monday, May 15th at 6:00

- Will be held at Philander Smith College in the Nugent Center

\*Capitol Hill and Stifft Station neighborhood meeting has started back with in person meetings and they are on same day as HRA Meetings so Kathy may have to leave a bit early from HRA meetings to attend the other neighborhood meeting.

\*Bond Dollars

-Improve Jim Daily Fitness

-Improve neighborhood trails and parks

\*ARPA funds

-Meeting 5/9/23

-Proposed senior center at University Park

- Also include pickle ball courts and improvements to Rebsamen tennis courts

**New Business:**

\*Ice cream social 1st Thursday, July 7th.

-Quapaw Brass Quartet will be at Crest Park.

-Kavanaugh from Beechwood to Palm will be closed 4:30-7:30 or 8:00

-Merchants can set up tents, but we hope to keep everything free

-For sponsor opportunities contact Karen Konarski-Hart ASAP so can get info out on social media

-HRA will have a table wherever they wish, but just let Karen Konarski-Hart know where

\*Panther Prowl and UAMS Cancer Walk

-Brochure printed out about Historic Hillcrest on one side and then blurbs about HRA and HMA on

back.

-Would like HRA to assist with printing costs on brochures - $300-$500 depending on qty ordered

\*UAMS Meeting about sirens – they would like to send someone out to a meeting with HRA and HMA and discuss the different sirens (tornado and active shooter)

\*DOD – Bruce McMath says not much has changed. Meeting still set for 6/8/23 at 4:00 at 6401 W 12th St (Centre at University Park)

\*PHMS’s Little Free Pantry has been set up at corner of Lee and Colonial.

-Take what you need and leave what you don’t

-Students created this to raise awareness about families lacking food and their project won 1st

place and will be headed to Nationals

-Students will be graduating this year and they asked if others could check and stock pantry when

needed and help spread the word about the new Little Free Pantry

-Non-perishable items such as canned goods can be dropped off anytime

-HRA has already shared on Facebook

\*Hillcrest Hall Update:

-Nate was not present at meeting, but said if it is sold they will make sure Hillcrest residents are

Considered

-Justin at PH Baptist Church offered to host the meetings. Get in touch with Harriet Phillips for

more info.

\*Adopt a Street: Adopt a street has been going for 28 years and got a nifty certificate. It was agreed

upon to continue this. The HMA also participates in this program.

\*Tree Watering: a lot was said here so I am just putting the main bullet points.

-Getting hot now so now is the time to start preparing for the trees that were planted, but they are

ok now as it has rained quite a bit lately.

-Wash Renew has a 300-gallon tank truck that we could pay to use to have the trees watered

-Need to determine best times to water and how much water is actually needed

-Estimated cost last year was $800 for HRA (split 3 ways so $2400 total) and best guess is it will a

little more than that, but should not exceed $1000

-Antoinette passed a motion to not $1000 for the watering and Janet seconded the motion

-PHE had 11 new trees planted and would like HRA to also water those as well

-There was discussion about the homeowners where trees were planted to cover watering those  
 -There are about 50 trees counting the 11 from PHE

-Next meeting they should know more

**Committee Reports:**\*Membership – Good, no updates

\*Communication – Caroline and Pittman are working on something that would allow members to

check their membership status online. Meeting scheduled with Wicks to further explore.

\*Preservation and Planning – No updates

\*Parks - Pollinator garden in Alsop is complete at bottom of hill behind restroooms. Saturday, June

10th is the dedication and there will “bee” activities for the kids. Hoping to spread the word to

schools somehow and get more participation.

\*Education – No update

\*Arts and Aesthetics – There is a grant idea in the works, but not 100% sure all the details. Marion

has more info but was not present at meeting.

**Upcoming Events:**

\*Eclipse

-It is still happening!

-Accommodations are already being booked up for the event

-There is talk about shutting down Kavanaugh for the event like we do for Harvest Fest

-Looking for sponsorships to furnish all the glasses

-Looking for astronomy folks to setup booths that are educational such as the planetary people at

UALR

-Get PHE, PHMS, and Forest Park schools involved

-Don’t want it to be a money making event, more an educational break even type of event

**Announcements:**

\*Steve Schuler has been organizing Harvest Fest for 5 years but will be stepping down. He said he

will train the replacement(s). The thinking is that 2 people will co-chair the event. There are good

notes from the Harvest Fest committee and lots of volunteers. Meeting to be held on what has been

done and what is left to do. If anyone knows someone they think would be good at organizing the

even please reach out to Eric McDaniel with the HMA.

\*Justin Barringer at PH Baptist Church wanted to reach out to the community about upcoming

summer camps at the church. You can go to PHBCLR.com and see a list of partners that will be

offering the camps and what types. Also gave an update on the food trucks and they are working

on zoning.

**As there was no other business, Janet Flegal made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Antoinette Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.