

Mckenney Hills-Carroll Knolls Civic Association Meeting Minutes
Capital View-Homewood Park Recreation Building
March 24, 2009

Tricia Steadman, President, with Board members Tingley, Randall, and Kaplan

President Steadman called the meeting to order at 8:15 p.m. She welcomed everyone and declared a quorum.

It was moved and seconded that the February 24 minutes be approved. Motion carried.

Announcements:

*The Mid County Citizens Advisory Board has named McKenney Hills-Carroll Knowles Civic Association the Civic Association of the year.

*New Board Members Dick Tingley, Martha Randall, and Norman Kaplan were introduced. Outgoing Board Members President Ashley Del Sole, Secretary Jessica Flores, and Marian Katz were thanked for their service. A certificate of appreciation was presented to Jessica Flores.

*President Steadman explained that MH-CK Civic Association is not a homeowners' association, but a civic organization that strives to maintain a good, safe neighborhood and provide opportunities for neighbors to gather together. We sponsor social events like the Winter Blues Festival, as well as service projects such as park clean ups and earth day. MH-CK can support members of the community when problems arise, and even direct them to needed services, but it cannot resolve neighbor disputes and issues that must be resolved neighbor-to-neighbor. At the same time, we wish to be informed of any issues within the community. The association e-mail is mh-ck@hotmail.com, the web is mhckcivic.org, and the home page gives information on how to join the list serve.

Reports:

*Norman Kaplan, treasurer, reported \$720 in the treasury. He proposed a budget which he will post on the website. At present there are 52 households (out of 1,085) that are dues paying members of the Association and with an increase to 100 members, his budget can be met. Dues are \$10 per year and can be sent to the MH-CK Civic Association, PO Box 2102, Silver Spring, MD 20915-2102, or paid at the door of most events sponsored by MH-CK Civic Association.

Events budgeted for 2009 include the Winter Blues Festival already held, and upcoming Spring Park Clean-Up, National Night Out, Fall Park Clean-Up, and Halloween. Plans are also being made to give each new resident a welcome package with useful information about resources in our area.

*Susan Heavey, Chair of the Parks Committee reminded everyone of the Park Clean Up on April 4 and Earth Day Park Clean Up on April 25. She needs a volunteer to write a grant for native plants to place in the McKenney Hills Park. She also needs volunteers to help with refreshments and other duties during the Earth Day Park Clean Up event.

New Business:

* There was discussion on ways to increase membership in the association. Currently, only 52 households out of a potential 1,085 are dues paying members of the civic association. That is only 5% of the entire community. But, the civic association's list serve, which is very active, has 325 members. President Steadman asked for ideas and suggestions of ways to try to convert members of the list serve to dues paying members. One idea would be to limit the list serve to only those who have paid their dues. With association dues for a household currently \$10/year, which is .83/month, it was pointed out that almost everyone on the list serve has probably benefited from being on it by finding a babysitter, roofer or other service provider referral which would more than pay for the \$10 dues. But, making the list serve members-only could also limit it as a communication tool for the community. Dawn Krusemark pointed out that it's possible that many on the list serve may not even know that there are dues to join the association. Susan Heavey suggested a note to the list serve asking for people to join the association and pay their dues.

Norman Kaplan moved that we take a progression of steps beginning with asking people on the list serve to become members, utilizing block captains to spread the word about dues, and restricting the list serve to dues-paying-members-only as a last resort. Jessica Flores seconded. Motion carried.

*President Steadman listed the committees in place and called for volunteers for those in need of chairs. She described the function of each one:

- Parks—Susan Heavey
- Communications—Ashley Del Sole
- Traffic & Safety—Dick Tingley, volunteered
- History/Archivist—the neighborhoods are 50 years old, chair needed
- Social/Events--chair needed
- Membership—chair needed
- Schools—act as liaison—Dawn Krusemark volunteered

Norman Kaplan moved and Dick Tingley seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m. The next meeting will be April 28 at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Randall, (Secretary)