

Name of Organization: McKenney Hills-Carroll Knolls Civic Association (MHCK-CA)

Purpose of Meeting: Monthly civic association meeting and annual elections

Date/Time: 1/25/11, 8:03 p.m. - 10:07 p.m.

Chair: Martha Randall, Secretary

Board Members:

Present: Treasurer Norman Kaplan

Absent: Dick Tingley

Others Present:

Traffic Committee Chair Brian Bhandari; Park Committee Chair

Events Committee Co-Chair Susan Heavey, acting Secretary;

Prior President & Listserv Administrator: Tricia Steadman

Other: Mary Ellen Bittner, guest parliamentarian;

Montgomery County Park Police officers

General attendees: About 40

Proceedings:

- *Meeting called to order* at 8:03 p.m. by Chair, Martha Randall
- Resident Eric O'Neill made a motion to amend the agenda to conduct new business immediately after the board's presentation about the history of the MHCK e-mail group; seconded by Nancy Stewart
- 8:06 p.m.: November 2010 meeting minutes were read and approved by unanimous consent
- 8:09 p.m.: Treasurer's Report by Norman Kaplan. In summary, MHCK-CA had \$3,254.90 in its bank account as of 1/23/11 with a \$170 outstanding check. Dues paying households were 145 out of a possible 1,020. A paper report was made available listing the paid households and when their dues expired.
- 8:12 p.m.: Tricia Steadman and Brian Bhandari made a presentation on behalf of the current board regarding the history of the CA and its e-mail group on Yahoo!
- 8:25 p.m. : Resident Nancy Stewart made a motion to grandfather 13 former e-mail group members who were dropped from the list because they were not members of the MHCK-CA or residents of its boundaries. Seconded by Juliana O'Neill. Treasurer and current e-mail group manager Norman Kaplan explained why the group was cleaned up and the circumstances of the 13 individuals dropped; currently there are 215 members on the listserv, he said, 83 of whom had paid dues and lived within the MHCK boundaries under the current bylaws. Kaplan noted that among the 13, some lived on the east side of Georgia Avenue, north of Plyers Mill, Woodside Park, Forest Glen Road and Rosensteel Ave.
- Discussion ensued about the motion. Vincent Bradley made the argument that the boundaries "were limiting the concept of community." Nancy Stewart said she had personally been helped by some of the individuals dropped; she was asked by another resident for more details on who the 13 nonresident/nonmember individuals were so

they could be considered, but she said she had no such list.

- Residents were divided about whether to allow in members on the e-mail group, or listserv, without knowing who they were and that by doing so the CA would be inconsistent in its approach to who is allowed on or not; others said they had no issue with allowing the 13 back on the list.
- Chair Martha Randall made a point of information noting that the MHCK-CA is registered with the Montgomery County Civic Federation, and that the MHCK-CA bylaws and boundaries were included as part of that legal entity. Norman Kaplan made the point that the bylaws, established in 1994, closely resemble the county's official boundaries for the MHCK neighborhood but that there are a handful of houses where there is a slight discrepancy.
- 9:03 p.m.: a vote was taken on whether to pass the motion to allow the 13 former listserv members dropped in late 2010 back on to the e-mail group. The motion passed 21-14.
- Old Business was reviewed.
- Traffic Committee Chair Brian Bhandari gave an update of the MHCK's submission to the county on 1/17. The submission aims to identify traffic problem areas and solutions to the county such as needed sidewalks, speed calming measures and stop signs. He noted the proposal is on the CA's website (<http://www.mhckcivic.org/community-news.html>)
- Dues: Discussion resumed on a proposal in November to raise the CA's current annual dues of \$10 to \$12. Bhandari noted that the rationale behind the increase was less about funds and more about simplifying the current system to bring it in line with a fiscal calendar of Oct. 1 - Sept. 30, and that making the dues essentially \$1 a month would ease such a transition. It would also allow the committee to eventually move to an optional electronic payment system. Resident Juliana O'Neill inquired why an increase was necessary when there was a surplus of money in the CA's account. Acting Secretary Susan Heavey again pointed to Bhandari's point that the move was to simplify accounting, not necessarily to boost revenues. A motion was made by Peter Howard to postpone the increase until the MHCK April meeting. Elizabeth Managan seconded. The motion passed 24-7
- Resident Erin Nutall made a motion to include additional addresses into the MHCK listserv and expand the listserv beyond the CA's current boundaries to include all residents on Rosensteel, McMillan, Gardiner, Arthur, Clark, Kimball and Caney streets. Treasurer Norman Kaplan made a point of information that those streets are represented by another civic association also registered with the Montgomery County Civic Federation. General consensus was reached that the CA's 1994 bylaws needed to be updated to consider boundary issues and listserv issues. Peter Howard made a motion to postpone such a decision as Nutall's motion until April. It was seconded and passed 22-4
- 9:30 p.m.: New Business: Treasurer Norman Kaplan gave his report on behalf of the nominating committee for the board RE: its 2011 election. Despite reaching out to dozens of individuals, he said none stepped forward to seek a spot on the MHCK Board. Chair Martha Randall asked whether there would be any nominations from the floor.

- Nominations were made for the board as follows:
 - PRESIDENT: Norman Kaplan, Vincent Bradley
 - VICE PRESIDENT: Dick Tingley, Nancy Stewart
 - SECRETARY: Martha Randall, Ewy Mathe
 - TREASURER: Eric O'Neill
- Martha withdrew her candidacy, and nominations were closed. Montgomery County Park Police made remarks while votes were counted, including a plea with residents to call on county officials to support the park budget and officers, noting the CA's monthly meetings made use of park property. Winners were Bradley (22-10), Stewart (18-14), Mathe (23), O'Neill (23)
- A point of information was made that the next MHCK CA meeting would be held Feb. 22, 8 p.m. at the Capitol View Homewood Recreation Center
- Peter Howard made a motion that the incoming board must present a comprehensive review of the MHCK bylaws at the April monthly meeting. Tricia Steadman seconded. The motion was amended to have the board present a "progress report" on the bylaws in April. Motion approved by general consent.
- 10:07 p.m.: Chair Martha Randall adjourned the meeting.