

Hiltonia Association

General Meeting

Minutes

November 15, 2017
7:00 PM
Home of Kathi Eckert

Meeting was called to order by Lily Knezevich. There were 25 people in attendance.

- 1) Councilman George Muschal spoke to the Association about sidewalk and curb repair and replacement. Repairing and/or replacing damaged sidewalks and curbs are the obligation of the homeowner with the following exceptions: if a tree planted between the sidewalk and the street causes damage; or if the curb is damaged by a city snowplow. In the case of snowplow damage, residents would have to file a TOR (?) complaint with the city. Lily noted that in the case of street rebuilding, the city would then pay for new curbs. The topic of raked leaves left in the street was also discussed. Mr. Muschal said that leaving yard waste in the street is illegal. If a resident needs to have leaves picked up (outside of the scheduled pick up dates) they should call their council person. Once the city is called by the council person, leaves are to be picked up that day.
- 2) The minutes from May and September were approved by a voice vote.
- 3) Treasurer's Report: Jim Ambrosio gave an update: there is \$2,237.42 in the Association checking account. As of 11/15 there were 100 paid members. \$240.32 was spent on the Halloween parade and party.
- 4) Committee Reports (oral reports):
 - A. **Civic:** Maria Spillman noted at the meeting that Paul Perez announced his candidacy for mayor earlier that day. Drug activity around the neighborhood continues. Residents should stay vigilant and report any suspicious activities to police. On another note, Lily has agreed to be recording secretary and Linda Reid treasurer, of the Trenton Council of Civic Associations.
 - B. **Publicity:** Linda reported that there are enough people to deliver the paper version of *The Hilltone*. Kathi Eckert added that she is still compiling a list of residents who are willing to receive an electronic version of the newsletter.
 - C. **Membership:** Although there is not currently a chair, Kathi and Kathleen Coughlin are putting together a master list of homes and residents to use for membership outreach. Georgia Wallar is also helping with the editing of the list.
 - D. **Social:** Kathleen discussed the Halloween party and parade, which were well attended. She also mentioned that there were many children trick or treating (on Kensington and Buckingham) on Halloween. Kathleen and her husband, Brennan, are hosting a Living Nativity in front of their house (205 Kensington) on Friday, December 15 and Saturday, December 16; rain date, Sunday, December 17. *The Association is also looking for a host for the annual holiday party. The host can*

choose a date and time and Association officers will handle set up and clean up.

- E. ***Hospitality:*** Georgia Wallar, committee chair, would love to see more volunteers for this committee. Committee members help find homes for various events and provide light refreshments for meetings. Candice Brearley is overseeing the Welcome Wagon.
- F. ***Worthy Projects:*** Maria Spillman noted that the Association's charitable donation for 2017 is to Urban Promise, which provides after school tutoring/programs and a summer camp to city children. The Association will match up to \$300 in donations from residents. Donations are being accepted until the end of 2017.
- G. ***Communications:*** Kathi is downloading archived *Hilltones* from Mike McGrath. She would like to see residents add news to *The Hilltone*. Please consider sending Kathi birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, etc., for publication. Maria added that children in the neighborhood could also research and write articles for *The Hilltone*.

- 5) **New Business:** Linda Reid had a meeting with staff from Engineering and Traffic. There is a Neighborhood Watch sign template. If we make our own, the city will install them. The neighborhood can get four free Watch signs from the city, which meeting attendees unanimously approved. Adding speed limit signs to Cornwall Avenue is also being looked into. There are currently two speed signs both on Cadwalader at Hilvista Blvd. and Stuyvesant Avenue. Linda added that speed bumps may be something to pursue with our state representatives: Reed Gusciora and Shirley Turner. The ***Nominating Committee***, chaired by Linda, presented the slate of Association officers for 2018: Lily Knezevich, president; Dennis Wendell and Terri O'Prey sharing first vice president duties; Marcia Youngs, second vice president; Jim Ambrosio, treasurer; Margaret Mason, recording secretary; Chrystal Miles, corresponding secretary. The slate will be voted on at the January 9 meeting. ***Your Association dues must be current in order to vote at the January 9 meeting.***
- 6) **New Business:** There is concern that the tone of discussions on the Google Group has disturbed some neighbors. Everyone is reminded that the email list is for news only. Discussions are to be limited to the Dialog Group. Adding board monitors may be an option.

Upcoming Hiltonia events and related events

- December 1: First Friday Flamingo Social (look for the flamingos)
- January 9: Hiltonia Association General meeting (7 p.m., 207 Renfrew Ave.)
- TBD: Holiday Party

Additional Information.....