

Minutes for May 13, 2025 Hiltonia Association General Meeting; 122 Renfrew Avenue (Pat Flores)

Minutes from the March 11 meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The report covered March 1-April 30, 2025. The Association received \$217.66 in membership dues and spent \$248.47 on the winter party. There is currently \$2,768.97 in the Association checking account and a \$5,497.33 Certificate of Deposit. Both accounts total \$12,515.76. The Treasurer's report was approved.

Guest speaker: **Kianna Ackerman of CASA for Children of Mercer and Burlington Counties.** Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) are volunteers who support abused or neglected children by representing their best interests in court proceedings. Ms. Ackerman said the organization is recruiting volunteers due to caseload demands. There are currently 214 volunteers and 284 children in need. There is one child per volunteer. Volunteers can state the age preference and gender of the child they would like to work with. CASA asks for a two-year commitment but is willing to accept one year.

Volunteers receive support from CASA staff throughout their term of service.

Communications:

4 Buckingham: At the court hearing on May 4, the owner of the property was found guilty of noncompliance with a previous order to clean the property. The city inspector visited the property on the morning of the May 4 hearing. The penalty (incarceration for 90 days) has been suspended, and the owner has until a hearing on July 28th to be in full compliance.

Curb and street repair: PSE&G will be repaving Hiltonia streets that were affected by the installation of new gas lines. Trenton Public Works will be replacing curbs on Cadwalader Drive on the park side of the street.

108 Renfrew Avenue: Bill Graf said the property was sold in August and was purchased by a company out of Chicago that runs group homes for people with behavioral issues. Work on the property began in the spring and Bill discovered there were no work permits displayed. He brought his concerns to the Zoning

Board which did not approve the company's permit and variance requests. Inspectors came out and ordered all work to stop.

Civic: Paulette Ayres mentioned several events including a Memorial Day flag placement ceremony at Locust Hill Cemetery; a spoken word event in Mill Hill, a "Back to the 80s" event at Trinity Cathedral, and a discussion about the merits of rank choice voting.

Membership: Suzette Price said there are now 77 paid members.

Social/Children's: Dekontee Elliot said that the Children's Social Committee was planning on a children's garden party for late spring/early summer. She was hoping to have a date set by late May.

Technology/Communications: Thomas Emerick, editor of *The Hiltone*, said for the August issue, he is looking for photo submissions of interesting/unusual plants in the neighborhood; he also encouraged everyone to send information on things that may be of interest to others. On the technology end, Dennis

Wendell the committee is working on getting a comprehensive list of neighbors/members.

Cadwaladar Park Projects: Becky Taylor said 123 trees were planted and more than 50 volunteers participated in an Arbor Day event in the park on April 30. A Cadwalader Park Alliance website is being launched in June-July.

Unfinished Business: Bill Graf will need to be reappointed Treasurer at the September meeting due to his tenure going beyond 36 months.

The spring yard sale was successful, with about 14 households participating. The organizer, Sylvia Wier, is considering another sale in October.

New Business:

A nominating committee will need to be created for the November officer nominations.

Thomas Emerick volunteered to host the Garden Party.