

HCCA October Membership Meeting at Fred Lippman Multipurpose Center, October 18, 2010

Call to Order, 7:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductions and Attendance-

- Terry Cantrell- Hollywood Lakes Civic Associaton
- Sara Case- Hollywood Lakes Civic Associaton
- Cliff Germano- North Central Civic Associaton
- Charlotte Greenbarg-Broward Coalition
- Lawrence E. Shafer-Boulevard Heights Neighborhood Associaton and Corresponding Secretary
- Bill Canizzaro-Park East Civic Associaton
- Helen Chervin- United Neighbors
- Shirley Stealey- Highland Gardens Civic Association
- Nancy Dinkel- Lawn Acres
- Pete Brewer- North Central Civic Associaton
- Mel Pollak- Hollywood Hills
- Andrew Speranza- Playland Estates
- Reverand R. and Susan Edwards- Playland Estates
- Howard Sher-Guest
- Guest Speaker-Victoria Johnson- City of Hollywood Community Development

Ms. Victoria Johnson spoke first on the current work of the City's Community Development Department and second briefly on the Department's planned Community Forum. She mentioned the Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) are intended as a catalyst for development. In Hollywood, a non-profit community housing development organization (CHODO) was established in order to receive certain federal funds reserved for community development organizations: Liberia Economic and Social Development (L.ES) which has been in existence for 16 years

Because of the city's budget cuts, the Community Development Department work force was reduced from 19 employees to 10. Their salaries are being paid, not by city money, but from funds received from the various grants. The city's code compliance department has not refilled two recently vacated positions. Section 108 loan debt service costs the city \$250,000 a year. Three federal Neighborhood Stabilization Program grant cycles have occurred. The city received of the first program a bit over 7.5 million dollars, but nothing from the second. The third program specifics will be available next year.

Terry Cantrell, Cliff Germano and others commented on the fact that often city commission agenda items that may greatly impact a neighborhood are hidden on the consent agenda. Delegates also expressed concern that when Victoria's department is planning a real estate purchase or other major action in a neighborhood, she does not communicate with the association president in advance. In fact, one of these big projects may just appear on the consent agenda.

Ms. Johnson mentioned that her department is trying to organize the already advertised Community Forum but it will not be held in November. She said her survey showed that communication with the city was the greatest concern of those who responded. She would like to have a meeting with representatives of the various neighborhood associations to discuss its contents once a date for the forum is finalized.

Charlotte Greenbarg mentioned that the HCCA had organized a series of forums on foreclosures early on in the crisis.

Mel Pollak said that the attendance for the Amendment 4 forum was not as large as was desired, but it was very informative.

Reverend Edwards introduced himself and his wife, Susan. He is president of Playland Estates. He commented on his and his wife's efforts to start the civic association and their efforts to getting previously frustrated people to become involved. He later paid \$20 dues as delegate and his wife as alternate delegate to make Playland Estates a new member association of the HCCA.

Charlotte Greenberg also mentioned the Broward Coalition's lunch meeting each Friday. Member Association presidents and board members are welcome to attend. It would be meeting November 12 at Diamante's.

The September meeting minutes were discussed. Mel mentioned the correct amount for the treasury was \$780.09. It was to be added that there was a motion made that was seconded and unanimously passed that the HCCA become a member of the regional partnership mentioned. With these two changes, the minutes were approved.

Mel Pollak inquired which associations are currently HCCA member associations. Sara Case mentioned the following associations: Hollywood Hills, Boulevard Heights, Driftwood, Hollywood Lakes, North Beach, North Central, Hollywood Beach Civic Association, United Neighbors, Park East, and Playland Estates.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed that dues paid now would extend through the 2011 membership year. Hopefully, this will encourage other associations to join.

Cliff Germano remarked that numerous land plan changes had been previously made of which the affected neighborhoods knew little or nothing. There was a need for greater communication between the city and its various civic associations. After some other discussion, it was decided Sara Case, accompanied by Terry Cantrell, should meet with the City Manager to express HCCA concerns about lack of communication from the city to the neighborhood associations.

Cliff commented that the City's Community Development Department website has documents that promise action in various areas that could benefit the neighborhoods. He thought HCCA should go through these documents and make a list of these areas so we could hold the city's feet to the fire. Susan Edwards agreed to work with Cliff on this and to bring back a report at the next meeting.

Howard Sher asked about the Council's position on the City Commission's taking a position on Amendment 4. Sara Case said it was not appropriate for HCCA to take a position as the member associations had not done so.

At this point it was too late for any additional discussion so the Council adjourned at about 8:45P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence E. Shafer, HCCA Corresponding Secretary
(for Maria Jackson, Recording Secretary)