

North Hills Civic Association
Minutes of the Annual Meeting held at Mt. Pleasant High School
April 24, 2013

President Mary Anne Korant began the meeting at 7:04 p.m. and introduced officers and board members. 20 residents signed the attendance list.

Secretary John Stevenson distributed copies of minutes from the annual meeting held April 25, 2012. Minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer Nancy Nelson reported that the association's financial records were reviewed by John Hanson on April 13, 2013. The association collected \$2335 since the last annual meeting and expended only \$719.35. Unusually warm weather in 2012/2013 resulted in only one road salting event, reducing association costs. Her report was accepted and President Korant thanked her for her years of service.

President Korant thanked everyone who helped with the association's work during the past year, including the block captains and board members, including Nancy Nelson (treasurer), John Stevenson (secretary), Teri Lovell (vice president), and trustees Pete Anderson and Marilyn Green.

As a volunteer organization, nominations were taken from the floor for elected offices. The members elected these officers and trustees for the term spanning 2013-2015:

Vice President, Teri Lovell
Treasurer, Maureen Bowser
Trustees, Valerie Cesna Cartolano

Based on the Treasurer's report and the board's recommendations, residents voted household dues for 2014 to remain \$20 for residents on NHCA-plowed streets \$5 for those on streets plowed by the State.

President Korant noted that volunteers to serve as block captains (delivering a few flyers each year) are still needed for the 400 block of Marsh Road and Windsor Road.

North Hills had a community picnic in 2012. Any residents interested in organizing a picnic or any other community activities in 2013 are encouraged to contact the association officers.

Senior Corporal Mike Snead of New Castle County Police Department addressed residents, shared a community activity report, and distributed brochures. Despite neighbors' concerns, North Hills is relatively quiet and safe compared with some other neighborhoods.

The police report showed several instances of cars being ransacked and unoccupied homes being broken into. Some crimes are being committed by drug addicts who take anything they can to feed their habits. This includes any kind of valuables, from electronic gear to copper pipe. Closing and locking doors and windows deters theft, as does removing ladders and tools that make it easier to break into homes and vehicles. Picking up junk mail and papers, parking vehicles on the driveway in different positions, changing interior lights, and "making homes look lived in" are keys to deterring theft. These and other points are included in [Burglary Prevention Seminar](#) slides.

Door to door salespersons in Delaware must wear blue identification badges. This requirement does not include representatives of charities or utility workers. Sr./Cpl. Mike Snead also noted that in Delaware “no soliciting” refers to soliciting sexual acts. He said that Delaware residents should post “no trespassing” signs and, if someone is asked to leave, police can be called to prevent trespassing. Sr./Cpl. Mike Snead may be reached at 302-395-8050 or msnead@nccde.org.

Valerie Cesna Cartolano and Julie Bell reported on New Castle County’s plan to abandon the Bringhurst sewer interceptor and now wants to take land from North Hills residents to connect them to a new interceptor. They received letters from the County requesting a 40’ right of way, which amounts to about half of their yards. This sewer interceptor appears to be a paper plan, meaning that engineers haven’t made site inspections that would reveal that North Hills is built on rock. Residents were disgusted by this approach and there is interest in having County engineers explore options which will not usurp private property or destroy trees in Bringhurst Woods.

President Korant noted that volunteer block captains are still needed for the 400 block of Marsh Road and Windsor Road. Anyone interested in delivering a few flyers each year should contact Mary Anne Korant.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.