

Rock Creek Hills Citizens' Association

Minutes of the Meeting on October 22, 2025

Welcome and Call to Order

Hill Carter called the meeting to order, and asked Board members to introduce themselves.

Ratify the minutes from the Spring 2025 meeting

The minutes from the April 9, 2025 meeting were accepted and approved.

Treasurer's Report

Mike Baker submitted the Treasurer's Report covering the time period 4/1/25-9/30/25. The account balance on 4/1/25 was \$9,646.26. Expenses as of 9/30/25 were \$4,018.45 and the total balance on 9/30/25 was \$7,157.54. The report was approved (please contact the Treasurer if you would like a copy of the report).

The approved budget for the Halloween Party was \$2,500.

The community directory will be published every three years, and the new directory was recently distributed.

Covenants Report

Robert Kim presented the Covenants report and stated that compliance has been good. He explained that the purpose of the covenants is to help neighbors get along and reported that one request to the Committee was refused. The request was actually a dispute between neighbors, and not appropriate for Committee action.

Some neighbors are concerned about new construction in the neighborhood after existing homes are torn down. The concerns are about the quality and size of new construction.

Action: Cheryl Kovalsky volunteered to form a committee to address these issues.

School Redistricting

MCPS is conducting a new boundary study that includes four options. None of the proposed changes include Kensington. Study feedback is expected in November, and further information will be available on the MCPS website in December.

Mormon Temple Festival of Lights update for 2025

Hill Carter and Mike Baker met with Elder Stolwell at the Mormon Temple to address the traffic problems experienced in the neighborhood last year. The Temple will hire off-duty police officers to be stationed at Stoneybrook 12/14-12/31 to direct traffic and prevent cars from stopping on Stoneybrook. Visitors will need timed passes to enter the Mormon Temple grounds to see the holiday lights 5-9 pm. The passes will allow up to 590 cars to enter the area every two hours. Subject to County approval, there will be signs in several locations (e.g. Stoneybrook, Beach Drive, Kent, Saul Rd. and Connecticut) to inform visitors that they will need passes to view the Temple lights. Elder Stolwell will be available to assist with any problems that occur.

People discussed the need for media attention (e.g. radio, newspapers, social media) to announce this new system.

Crime in Rock Creek Hills

There have been two break-ins in the neighborhood - one on Saul Rd. and one on Kensington Parkway. The police department is willing to do a virtual presentation if we would like to schedule it for the next RCHCA meeting.

There was also a report of sexual assault at Silver Creek Middle School, and the principal explained that the assault was actually inappropriate touching.

Action: The Board will reach out to the principal and request that she keep the Board apprised of any assaults that occur at the school. They will also discuss trash left at the school during the weekend when the school is open to the public.

Traffic and Sidewalks Report

Discussion of problem areas:

- The Saul and Elrod intersection is being reconfigured.
- The Stoneybrook and LaDuke, and Stoneybrook and Hill intersections are scheduled to get a crosswalks with signs.
- People cut through the neighborhood at Connecticut and Barroll, need a sign that indicates no cutting through is allowed. Action: Pass comment to the Traffic and Sidewalks Committee.

- Intersection of Calvend and Elrod is dangerous as there is only one stop sign, needs to be a four-way stop. Action: The County is doing a study of this intersection.

Request for a nominating committee for RCHCA officers

To seek out new voices, and to enhance transparency, the board has re-established the nominating committee that is called for in our bylaws.

This committee will assemble a slate of candidates prior to our Spring meeting, at which a new board will be elected.

Community members Laura Dennis, Marilyn Emery, Gail Ribas, and Trevor Crowley will serve on the committee, along with board members Cheryl Kovalsky (Vice President) and Mike Baker (Treasurer). **Note:** Some of the committee members volunteered and were appointed after the meeting.

New Business

The discussion returned to problems related to new building size and quality. The Board approach is to address a problem if it receives a complaint; without a complaint it isn't a Board issue. The current issue relates to a builder that is involved in tearing down existing homes and building large, low-quality homes. Builders need to know about the covenants and follow those guidelines. The design and quality of new construction impact the value of the neighborhood homes.

Action: As previously mentioned, Cheryl Kovalsky will form a committee to address these issues with the builder.

Several people discussed a problem with helicopters flying over the neighborhood and making noise in the middle of the night. This seems to be a military issue, and helicopters are flying to Camp David from the White House. They need to fly daily to stay ready when needed.

Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn

Vote: Approved

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm