

HOLLIN HALL VILLAGE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

February 17, 2023

Dear Neighbors,

Happy belated New Year! I hope you had a great 2022 and that your 2023 will be even better.

2022 was a year of re-openings and renewal for all of us as life became a little more normal. Our community association continued to focus on keeping Hollin Hall Village a great place to live and protecting our community's interests. We've continued to work on improving safety on our streets with State and County officials. We've continued to monitor the oft-delayed Paul Spring Stream Restoration Project in our neighborhood's biggest green space with an aim to minimize construction disruption and include park-like features in the plan. We initiated two new projects: a facelift to the Shenandoah Road entrance and invasive weed eradication. Both have gotten off to a slow start (more on this below), but we hope to get moving on both in the next month. We also returned to community outings with the National Night Out celebration in August, and hope to increase the frequency of meet-ups where the entire neighborhood can come together in friendship and community-building. We'll continue our work this year, and invite your suggestions about projects and improvements you want.

That said, we do face some challenges in our efforts; we simply do not have enough neighbor involvement to plan and accomplish these efforts. HHVCA Board/Committee positions remain unfilled and without folks to lead, projects in the planning phase remain stuck in limbo. With over 750 households in our neighborhood and concerns about public safety, education, zoning, transportation, environment, and social activities, the lack of neighbor participation is puzzling. These areas touch each of us almost everyday, and being a part of a thriving community requires everyone to take a seat at the table. They won't get done without your involvement. The bottom line is we need folks to get involved or we face inaction on items of community interest, lack of standing with elected and government officials, and a diminished sense of community.

Even more critically urgent, HHVCA faces another challenge in the run-up to our November 2023 Board of Director elections. Four of the five positions up for election are open due to term limits and vacancies. These leadership positions are crucial to soliciting and fully developing neighbor input on the HHVCA's direction, and representing HHV at higher-level community associations, with government agencies, and private parties. If these positions are not filled, HHVCA will cease to exist. So please consider becoming a community leader and fill one of the open positions.

We are also entertaining changes to delivery methods for our newsletter and initiating a bigger presence on social media. Details of this plan are included in the attached newsletter.

I am happy to report that HHVCA dues are unchanged at only \$10 a year per household. Your contribution allows us to publish the newsletter; maintain our website; maintain common areas; participate in Mount Vernon and Fairfax County level forums; and sponsor community-wide events. The more members we have, the more we can do for the community, so please join us.

Activate a HHVCA membership by completing the attached dues form and mailing it back in the attached envelope. You can also use the PayPal link on the HHVCA webpage ([HHVCA.ORG](https://www.hhvca.org)). If using PayPal please include your mailing address, too. And either way you choose, please don't forget to volunteer for a committee or express interest in a Board position.

One final housekeeping note. We use HHVCA's email account to keep you informed on current events/issues of note between newsletters. If you use PayPal, we'll have your email address. If you send in the attached form, please include your email address so we can keep you up to date. You can also give us your email address through the HHVCA webpage under "Contact Us". We **DO NOT SHARE** your info with others.

Questions/advice? Please call me at 703-768-4692 or via email at hollinhallvillagecitizensassn@outlook.com.

For the Board of Directors and Committee Chairs,

Leo Milanowski
President, HHVCA

Please include your address and email address; it makes it easier to contact you.

HHVCA MEMBERSHIP & DUES PAYMENT FORM

Name: _____ Interests: _____

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