

Hillcrest Resident's Association Retreat  
February 16, 2019 8:30 – Noon  
Pulaski Heights Methodist Church  
**Agenda**

8:30 Opening Remarks

8:40 Sharing visions for our **neighborhood**. Board members share thoughts on their vision and what they would like to see in Hillcrest. “After, your tenure on the board, what are you going to be proud to say we accomplished?” Here, we don’t debate, we just hear from people and start generating a list.

9:00 Brainstorming vision and goals for the **board**. Board members share their thoughts on what this board can do toward those visions. This one will require a little more discussion, but still we won’t debate.

9:30 Setting **priorities** for this year the next two and three years  
Here, we develop a general list from all ideas, combining like ideas.

10:00 Break. Board members vote on priorities. Facilitators tally and develop a priority list.

10:15 Board looks at priority list and comes to a **consensus** on priorities then works through some details and assigns roles and responsibilities to new initiatives and current obligations.

11:00 **DOD Committee**. Board comes to general consensus on how we proceed with DOD Committee and a committee is confirmed to proceed.

11:30 **By Laws**. Board comes to general consensus on how we work toward restructuring by-laws and a committee is assigned to present a proposal to board and membership.

12:00 Adjourn

The following is a summary of the meeting. It is not a formal document or plan, but a transcript of the meeting, with details still to be formulated.

**Vision--** Board members share thoughts on their vision and what they would like to see in Hillcrest. “After, your tenure on the board, what are you going to be proud to say we accomplished?”

Safe and secure neighborhood

Promenade walls and other improvements

Allsopp Park partnership

More forward on Design Overlay District

Encourage thoughtful development

Honor historic integrity of the neighborhood

Address walkability and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists

Help keep the business district intact

Road diet and traffic calming

Partnership for Pop-up program

Coordination and input on bike paths

Support local businesses

Better social media

Preserve diversity of residential neighborhood

Bury power lines

Public art plan and program

Raise more money

More community involvement

Partnerships with schools and other organizations to help them do what they're doing in Hillcrest and cross promote

Entryways into neighborhood enhanced

Recruit members in as committee members

Roundabout at Cedar and Kavanaugh and Van Buren and Kavanaugh

Involvement in and communication on park management

Get “players” to come to our meetings

One group for all of Hillcrest, to include HRA, HMA and SH with at least a part-time director

Get back to basics—communication, memberships, HarvestFest

Coordinate with City Cultural Commission

Coordinate with City

More diversity on board to include renters, businesses and developers

Board member and committee member recruitment

Soliciting more community engagement

**Goals for Hillcrest Residents Association--** Board members share their thoughts on what this board can do toward those visions. We categorized these goals using our Mission Statement:

The mission of the Hillcrest Residents Association is to encourage a sense of community, preserve the historic character, promote safety, protect the parks and support the neighborhood schools and commercial district in Hillcrest.

#### Sense of Community

Become community center/clearinghouse

Establish a strong social media presence and improve overall communication

Increase membership, funding and participation in meetings

Work with anchors partners

Conduct survey with UALR to determine what community wants

#### Historic Character

D.O.D. Committee addresses/considers changes to Design Overlay District

Encourage thoughtful development

Establish a preservation and planning committee

Consider options and develop a plan for streetscape, scale, and walkability.

### Safety

Traffic calming plan to include pedestrian and biking consideration, traffic lights and crosswalks

Consider security cameras

Establish better communication with Little Rock Police Department

Establish crime committee and neighborhood watch

### Protect the Parks

Work to make Promenade more safe and inviting

Partner with Earth Day Group and other groups to assist with park clean ups

Form a parks committee

### Support Schools

Communication and representation at meetings

Participation in events

Put student and/or teacher on committee

Coordinate Historic Structures project with students

Support business district

Improve communication - maybe go to each other's annual meetings

Formalize tie-in with HMA

**Priorities by Vote--** Setting **priorities** for this year the next two and three years

\* Work with UALR Survey Research Center to conduct a survey and gather input to determine what is most important to our constituents and what they want our organization to do. After a report is presented, we will use that information to revise our priorities as necessary. \*(The board determined that this is something that we want to do before the actual voting took place.)

- 10 Increase membership, funding and participation at meetings
- 10 Establish strong media presence and better communication
- 9 Historic streetscape/scale/walkability
- 9 D.O.D. Committee established and changes considered
- 9 Bring in consultants to look at neighborhood and provide recommendations
- 7 Work toward raising funds to have a part-time director for HRA. And/or work with Hillcrest Merchants Association and Save Hillcrest to consider the possibilities of merging into one organization for the neighborhood with an executive director.
- 5 Organize a public art committee to consider programs and
- 5 Encourage thoughtful development

After four productive hours, the board adjourned and determined that we would form committees and develop a more detailed plan of action toward these priorities as we work with new board and committee members. We also agreed to invite all prospective new board members to come to all the monthly meetings and consider joining a committee before they are elected to the board.

**Here are the current committees and the committees discussed at the retreat:**

By Laws Committee –Jim Hathaway, Eric McDaniel, Antoinette Johnson, Beth Phelps, Karen Kanarski, Lisa Davis

D.O.D Committee—Eric McDaniel, Antoinette Johnson

Preservation/Planning Committee—Antoinette Johnson

Membership Committee –Marian Boyd, Barbara Miles and Laurel Lawrence

Communications Committee—Jim Hathaway, Arthur Paul Bowen

Social Media Committee

Survey Committee—Marian Boyd

Parks Committee

Safety Committee—Barbara Miles

Schools Committee

Membership-at-Large—Nathalie Coulter