

Meeting Minutes – January 2012

January 10, 2012 General Meeting Notes

The meeting was held at the home of Michael and Karen McGrath. There were approximately 30 people in attendance.

The guest speaker was Kevin Marino, founding regional director of North American Power, a power supplier based in Norwalk, CT. He presented information on how Hiltonia consumers can save on their electric bills by switching to North American. He explained that PSE&G is “utility of record,” and as such, they continue to provide billing and repair services. While rates fluctuate, a consumer currently using PSE&G as their electric supplier who switches to North American would see a difference in their electric bill: PSE&G's basic rate is 11 cents per kilowatt hour, while North American's is 8.99 cents. Natural gas will be added within the next two months, Mr. Marino added. There are no costs (or contracts) associated with switching energy suppliers.

What North American offers that sets it apart, noted Mr. Marino, is its referral program. North American will pay a flat fee of \$65 for the first three referrals, and \$260 for 10 referrals, whether or not the referrals choose to stay with North American. The person who makes the referral is also paid a user percentage as long as the referral remains with the company. These funds can be used to reduce energy costs or as cash payments.

Mr. Marino added that it could be a potential source of revenue for the Hiltonia Association and that many organizations and church groups have set up similar referral programs to raise money.

More information is available on the company's website: www.EnergyNetworkUSA.com.

The regular meeting started at 8:25.

Association officers were elected for 2012. The slate remains the same with the exception of two positions: Gil Varnes is the new First Vice President and Marcia Youngs is now Corresponding Secretary.

In new business, Elise Mannella said the Association is looking for volunteers to help with the Cadwalader Asbury Church food bank on either Wednesday evenings or Thursday afternoons. Elise added that we will do another food drive in February.

Jackie Kutch gave the Treasurer's Report. There was \$2,902.09 in checking, as of December 31st. Membership, as of December 31st, was 145. It is now time to pay membership dues for 2012.

The Children's Committee reported that this year's Easter egg hunt will again take place at Lucy and Rochelle's home, 103 Buckingham, the Saturday before Easter. Michael Nalbone added that the committee is trying to involve some other neighborhoods in these activities.

The Winter Party will be held on January 28th, 6:30 p.m., 104 Cornwall (Donald and Anthony). The March meeting will be a neighborhood potluck at 6:30, followed by the meeting at 7:30.

There will be a reception of Hiltonia Archives at the Trenton Public Library later this spring. It may be a late morning event on a Saturday, although no date has yet been chosen.

The Hiltonia House Tour now has a nonprofit sponsor, the Trenton Artists Workshop Association (TAWA). As part of this agreement, participating artists will be displaying their work in a number of houses on the tour. There is now a Facebook page for the tour and we are looking for other ideas/contacts to spread the word about the tour, which is May 5.

There is a tentative list of homes that will be on the tour: 103 Buckingham, 205 Buckingham, 3 Cadwalader, 119 Cadwalader, 219 Cornwall, 107 Kensington, 119 Kensington, 101 Renfrew, 122 Renfrew, 1453 Stuyvesant and 1494 Stuyvesant. This list is subject to change.