

**SUITLAND CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes - Virtual Zoom**  
**March 21, 2022**

**Meeting called to order at 7:03 P.M. by Presiding Officer Carol Jones**

Invocation given by: LinDonna Griffin

Presiding Officer Carol Jones; welcomed members and thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

**Roll Call of Executive Board Officers present:** Presiding Officer / Treasurer, Carol Jones, Recording Secretary Kenneth Waddell, Correspondence Secretary, Charlotte Williams, Financial Secretary, Judy Bowie-Robinson Trustee, Monica Gaddy, Trustee, and Finance Committee Chairperson, Doris Jones.

Participants: nineteen (21)

**Guest speaker for Women's History Month: Reverend Brenda Caldwell, Pilgrimage Christian Church in Suitland, MD**

Reverend Brenda, as she is known to the Suitland Civic Association, gave her history and fight to always do a good job working with kids as schoolteacher of music. Working with kids was hard; she even stop going to church at one point in her life. She obtained her undergraduate degree in 1971 from North Carolina Agricultural & Technical University (A&T) and a Master degree from Chicago State University. She taught fourth through six grade; first as a substitute teacher and then permanent to special education students because she needed a job, the kids were bad. She started writing a book from the lessons she learned from life, which she named Trust in God and the foolishness of God. In essence, the book is about doing what God say. She encouraged everyone with the adage, God works in mysterious ways. She when to a seminary school in Lexington, Kentucky which gave her a scholarship. Ministered to Black children in Morehead, Kentucky for five years: Going to houses giving out food, black worship experience. Been in places where she was the only Black person. Lived in Peoria, Illinois. Sometimes you have to wait for thing to happen – God will enable. Became an Assistant Pastor – ministered to people in the community, baptizing folks.

In 1987 started a new church in Prince George's County from Peoria, Illinois. Knocked on doors let folks know they were in the community. People lived in Prince George's but went to church in DC. After knocking on doors for three years, funding became slim and none. Before getting current church at 5105 Silver Hill Road, there were eight other places used to worship. God made a way. They were able to purchase the current corner property for \$500,000.00. The congregation was white folks. There was a Landover Christian Church where kids were picked up and taken to Suitland for after school programs, provided food, clothing for kids and taught parenting classes. Served as Chaplain for SCA.

Recommendation to sponsor Candidate Forum & have a Voter Registration Drive:

The Executive Board: Membership Committee - recommend sponsoring a Face-to-Face and Virtual Candidate Forum. Volunteers are needed. The Executive Board also recommend that we partner with the Democratic National Committee (DNC) to do a voters registration drive. Judy Bowie-Robinson will be the Chairperson and will reach out to the DNC for a time and date. Karen Anderson motioned to approve recommendation to partner with DMC to have voters registration drive and Ida Powell 2<sup>nd</sup>. All were in favor, and none opposed.

Recommendation to host a Meet & Greet:

The Executive Board: Membership Committee – recommend have a Meet and Greet w/ Sparkling Cider and Cheese Reception for new and prospective members on May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2-4PM. To be funded through donations. Volunteers requested. Location to-be-determined. Monica Gaddy motioned to approve recommendation to have a Meet & Greet and Sharon Ford 2<sup>nd</sup>. All were in favor, and none opposed.

Recommendation by Membership Committee to have a Membership Drive:

The Executive Board: Membership Committee recommend having three (3) SCA Membership Drives. Dates to-be-determined. Possible locations: Giant Shopping Center and Iverson Mall. Volunteers are needed to conduct phone banking. Alice Holt motioned to approve recommendation to have membership drives and LinDonna Griffin 2<sup>nd</sup>. All were in favor, and none opposed

Recommendation for SCA participation in Community Day:

Recommend SCA participate in community day hosted by Suitland High School (SHS) Parent/Teacher/Association (PTA) on Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Charlotte Williams will be contact person for SHS Community Day uniform drive. Karen Anderson motioned that we participate in SHS community day and Sharon Ford 2<sup>nd</sup>. All were in favor, and none opposed.

**Audit Committee Report by Lisa Clemons, Judy Bowie-Robinson and Thornel Robinson:**

The 2021 Audit Report was reviewed on March 10<sup>th</sup> and accepted by the committee with recommendations on the items listed below. Trustees Monica Gaddy and Brian Jacobs shadowed the committee members as they review and audited the SCA's expenses and expenditures.

- Reimbursement forms found with only one signature
- Cash donation not present
- Receipts be provided for all donations
- Two signatures on checks
- Vouchers and receipts should be retained
- Audit book needs to be audited by professionals

**Open for Questions and /or Concerns:**

Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) Department of Capital Programs presents a communitywide town hall about design and construction of the new Suitland High School. Children will be bused to another school during the construction period. This will be an opportunity for the community to understand the project scope, timeline, and next steps. The new Suitland High School Design and Construction Community Town Hall will be held on April 5, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM via Zoom

SCA Executive Board rescheduled the postponed March 10<sup>th</sup> Club House site visit to meet with Prince George's County Chair At-Large Calvin Hawkins and a county inspector on March 25<sup>th</sup>, 3:30 PM to determine what a grant will allow us to do to improve the property.

Bulk Trash visible and an eye sore behind skating ring building on Branch Avenue. You can see it behind the building in the wooded area as you ride pass it on the Metro train between Naylor Road and Suitland Metro Stations.

Dr. Dula's Meeting with SCA – Any recommendation of an area/location to support a Veterans Farmers' Market? Dr. Dula asked if you know of any rooms for rent for veterans let him know.

SCA Clean-up program to resume beginning in April through November, preferably on the third Saturday of the month. Prince George's County will host a Countywide community cleanup program entitled "Growing Green With Pride" on April 23, 2022. SCA Clean up group will use the same date. If you have an area that needs cleaning let us know. We will meet in parking lot of Creature Suitland and work our way toward Iverson Mall.

Meeting Adjourned: 08:35PM

*Kenneth Waddell*  
Recording Secretary