



## HICKORY RIDGE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

April 8, 2024 • 7:30pm

Via Zoom Meeting

*Meeting Chat – Chat will not be monitored; please be civil when chatting with others.*

*Residents, please use the “raise hand” function in Zoom to speak.*

*Residents may comment on agenda items when the item is introduced for up to two minutes.*

*Board members are happy to receive feedback via email at [board@hrvboard.org](mailto:board@hrvboard.org).*

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of March 11, 2024, Meeting Minutes
3. Board Update
4. Resident Speak – Out: *two minutes per speaker to discuss items **NOT** on the agenda.*
5. CA Board of Directors Report—Skye Anderson
6. New Business:
  - A. Donation Requests: Grassroots, Atholton HS PTSA, Harpers Choice MS PTA, Clemens Crossing ES PTA, Bryant Woods ES PTA, Columbia Festival of the Arts, Wilde Lake HS PTSA, Community Ecology Institute (Freetown Farm)
  - B. Other Donations
  - C. Volunteer of the Year
7. Old Business:
  - A. CA Management Contract Addendum
  - B. Proposed Easement Policy
8. Manager Report—Laura Mayton
9. Action Items
10. Adjournment



## Hickory Ridge Community Association

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### DONATION REQUEST FORM

Date: 02-09-2024

Name of Organization: Atholton High School PTSA

Contact Person: Jessica Tropp Cade

Address: 6520 Freetown Road, Columbia, MD 21044

Telephone: (hickory ridge) 9

Email: sar  yahoo.com

#### *Please answer the following questions:*

The Hickory Ridge Board prefers that the donation be used primarily for Hickory Ridge residents.

Who will receive the service?

The students of Atholton High School

How many people?

50-150

What will the donation be used for?

To help reduce the student cost of the After-Prom Party.

What is the total budgeted amount of the project?

\$3500-\$6000 (depending on the amount of students)

How are other funds being obtained? What other organizations have made or will be making donations?

Local fundraising, parent contributions, HoCo's Executive Office

*Please use another page for any additional information.*

Amount requested: \$1000

March 24, 2024

Dear Hickory Ridge Village Board Members,

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Bryant Woods Elementary PTA. Bryant Woods Elementary School is a Title I school at the heart of Wilde Lake Village. Each year, our PTA strives to support students and families by working with the school and community partners, organizing activities, and offering opportunities to all students.

We've had a successful and busy year! This past fall we organized a successful Trunk-or-Treat and outdoor movie night, we supported our school's Family Involvement Team in the first event they held this winter (and will support them for the upcoming Spring Event that is in the works), we recently held an extremely well attended Science Fair, and are scheduled to hold our very first International Night in the coming weeks! We further funded our school's Black History Month assembly and plan to sponsor one more assembly for Disability Awareness Month. And on the arts side we sponsored the accompanist for our Band and Strings concert - an expense shouldered by our incredible band/strings teacher in previous years.

And we're not done yet! As we approach the end of the year, the PTA will provide for end of year activities for our fifth graders, including: buses for a Washington, D.C. field trip, the traditional end of year celebration picnic, and the 5th grade promotion ceremony. Lastly, we aim to have an "end of year bash" for the whole school to bring our community together. In the long-term, we continue to fund scholarships for fee-based activities, including after-school programs.

These activities support student success by instilling self-confidence and social inclusion, hands-on learning, and increasing family and community engagement. But they are not free - our expenses in the 2022-2023 school year totalled almost \$12,000. Last year the Hickory Ridge Village Board donated \$600 which went directly to sponsoring these events and more. We appreciate your generosity and look forward to any donations the Board is able to commit to this year.

As a valued community partner, we ask for your support in a donation to our PTA. We wish to continue to offer enrichment and community to our students and support our teachers who do so much for our children. Your support will positively impact our ability to make these events and opportunities happen!

On behalf of the Bryant Woods Elementary School PTA, I want to thank you for your financial support in the past. Your support encourages our continued commitment to excellence, equity, and engagement with our students and community.

Please reach out for more information about our PTA, we're always on the lookout for more opportunities to work with the community.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

*Vynessa Pantano*

Vynessa Pantano  
VP Fundraising Bryant Woods Elementary School PTA



## Hickory Ridge Community Association

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### DONATION REQUEST FORM

Date: 04/04/2024

Name of Organization: Bryant Woods ES PTA

Contact Person: Vynessa Pantano

Address: 5450 Blue Heron Lane, Columbia, 21044

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: fundraising@bwespta.org

***Please answer the following questions:***

The Hickory Ridge Board prefers that the donation be used primarily for Hickory Ridge residents.

Who will receive the service?

Bryant Woods ES students and families.

How many people?

Eight events for the 330 students and families at the school.

What will the donation be used for?

end of year celebration picnic, 5th grade promotion ceremony and "end of year bash"

What is the total budgeted amount of the project?

Our expenses in the 2022-2023 school year totalled almost \$12,000.

How are other funds being obtained? What other organizations have made or will be making donations?

From parents, local businesses, etc.

***Please use another page for any additional information.***

Amount requested: \$1000.00





## Hickory Ridge Community Association

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### DONATION REQUEST FORM

Date: 3/7/2024

Name of Organization: Clemens Crossing PTA

Contact Person: Tamara Bishop

Address: 10320 Quarterstaff Road, Columbia MD 21044

Telephone: 4

Email: [viceptacrossing@clemenscrossingpta.org](mailto:viceptacrossing@clemenscrossingpta.org)

#### ***Please answer the following questions:***

The Hickory Ridge Board prefers that the donation be used primarily for Hickory Ridge residents.

#### **Who will receive the service?**

1. Clemens Crossing Elementary School students and families.
2. Teachers and other staff working at Clemens Crossing Elementary School.

#### **How many people?**

1. Projected to be 300 to 400 people.
2. 40 staff members.

#### **What will the donation be used for?**

1. On May 10, 2024 the PTA will host our annual carnival. Our contract with Main Event for carnival supplies is our biggest expense. We rent three to four large inflatables and various carnival supplies. We will use the donation to rent a cotton candy machine, popcorn machine and one inflatable. Our hope is to have as many free items as possible since the students of CCES come from various socio-economic backgrounds including Grassroots. If you decide to cover this cost, we would love to utilize Hickory Ridge signage as a registered sponsor of the items listed below. The prices listed below are from last year's contract and we expect the price to increase slightly this year.

Unit Name	Quantity	Price	Total
<b>15 x 15 Moon bounce</b>	1	\$185.00	<b>\$185.00</b>
<b>Popcorn Machine</b>	1	\$65.00	<b>\$65.00</b>
<b>Popcorn machine supplies</b>	18	\$5.00	<b>\$90.00</b>
<b>Popcorn bags</b>	360	\$0.05	<b>\$18.00</b>
<b>Cotton Candy Machine</b>	1	\$65.00	<b>\$65.00</b>
<b>Cotton Candy Supplies</b>	8	\$18.00	<b>\$144.00</b>
<b>Cotton Candy Cones</b>	360	\$0.05	<b>\$18.00</b>

2. We will use additional funds to cover the Staff Appreciation Event at the end of the school year. As you may know HCPSS is currently undergoing budget cuts resulting in teachers being unsure if they will have a job. This has greatly impacted staff morale. Several of the teachers at CCES are community members and their children attend CCES. The PTA would like to purchase crafting supplies so that students and families can make notes/letters of appreciation for staff. In addition to providing a special lunch for staff during Staff Appreciation Week.

**What is the total budgeted amount of the project?** 1. \$600.00 for the Carnival

2. \$400.00 for the Staff Appreciation Event Total=\$1,000.00

**How are other funds being obtained? What other organizations have made or will be making donations?** 1. Monetary and "In-Kind" donations from local businesses (Patient First, Giant,...). 2. PTA Membership Dues and other Fundraisers such a Bingo, Bake Sales and Book Fair.

*Please use another page for any additional information.*

Amount requested: \_\_\$1000.00\_\_\_\_\_



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### DONATION REQUEST FORM

Date: 3/28/24

Name of Organization: Community Ecology Institute

Contact Person: Angela Nichols

Address: 8000 Harriet Tubman Lane, Columbia, MD 21044

Telephone: 443-718-9172

Email: communityengagement@cei.earth

#### *Please answer the following questions:*

The Hickory Ridge Board prefers that the donation be used primarily for Hickory Ridge residents.

Who will receive the service?

We will prioritize marketing the workshops to residents of Hickory Ridge, all workshop

How many people?

51

What will the donation be used for?

CEI proposes to use the donation to plan and implement three community-based work

What is the total budgeted amount of the project?

\$1,021

How are other funds being obtained? What other organizations have made or will be making donations?

Other funds are generated from paid participation in workshops that CEI presents year

*Please use another page for any additional information.*

Amount requested: \$1,021



# CEI's 2023-2024 Workshops Snapshot

In the last half of 2023 and first quarter of 2024, CEI provided **14 workshops** to more than **200 community members** across our four major areas of work:

- Connection to Nature
- Community Health
- Climate Action
- Civic Ecology

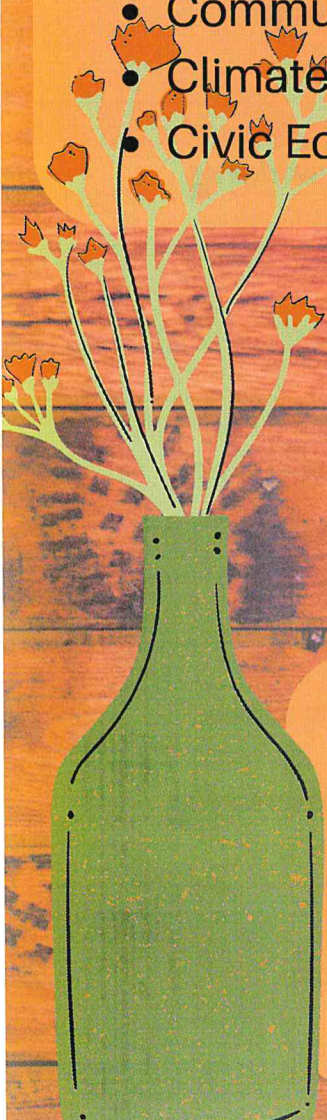
Our workshops have been attended by children, adults, and seniors, sometimes all at the same workshop!



With the help of this donation from Hickory Ridge, members of the community will continue to: have access to knowledge, learn new skills, work collaboratively, be introduced to climate action, make new friends, and even learn they can eat some pretty wild things -- and have fun telling the tale!

We at CEI have been excited to present our Accessible Art Series in 2024! Each workshop in this series is designed to be more approachable for members of our community with disabilities.

We have been thrilled to include one of our Hickory Ridge workshops in this series.





# CEI's 2023-2024 Workshops Snapshot

Beginning Kumiko

Plastic-Free July

Yoga, Meditation and Breath

Walk with an Entomologist

Breathwork

Fall Painting

Among the Briars:

Managing Stress

Seed Saving

Scrappy Cooking

Breathwork

ReWILDing your Yard

Beyond Field Guides: Birding

Accessible Art Series:

- Gel Plate Earth Day Cards
- Natural Tie-Dye
- Upcycled Art (upcoming)
- Slow Stitching (upcoming)
- Wood and Fiber Wall Hanging (upcoming)
- Solar oven Shrinky Dinks (upcoming)







## Hickory Ridge Community Association

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### DONATION REQUEST FORM

Date: 3/4/24

Name of Organization: Columbia Festival of the Arts

Contact Person: Kiera Gillock

Address: 10475 Little Patuxent Parkway, Columbia, MD 21044

Telephone: 410.715.3044

Email: kiera@columbiafestival.com

#### ***Please answer the following questions:***

The Hickory Ridge Board prefers that the donation be used primarily for Hickory Ridge residents.

Who will receive the service?

CFA's Board President is a resident of Hickory Ridge, as are many of our 200+ volunteers. We are committed to serving all of the villages of Columbia, including Hickory Ridge.

How many people?

We are anticipating 36,000+ attendees during all free and ticketed events organized by CFA for the summer of 2024.

What will the donation be used for?

Hickory Ridge Community Association's donation will be used to support programming expenses in organizing the 2024 LakeFest weekend and following Juneteenth celebrations.

What is the total budgeted amount of the project?

\$312,700

How are other funds being obtained? What other organizations have made or will be making donations?

CFA receives funding from individual donations, corporate sponsorships, and state and local grants. This includes the Maryland State Arts Council, Anchor Construction, Apple Ford, the Community Foundation of Howard County, Fannie Mae, James Ferry Photography, Wegman's, M&T, Mays & Associates, Rouse Company Foundation, and Witzke Funeral Home.

***Please use another page for any additional information.***

Amount requested: \$4,000.00



## Hickory Ridge Community Association

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### DONATION REQUEST FORM

Date: March 1, 2024

Name of Organization: Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc.

Contact Person: Anna Katz

Address: 6700 Freetown Road, Columbia MD 21044

Telephone: 410-531-6006

Email: anna@grassrootscrisis.org

### *Please answer the following questions:*

**The Hickory Ridge Board prefers that the donation be used primarily for Hickory Ridge residents.**

#### **Who will receive the service?**

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center operates Howard County's only emergency shelter at our location at 6700 Freetown Road in Columbia. The shelter serves families and individuals experiencing homelessness. Shelter residents receive comprehensive case management services which include a room, 3 meals a day, support to develop a housing plan, assistance with transportation, help with applications to social services and behavioral health services, access to employment volunteers for job search assistance, and help with applying for housing. The program can provide shelter for up to 10 families and 24 single adults at any given time. When families and individuals move out of shelter and into stable housing, they have very little to no furniture. The most basic item that someone needs when moving into a new home is a bed. Grassroots partners with a leasing company to get like-new queen size beds for our clients for \$300. This includes the frame, box spring, and delivery. Without this arrangement, most of our clients would be sleeping on a blow-up bed or on the floor.

#### **How many people?**

Grassroots provides shelter to about 90 individuals or 40 households a year. With support from the Hickory Ridge Community Association, Grassroots would be able to provide beds for 10-15 individuals depending on the family size and ages of children.

#### **What will the donation be used for?**

The funding would be used to purchase queen size beds through Progressive Leasing or through Walmart/Amazon for twin size children's beds or toddler beds. While we have an arrangement with Progressive Leasing for like-new queen beds for \$300, beds for children or toddlers are



purchased online for less. The partnership between Grassroots and Progressive Leasing also keeps these like-new but unsellable mattresses out of the landfill by allowing them to be picked up after events like home staging and used by low-income individuals. It is a win all around. As a side note, Grassroots partners with Home of Our Own Howard (HOOOH) which provides furniture to clients moving from homelessness to housing. Home of Our Own often struggles with having beds available so Grassroots buys the beds and HOOOH provides the rest of the furniture. Home of Our Own Howard is an organization that was founded by a Hickory Ridge resident, Betty Pearson.

**What is the total budgeted amount of the project?**

About \$10,000 annually. Grassroots rehuses about 2 to 4 households a month. Grassroots is requesting \$3,000 which would allow us to purchase 10-15 beds.

**How are other funds being obtained? What other organizations have made or will be making donations?**

In the past, this project has received financial support from the Community Foundation of Howard County, The Women's Giving Circle, and PNC Bank Foundation. Those funds have been used up so we are seeking additional support so we can continue to purchase beds for clients as they move out. Grassroots will continue to solicit donations from other organizations in Howard County to support this cause. These include other Community Associations, rotaries, and organizations.

*Please use another page for any additional information.*

Amount requested: \$3,000



## Hickory Ridge Community Association

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### DONATION REQUEST FORM

Date: 3/25/2024

Name of Organization: Harper's Choice MS (HCMS) PTA

Contact Person: Robyn Chang

Address: 5450 Beaverkill Rd., Columbia, 21044

Telephone: 410 

Email: chang  mail.com

### *Please answer the following questions:*

The Hickory Ridge Board prefers that the donation be used primarily for Hickory Ridge residents.

Who will receive the service?

HCMS 8th grade students, who will be moving up to Wilde Lake HS

How many people?

Approximately 250 students

What will the donation be used for?

The donation will be used to subsidize the cost for the End-of-the-Year 8th Grade Cel

What is the total budgeted amount of the project?

\$2000

How are other funds being obtained? What other organizations have made or will be making donations?

The PTA is soliciting grants from other community associations that serve students/fa

*Please use another page for any additional information.*

Amount requested: \$1,000.00



## Hickory Ridge Community Association

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### DONATION REQUEST FORM

Date: 3/30/24

Name of Organization: Wilde Lake High School

Contact Person: Ingrid Headlam

Address: 5460 Trumpter Road, Columbia, MD 21044

Telephone: 410-730-7324

Email: wildelakeptsa@gmail.com

### *Please answer the following questions:*

The Hickory Ridge Board prefers that the donation be used primarily for Hickory Ridge residents.

Who will receive the service?

Primarily students at Wilde Lake who are from the Hickory Village.

How many people?

more than 100

What will the donation be used for?

A significant portion earmarked to the After Prom and/or senior events.

What is the total budgeted amount of the project?

The 2023-24 PTSA budget is approximately \$30,000.

How are other funds being obtained? What other organizations have made or will be making donations?

Most of our budget is met from donations by community organizations such as yourself.

### *Please use another page for any additional information.*

Amount requested: \$1,000 or any amount



To: CA President and CEO

CC: CA GC, CA CFO, CA VP Community Programs and Services

Owen Brown Community Association (OBCA), River Hill Community Association (RHCA), and Hickory Ridge Community Association (HRCA) acknowledge receipt of a letter dated 1 March 2024 from CA General Counsel Mr. Kuchno, denying our requests to renegotiate the structure and funding of our contracts with CA before signing a new agreement.

OBCA sent a letter in October intending to initiate a productive dialog with CA around several substantive issues in the assessment share formula and management contract, with ample time to resolve those issues ahead of the contract's expiration on 30 April 2024. While OBCA has been proactive in bringing these issues to CA's attention several times in recent years, and while CA has previously responded that the assessment share would be re-assessed in FY24, we understand that time is now short to reach an agreement before our contract expires. With the goal of reaching an agreement in good faith that addresses these concerns, we've attached a **modified** management contract amendment which OBCA, RHCA, and HRCA are willing to sign as a short-term solution until the assessment share and contract terms can be renegotiated in FY25. The modification addresses the primary inequity that we've brought to CA's attention in prior requests.

However, should CA and our community associates not be able to reach an agreement, we are committed to an orderly transition of community center operations from the association to CA Staff, and a good-faith negotiation toward a separate agreement covering the many aspects of our current relationship which extend well beyond management of the facility. Community center operations include:

- Provision of office space for the functions of the community association (architectural enforcement, events, community advocacy)
- Provision of pro bono event space for community activities
- Rental operations of the Community Center
- Continuity of operations with several long-term tenants
- Furnishing and maintaining the interior of the building.

If CA prefers its staff to assume these responsibilities, a transition must start right away to ensure continuity of services to the nearly 30,000 residents in our three villages.

We are eager to engage with CA to discuss the path forward for our relationship. Our respective Managers and Chairs would like to continue this discussion *(on specified date)*.

Sincerely,

OBCA Chair, RHCA Chair, HRCA Chair

Modification of the management contract:

Based on latest population estimates, provide the same per-capita funding to OBCA, RHCA, and HRCA as is allocated to Town Center Community Association.

DRAFT

April 8, 2024

Dennis Matthey, Interim President and CEO  
Eric Greenberg, CA Board member  
Andy Stack, CA Board member  
Columbia Association  
6310 Hillside Court  
Columbia, MD 21046

Dear Mr. Matthey, Mr. Greenberg and Mr. Stack:

We are writing to express our perspective on CA's consideration of potential updates to the easement procedures. These procedures have been in place for 16 years and we believe that there is a need to address deficiencies in how easements have been considered since 2008.

Any revisions to CA easement procedures should reflect a number of principles:

- Establishing an outside, independent review of easement appraisals that includes a detailed analysis of the costs/benefits of any easement and any financial impact on CA's budget. Such a review will be made available to the public prior to Board consideration of the easement.
- Enhanced public notification requirements when the CA Board is considering easements that includes at least 10-day notice and direct notification to impacted homeowners.
- Recognizing that the current easement procedures requiring the transaction promote the "social welfare of the people of Columbia" and a finding of the "civic betterments or social improvements" needs to specifically account for any positive or negative environmental impacts of the easement.

We hope that the CA Board's future discussion and adoption of changes in easement procedures will reflect the principles outlined above. Thank you for considering our views on the matter.

Sincerely,

Kristine Amari  
Chair, Hickory Ridge Village Board

cc: CA Board of Directors





## Manager's Report

April 8, 2024

### 1. Event Reminders:

- **April 8 & 9, 9:30am**, Story Time
- **April 10, 10:00am**, Upcycled Art with CEI
- **April 13, 9:30 – 11:00am**, Columbia Cleans
- **April 17, 7:30pm**, RAC meeting (virtual)
- **April 18**, The Log e-issue
- **April 19, 5:30 – 7:30pm**, Community Celebration – JOIN US
- **April 29, 7:30pm**, Board meeting (virtual)

**2. Hickory Ridge Happy Hour:** The Community Engagement Committee held its first Happy Hour on March 18<sup>th</sup> and it went well. Several residents attended and everyone chatted about Hickory Ridge. The Committee members will be at Columbia Cleans and the Community Celebration. Members are working to connect with apartment communities so that information about Hickory Ridge services and events are shared with these residents.

**3. Satinwood Tree Planting:** The tree planting is scheduled for Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:00pm. The event is in partnership with Columbia Association. Volunteers will be needed; more information will be shared soon!

**4. Interested in Joining the Community Engagement Committee:** Attend a meeting on the first Monday of the month at The Hawthorn Center! The Committee meets regularly and is always looking for new, excited members! You must be a Hickory Ridge resident to join.

**5. Follow Hickory Ridge Social Media:** Keep up with Hickory Ridge news and events with [our newsletter](#) [The Log](#), on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

### 6. Committee Reports:

- **Resident Architectural Committee:** The RAC continues to review applications as usual.
- **Aging Well in Columbia Advisory Committee (AWCAC):** Ms. Grier will make a report.
- **Watershed Advisory Committee (WAC):** The WAC continues to meet but the committee has no report at this time.
- **Community Engagement Committee:** The Committee meets on the first Monday of each month at 7:00pm in the conference room at The Hawthorn Center.