



HICKORY RIDGE VILLAGE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

September 14, 2026 • 7:30pm

In person, at The Hawthorn Center with hybrid option

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.

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of July 13, 2026, Meeting Minutes
3. Icebreaker Activity for Board Members
4. Board Update
5. Resident Speak – Out: *two minutes per speaker to discuss items **NOT** on the agenda.*
6. CA Board of Directors Report—Micajah McGarity
7. New Business:
 - A. Donation Request: Bryant Woods ES
 - B. CA Update, Chris Clem, Open Space Manager, Columbia Association
 - C. Sharna Olafisoye, AmeriCorps Intake & Mediation Specialist, Mediation and Conflict Resolution Center
 - D. Introduction of Colin MacLachlan, Hickory Ridge Representative to Columbia Association's Watershed Resident Advisory Committee (WRAP)
 - E. FY26 Financial Review and FY26 Q4 Updates
8. Old Business:
 - A. Amendment to Bylaws – Requirements for Board Membership
9. Manager Report—Laura Mayton
10. Action Items
11. Adjournment



Hickory Ridge Community Association

6175 Sunny Spring, Columbia, Maryland 21044 • 410 730-7327
hickoryridgevillage.org • thehawthorncenter.org

DONATION REQUEST FORM

Date: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

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?

How many people?

What will the donation be used for?

What is the total budgeted amount of the project?

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

Please use another page for any additional information.

Amount requested: _____



Mediator Conflict Resolution Center

Strengthening Communities & Navigating Conflict Through Peaceful
Dialogue

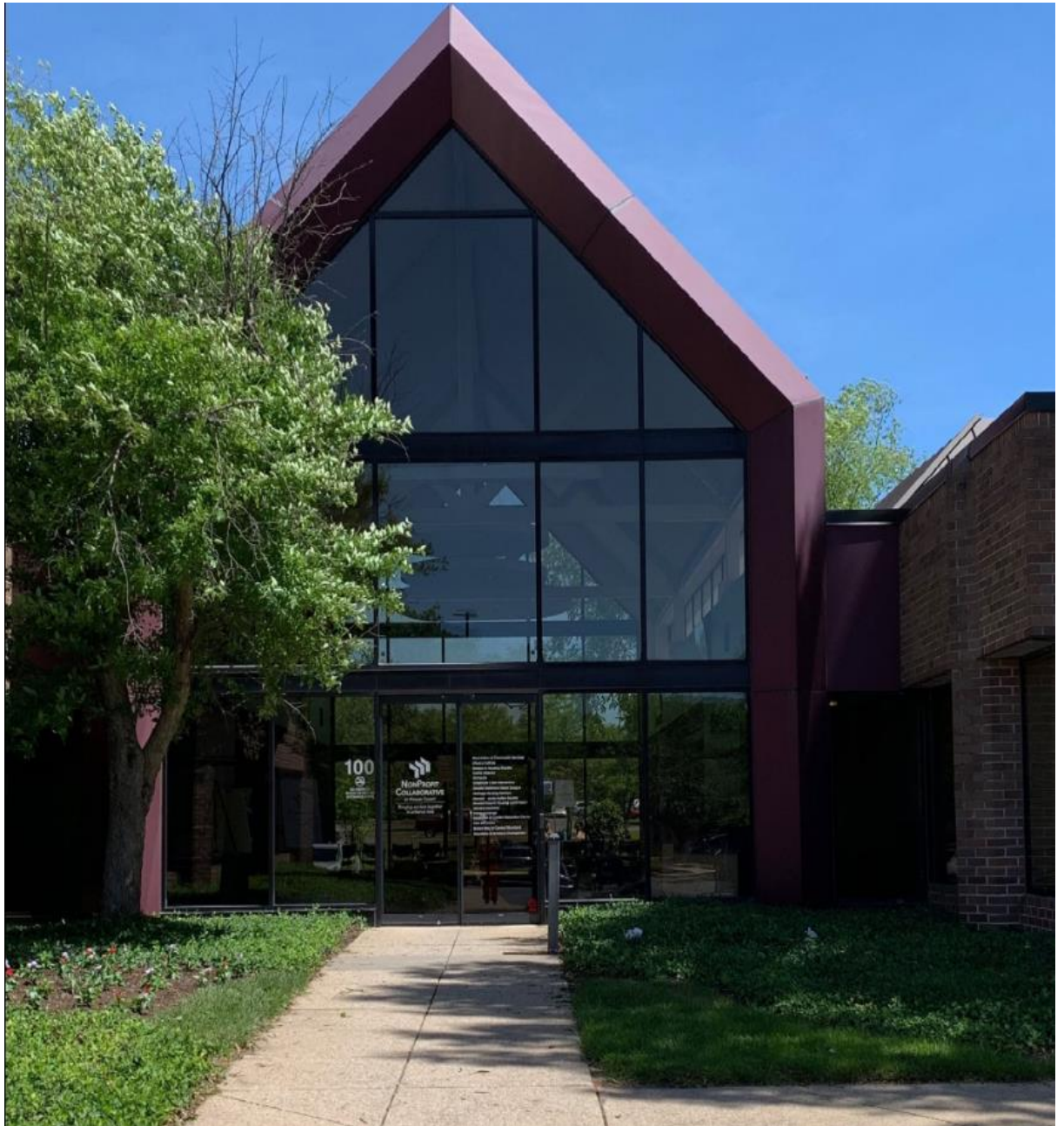


26 Years in Howard County

Rooted in Our Community

Founded 26 years ago at Howard Community College, MCRC holds a unique responsibility as the **only community mediation center in Howard County**.

For over a quarter century, our mission has remained simple: helping neighbors talk through tough situations constructively before they turn into costly legal battles.





The Core of What We Do

Moving away from adversarial division to anchor community support in five essential approaches

The 5 'C's Framework (Part 1)



Community

Columbia and Howard County thrive when local relationships are healthy. Strong villages require open communication.



Conversation

Creating a structured, neutral space where all parties can safely say what truly needs to be said.



Communication

Guiding both sides to genuinely hear each other, rather than simply waiting for their turn to react.

The 5 'C's Framework (Part 2)



Collaboration

Ensuring core needs are addressed without forcing artificial consensus. Success often means discovering practical middle ground, learning to respectfully disagree, or finding a clean path forward.



Conflict

Reframing friction depending on your relationship to general conflict—not viewing it as an insurmountable crisis, but as an opportunity to address what isn't working.

Everyday Neighbor Disputes

Living close together naturally creates friction. MCRC helps resolve common neighborhood tensions before escalation:

- **Property & Encroachment:** Disagreements over trees, fences, and shared driveways.
- **Noise Disturbances:** Ongoing sound issues that disrupt daily home life.
- **Yard & Property Maintenance:** Tensions arising over unkept lawns or boundary upkeep.



Why Community Mediation Works



Free & Confidential

Saves Time, Money & Stress

Avoid Costly Battles: Court cases, police calls, and HOA disputes can take months or years while costing thousands of dollars.

Preserve Relationships: At the end of a trial, you still live near your neighbor. Mediation resolves disputes on your own terms with mutual dignity.

Full Spectrum of Services



Restorative Justice

Facilitated processes to repair harm, navigate group dialogue, and support youth and community healing.



Comprehensive Mediation

Dedicated mediation services across housing, family, neighborhood, and organizational spaces.



Volunteer Opportunities

Training everyday Howard County residents to become certified volunteer co-mediators.

Community-Driven Impact



Navigating Conflict Together

"A strong community isn't defined by the absence of conflict—it's defined by how we navigate it when it arises."

Co-Mediator Model: MCRC pairs two neutral, trained volunteer mediators per session to ensure fair, respectful, and balanced support for all parties.

Let's Talk It Through Together

If you or someone you work with is dealing with a dispute, MCRC is here to help.



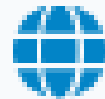
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www.mcrchoward.org

Image Sources



https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c9/Howard_Community_College_sign_Columbia_MD_2023-04-02_09-06-01.jpg?utm_source=en.wikipedia.org&utm_campaign=index&utm_content=original
Source: en.wikipedia.org



https://barrierbossusa.com/cdn/shop/articles/Black_corrugated_in_red_cedar_backyard_privacy_separation_boundary_property_urban_1fa8d0f6-e19d-4ec7-a37c-4e51f41f39da_1200x.jpg?v=1760740362
Source: barrierbossusa.com



<https://swmhhs.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Circle-Group-1024x684.jpeg>
Source: swmhhs.com

Village: Hickory Ridge
Fiscal Year: FY26
Quarter: 4
Date Prepared: 8/15/26 REVISED

SUMMARY STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
May 1 - April 30

	Actual Quarter	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance	YTD Prior Year
<u>REVENUES</u>					
1 CA Annual Charge Share Grant	83,906	335,625	335,625	(0)	325,876
2 Lease & Rental	26,236	140,053	147,000	(6,948)	161,708
3 Tuition & Enrollment	0	0	0	0	0
4 Interest	329	1,120	180	940	135
5 Special Events	1,630	3,615	6,635	(3,021)	5,125
6 Fees	94	134	110	24	132
7 Miscellaneous	400	2,580	3,200	(621)	2,420
8 Gain/loss on Disposal of Asset	0	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue	<u>112,595</u>	<u>483,124</u>	<u>492,750</u>	<u>(9,626)</u>	<u>495,395</u>
<u>EXPENSES</u>					
9 Staff Salaries	63,725	266,955	280,625	(13,670)	277,329
10 Janitorial Wages	0	0	0	0	0
11 Contract Labor	1,666	6,166	7,000	(834)	1,725
12 Payroll Benefits	6,332	24,009	21,500	2,509	22,492
13 Payroll Taxes	5,636	21,884	21,000	884	21,748
14 Janitorial Expense	6,232	28,269	30,900	(2,631)	28,964
15 Fees	4,217	27,137	25,300	1,837	14,281
16 Operating Expenses	3,138	12,257	9,750	2,507	13,293
17 Business Expenses	97	1,104	3,300	(2,196)	1,900
18 Insurance	1,171	14,350	11,000	3,350	10,414
19 Advertising	0	198	1,000	(803)	1,029
20 Newsletter	8,211	21,480	20,000	1,480	21,369
21 Other Printing	5,657	5,657	4,500	1,157	4,699
22 Donations/Contributions	7,200	9,200	9,000	200	12,100
23 Special Events	8,565	16,077	20,000	(3,923)	27,627
24 Taxes	0	1,691	1,600	91	2,465
25 Utilities	8,820	19,085	14,500	4,585	12,749
26 Repairs & Maintenance	2,035	7,369	6,640	729	9,382
27 Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment	3,054	5,645	3,000	2,645	1,583
28 Total Expenses Before Depreciation	<u>135,757</u>	<u>488,533</u>	<u>490,615</u>	<u>(2,082)</u>	<u>485,149</u>
29 Depreciation	<u>532</u>	<u>2,134</u>	<u>2,135</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>4,237</u>
30 Total Expenses	<u>136,290</u>	<u>490,668</u>	<u>492,750</u>	<u>(2,082)</u>	<u>489,386</u>
Increase/(Decrease) in Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>(23,695)</u>	<u>(7,543)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(7,543)</u>	<u>6,009</u>



Manager's Report

September 14, 2026

1. Dates to Note:

- **September 16**, 7:30pm, RAC meeting, virtual
- **September 17**, e-issue of The Log newsletter
- **September 17**, 7:00pm, CARES meeting, virtual
- **October 2**, Tree Giveaway (signup required)

2. **CA Weed Warrior & Howard County Tree Savers Course**: Saturday, October 3 from 10 AM - 3 PM at Robinson Nature Center. This free one-day course is offered by Columbia Association and Howard County jointly to residents interested in the health of our Open Spaces. Certified volunteer leaders, who complete CA's training program, may supervise and "lead" groups of volunteers onto the open space to perform designated invasive weed removal tasks. There will be both a classroom and a field portion, so participants should bring water and wear long pants, long sleeves, close-toed shoes, and a hat. Lunch will be provided. Anyone interested can email Sustainability@columbiaassociation.org.

3. **From Lawn to Meadow**: Wednesday, September 16, 7 pm, virtual presentation. What does it really take to transform a conventional lawn into a thriving native meadow? Join Wild Ones and Sara Weaner Cooper for a candid look at her family's ongoing lawn-to-meadow project. Sara will share the decisions, methods, successes, surprises, and challenges that have shaped the landscape over multiple growing seasons. [Register here](#). This webinar will be recorded and shared with registrants after the premiere.

4. **Join the Resident Architectural Committee**: Are you interested in the housing styles and architecture in Hickory Ridge? Join the Resident Architectural Committee (RAC)! The RAC reviews exterior alteration applications for homes in Hickory Ridge. Get to know community members and learn more about the Village you live in! The RAC meets on the first and third Wednesdays of the month in a virtual meeting at 7:30pm. In addition, RAC members visit 1 – 4 neighborhood properties in the week before the meeting as part of the application review process. Interested? Email Tania at applications@hickoryridgevillage.org.

5. **Monday Community Walks**: Walk the Hawthorn neighborhood paths with members of the community on Monday mornings. Meet at The Hawthorn Center at 9:00am, take a walk, and enjoy a coffee at The Hawthorn Center on us! Happening almost every Monday. Follow Hickory Ridge on Facebook or Instagram using the QR code below for weekly updates!

6. **Follow Hickory Ridge**: Find all the ways to connect with [Hickory Ridge here](#):



7. Committee Reports:

- **Resident Architectural Committee**: The RAC continues to review applications as usual, but the RAC needs new volunteer members! Email Tania at applications@hickoryridgevillage.org.
- **CARES Committee**: CARES meets regularly on the third Thursday of each month at 7:00pm. For meeting information, see the calendar on our website.
- **Aging Well in Columbia (AWC) at CA**: No updates for this meeting.
- **Watershed Resident Advisory Committee (WRAP) at CA**: Rep attending meeting.