CTM Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2010
Clifton Cultural Arts Center

Trustees in attendance: Ron Becker, Dick Druffel, Mike Elovitz, Bill Fant, Malcolm Montgomery, Mary Jo Vesper, Jeff Rose, Karen Imbus, Jim Segars, Eric Clark, Pete Schneider, Michael Willing, Jeff Rose, George Bishop, Brian Curwin, Eric Clark, Steve Slack, Christian Huelsman

Secretary's report: minutes from August meeting approved with 5 abstentions.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Fant reviewed the income and expenses for the last month. Moved with one abstention.

Regular Reports:

Fire Report: Kevin Campbell reported that the station made 45 non-fire responses, 99 ems runs. Tended to be slower August than usual. Updated on question from previous meeting regarding a woman who brought a child to the station. Underscored the fast service provided by the fire station in order to underscore what is at stake when the city raises the issue of cutting the budget for the Fire Department.

Police Report: Ron Becker read the info emailed by Det. Paul Meyer. Crime is down 18% comparing this year to 2009. The most significant reductions are burglaries and thefts. Thefts from autos are starting to catch up with last year, so please don't leave valuables in your car. Also, it's that time of year to turn off the air conditioners and open the windows. Remember, lock your doors and windows when you are away from home. Also, be careful leaving windows open at night even if you are in the house.

There were no street robberies in Clifton. At Keller's IGA an individual did give a cashier a note that demanded $$$ and stated he had a bomb and a gun. Suspect left the store empty handed. Suspect described as a male, black, 20's, 5'10, med bld, Blk b-ball cap w/red letters, white t, blk shorts, long white socks, blk shoes and carrying either another white t or a white towel. He also had a white gauze bandage under his right eye.

There was one single family residential burglary. Entrance through an unlocked window

District Five's Captain Bailey had a heart attack in July. He came back to work yesterday 9/7/10.

Cincinnati Recreation Center Report: Tom reported on: an upcoming United Way fundraising event. Was pleased to report that a number of Clifton residents had attended a CRC advocate meeting, but also underscored that at this key budget period there needs to be more resident support at such meetings to demonstrate to the city just how much the community values the CRC. If anyone has special needs and can't enter the building because of the construction, they should contact CRC staff and they will be accommodated. Linda Goldenhar made a comment about an earlier discussion she was involved in regarding how to better get the word out what the Rec Center

offers to adults. She mentioned the possibilities of using various CTM communication opportunities. Tom underscored the importance of getting center visitors to sign up the sheet. Will explore ways to make the adult-oriented events more visible in The Chronicle.

Special Reports:

Changes in City Recycling Program: Sue Magnus Cincinnati has one of the longest and most expansive curbside programs in the state, but there has been no growth in the amount recycled since 1996. To promote more recycling, the city has decided to change the recycling containers. The current use of the smaller bins limits the amount of material recycled. The city will now adopt wheeled carts. Collection will be every-other week. Eligible: anyone who gets curbside trash pick up (will not include apartments with dumpsters in this roll out stage). Some apartment residents have lobbied their landlords to get rid of dumpsters so they could participate.

64 (1-2 person households) and 96 (big families) gallon carts will be distributed according to the size of your residence. To keep costs down, the city is asking everyone to keep that cart for a month and then they can request a swap to a smaller or larger container. The city will deliver carts in 4 phases starting in September and running through January. Most of Clifton is scheduled for December or January delivery. Weekly service will remain until the first of the month after you receive your cart. 30 days before your phase you will get a postcard informing you of it. You will then get another postcard with more info about whether you are scheduled for a green or gold week for recycling pick up. You can also go to the website to look up details.

Rewards program (Recycle Bank): every time you put your cart out, you will get rewards points. Average family will earn $200-300 in points that can be turned into product-redemption points or that can be donated to a school. Local businesses can participate in the rewards program in exchange for free advertising via the program website. You must register to participate in the program via the web. More info will come via the mail. People can keep their old bins or (once the new bi-monthly collection starts) you can leave your old bin on the curb and it will be picked up and reused or recycled. There will be a system to catch those who may try to cheat the system.

For houses with extreme site limitations, there will be a smaller (34 gallon) cart available. The key points regarding the program will be sent out via The Chronicle.

Ms. Magnus underscored the very positive economic upside (in cost savings and job creation) generated by recycling.

Key info at: www.cincinnatirecycles.org (513-352-6991)

Cincinnati Zoo (Mark Fisher): 1. Forest and Vine intersection. 75% of the zoo's visitors pass through this intersection. The zoo purchased a number of properties at the intersection and plans to build dramatically new signage to mark the entrance to the area. Hope to complete the corner by spring. 2. Solar Carport Concept: the zoo is exploring adding solar carports for their parking lots and explained the history of the project so far. For a variety of financing reasons, there are huge time pressures for the plan to move ahead by the end of the year. Would be the largest, privately owned urban array in the country (estimated to take 20-25% of zoo's energy needs off coal grid). To get the zoning variances and support from the city, the zoo needs letters of support from the

neighborhoods. Explained that the level of construction would be limited. Also stated that the degree of glare would be much less than the glare of parked cars. When meeting with residents on Ruther, they were asked to beef up plantings and irrigation support for plantings bordering the parking lots and the zoo said they will.

D. Druffel proposed the board pass a resolution allowing the president to write a letter of support for the zoo's carport project plan as presented that would encourage the zoo to continue to improve the buffer zones. The president would distribute the letter to the board for feedback before sending to the city. Motion passed with 1 against and 1 abstention.

DePaul Christo Rey (high) School Allison Beer McKenzie. Gave an introductory presentation of the new school which will be located at the old Concordia Lutheran School. It will be the Cincinnati's first new Catholic high school in decades. The Christo Rey school network (started in Chicago) has a strong corporate presence to help kids who can not afford a college prep school be able to attend and be ready for college. Furthermore, the school model has students attend class 15 day/month and work 5 days/month in age-appropriate settings. The school will open next summer. The architect and construction team gave an informational presentation on the project. The project will be multi-phase. 1st opening August 2011 with roughly 150 students. In 2-5 years they hope to grow to 250 students with additional growth to 500 students. To accommodate the eventual growth, there will be need to expand. The plan currently is to remove the current chapel and build a structure with a larger footprint. The presenter answered a variety of questions.

Welcomed CTM to host its meeting in their facilities to connect with the community.

Streetscapes: Kip updated the board on the streetscapes event. 5 cars loaned for artcars. Superior Chevy (on Mitchell) helping out. Will have music and kids area. Keep Cincinnati Beautiful did a great job removing the graffiti. The replanting of pots and tree boxes will be completed with help of merchants. Will be focusing on social media main way to promote the event. Volunteer pitch: need 8 volunteers to sell t-shirts in 2-hour blocks. Others need for pre/post activities and for the kids area. (10-6 sat and sun).

KFZ Payment Resolution

CTM Resolution to Pay KZF Plaza Bill
September 13, 2010

This seeks the Board's agreement to pay the attached bill from KZF for $1,514.18. It is the remaining balance on our contract with KZF for design and contract management services. There are no outstanding invoices for the Plaza construction though two are in process with the City.

As you may recall when the Plaza design was finalized the projected cost of the Plaza exceeded the City's grant of $300,000. As a result we solicited and received grants from Good Samaritan Hospital and the Uptown Consortium totaling $9,000 to cover much of the cost of the furniture and landscaping bringing our total funds available for the Plaza to $309,000. The $9,000 was deposited in CTM's bank account.

We recently submitted an invoice to the City that brings the total submitted for payment to the City to $300,042. It is probable that they will ask us to pay the $42 that is over and above our $300,000 contract with them. Since we have fully utilized our City funds we need to draw on the Plaza funds on deposit with CTM to pay for the KZF invoice.

Passed unanimously.

Bylaw Changes:

Administrative and quorum redefinition, passed with only 2 abstentions.

Conflict of Interest: (will change language to read “at their first meeting of the calendar year”). Passed with 1 abstention.

Number of Trustees (15 versus 21): Malcolm Montgomery spoke against the number of 15 as too dramatic a change and there was an exchange of views. In a straw poll those present were asked to indicate which number they favored: 15: 14, 18: 3, 21: 2.

Motion to approve bylaw reducing the board to 15 passed 15 for, 5 opposed, 0 abstentions.

Resolution submitted by Malcolm Montgomery regarding proposed changes to Section 1445-16 of the Zoning Code. The proposed change would undercut the notification process that helps CTM participate in key city decisions.

Pete Schneider raise questions about the message the board is sending given how this resolution might relate to the letter the board is going to send regarding the zoo’s carport plan.

Resolution Regarding Proposed Changes to Section 1445-16 of the Zoning Code
Be it resolved that:

Clifton Town Meeting is opposed to the proposed text change to Section 1445-16 of the Zoning Code that would permit a Zoning Hearing Examiner to approve "Use Variances" without the protections that the current process provides. In particular, we are concerned about the short notice that would severely curtail the ability of a community council to assess the impact of a requested variance in time to respond in a meaningful way. If, as a Council member, you value the opinions of those residents most directly impacted by variances, and if you believe that strong and effective community councils serve an important role in the City's governance, then you will not support this proposal.

Clifton Town Meeting supports efforts to improve the decision-making process for variance requests, but not streamlining at the expense of prudent oversight and control. Even under the current process, the short notification lead-time frequently impairs the ability of community councils to influence zoning decisions. Any amendment to the current process must include better support for community involvement.

For these reasons, Clifton Town Meeting urges you not to approve the proposed zoning code text change To Section 1445-16 Of the Zoning Code.

/s/ Richard Druffel, President, Clifton Town Meeting
Sept. 13, 2010

Resolution passed with 3 abstentions.

Communication Committee report delayed to next meeting**.**

Events Committee:

1. Movie Night: Sunday Oct 24 6:15/6:30-9. Will show digitally remastered film *The Wizard of Oz* (sing-along). Will have parade and goodie/book bag give-aways.

2. Committee created a template to help document the details of each of the yearly events CTM is involved with. The committee needs to get info on who is in change of Lantern Walk. Open question: to have paper copies in library or e-copies on secure portion of the website. Trying to get rid of old hard copies and replace with e-copies.

Elections: Mike. The November meeting (when election takes place) will be in CCAC because of election.

Community Q and A: Holidays on Ludlow event with merchants asked if carriage rides was in budget. George ordered the carriage in order save the date. Will need volunteers (preferably representatives from CTM) for one-hour slots on Friday, December 10. To volunteer call or email George Roden at: 221-0322. roden@fuse.net

Tom Lohre: next deadline for submission to the December Chronicle is Nov 1.

Daniel recommended having the Ludlow sidewalks steam washed 2-3 times per year.

Adjourned: 9:35.