

CTM Meeting Minutes

December 6, 2010
Clifton Recreation Center

Trustees in attendance: Ron Becker, Dick Druffel, Bill Fant, Malcolm Montgomery, Mary Jo Vesper, Linda Goldenhar, Jeff Rose, Karen Imbus, Jim Segars, Brian Curwin, Pete Schneider, Eric Clark., Steve Slack, Mike Elovitz, Bob Blum

Secretary's report: minutes from November approved with 2 abstentions (Becker, Slack)

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

Fant made motion to approve \$750 be budgeted to pay for carriage rides (Passed unanimously). To pay Ace \$374.97 for decorations for beautification on Ludlow (Passed unanimously). To pay Bill Fant \$85.19 for subscription for Quicken software (Passed unanimously).

Fant reviewed a proposal for the 2011 budget. L Goldenhar asked about the proposed inclusion of bumpertickers in the membership letters and Becker recommended including \$700 in the membership estimates. B Fant asked for trustees to think about various committees' estimated expenses for the year and make recommendations for revisions. An electronic copy will be distributed to the board.

2011 NSP Proposal: total for 2011 is budgeted at \$5000 with \$300 automatically going to insurance. For the remainder: Fant proposes: 2000 for newsletter; 1000 insurance; 1500 streetscapes; 200 movie night. This requires a vote of all community members present: Moved: 28-0.

Regular Reports:

Police: Report submitted by Det. Meyer:

Fire: Kevin Campbell. 147 responses in Nov (106 EMS, 32 non-fire, 9 fire responses). Following up on his last report, the Clifton Firehouse has been taken off the closure proposal list. He expressed his gratitude for the community's support over the years. A comment was made about a rumor that when the new chief arrives, the proposed closure list will be re-examined and all houses will be up in the air. There is no proposed process for how the decisions will be made when the new chief arrives. Campbell recommended getting fire dept. senior staff here to discuss the process. The new chief will arrive before January 1, 2011. When asked about the role the Clifton company played in the fire in Northside, Campbell described the way the fire companies responded to the situation to underscore the benefits of the level of resources in the current system and the risks involved in a reduced department. He expressed his disappointment that the senior staff in the department have not developed a plan in the year and a half they had.

D Druffel reminded those present of the actions that CTM took after the following meeting (sending a letter to the fire department and other city officials). He encouraged all those interested in the budget issues to participate .

Police report: (sent via email) Another robbery on Bishop with a vehicle taken at gunpoint. Similar to the robbery that occurred on Bishop at the beginning of November. Possible suspects stopped on in Avondale recently, unknown at this time if related to the Bishop robberies.

One single family residence burglarized on Wolper. Entry made by breaking out a side window. Last week the news reported seven homes burglarized in Mt. Lookout. Access gained through unlocked doors in all seven. That doesn't happen in Clifton because we lock our doors and windows!

Once again, very few thefts from autos reported. There was one on Ludlow. The car was unlocked and Christmas presents were taken. This happens a couple of times each year, so lock your car and put the presents out of sight or in the trunk.

At last count, Clifton crime remains lower than last year by about 10%.

CCAC: December 15 at the CCAC (Last community budget meeting). Come before 6 pm you can sign up for the chance to speak for 2 minutes. Encouraged all of those who support the CRC to show up and speak from the heart about the importance of the center. Changes at the center: retrofitted with new energy-saving lights. Will get new Heating and AC systems. The money used was already allocated. Reported the CRC mini camps during the holiday weeks. The center is thinking about doing a fundraiser for beautification for next year. Kip Egan has asked if Clifton would be interested in working on an anti-graffiti campaign that involves youth involvement, and he asked that those present encourage any teen who would be interested in the program to contact the center.

Special CTM Reports

D. Druffel took time to acknowledge the service of those board s members whose terms were ending: S. Slack, G. Bishop, R. Becker, M. Elovitz, M. Smith.

CTM Plaza Funding for 2011 - Dick/Bill After giving background on the history of the LLC, D. Druffel updated the board regarding the state of the relationship. The idea that CPBA would take over the expenses of Plaza maintenance with money that would (it was estimated) come from increase in the parking lot fee. It doesn't seem to be the case that revenues have increased. As a result, D. Druffel is recommending that CTM continue to split Plaza expenses for 2011. In addition, current leadership in CPBA has raised questions with the cost-sharing agreement signed in 2009 by the previous CPBA and CTM leadership. The rough estimate for the operations of the plaza in 2011 would total \$6000. Druffel made a motion that the board approve \$5000 to cover CTM's share of those estimated expenses. A discussion followed about the records of revenue from the lot. L. Goldenhar asked about where the effort to get the taxes reassessed. D Druffel stated that because the appeal process only allows for appeals every 3 years. A new appeal to reduce the tax bill cannot be submitted until 2014. The \$5000 covers half of taxes, share of insurance, and share

of special event insurance. P. Schneider asked: if we are putting more money into the pool, what is CTM getting back in exchange. Also recommended that the original agree between CTM and CBPA be revisited for clarity on obligations. M Montgomery raised concern about the nature of CTM's relationship with CBPA if they are not willing to honor previous agreements. D Druffel acknowledged the unique challenges of working with an organization with the resources and membership dynamics of CBPA. But he underscored the importance for CTM to ensure that the plaza remains a valuable and vibrant part of the community. B Blum recommended that CTM ask CBPA for a plan to increase revenues so that they can take on the obligations they had previously agreed with. S. Slack asked whether the agreement needs to be rewritten. D Druffel suggests that it could simply be suspended for the year. K. Imbus concurred that the agreement does not need to be rewritten. The issue would be dealt with as part of the budget approval process.

2011 CTM Officer Nominations

Candidates: Pres: K. Imbus; VP: P. Schneider, MJ Vesper; Treasurer; B. Fant; Secretary: Jeff Rose

Housing & Zoning Actions in November – Malcolm

The city did approve the zoning variance for the driveway on McAlpine. Good Sam Hospital wants to build a medical building and garage on the south side of Dixsmyth (where a parking lot currently is). This will recover a variance for the set back. The committee is concerned about institutional creep. The committee asked that GS agree to identify the area north of Dixsmyth as a setback space replacement. We have heard that they are open to it. CTM supported the committee in opposing a proposal by the city that was making regarding allowing new parking regulations in business decisions.

M Montgomery moved that the board approve that action and passes 12 yes, 0 opposed, 3 abstentions. (see appendix for letters submitted by committee to the city).

Cincinnati State Traffic and Parking Committee Update – Pete

Reported the efforts of the ad hoc committee focused on dealing with the CS parking issues. Had encouraged the neighborhood affected to work with the city to explore a resident parking permit program. Also recommended working with the police to regulate speeding and traffic safety measures. D. Druffel met with Ex VP for Operations at CS. The leadership is aware of the problem and are working to improve the situation. They reported on the school's efforts to work with Metro to encourage student transit use. They also reported on their efforts to purchase land to expand parking, though their options are limited. Both Druffel and Schneider felt that CTM and the community to continue to stay on top of the issue and keep communicating with the school to keep the issue and the community's views on their radar screen. So far, the school has been responsive. G. Rodin stated that there should be code requirements requiring an institution like CS have a certain number of parking spots in relation to their size. Schneider agreed that more research needed to be done on that issue and they plan to, once the contact person in the City gets involved. Druffel thought that as a state institution, they technically might not have to follow certain city codes, although they have been interested in working with the community.

Schneider moves the board approve: We would request that a motion be entered to reflect that on the recommendation of the ad hoc CTM Parking Committee, Clifton Town Meeting fully support a request made by the residents of [Clifton Crest](#), [Clifton Hills Terrace](#), [Clifton Hills Avenue](#), and [Old](#)

Ludlow to the City of Cincinnati for a Resident Only Parking program for their street(s), and request that the board president provide a letter from CTM reflecting this support to the residents representative leading this effort. “

A discussion ensued about what streets should or shouldn't be included and how the city's exploration process would unfold. Vote passed: 11 for, 0 opposed, 4 abstentions.

Community Board Member for the Clifton Mosque

The representatives from the mosque invited a community member to sit on its board. Dick asked if anyone present who was interested should contact him.

Cincinnati State has asked the City and ODOT to reopen the I75 Exit Ramp Plan

A representative from CTM's executive committee would sit on the committee.

Art Works has notified CTM that the Art Carpet Plaques will be installed this week on Ludlow

City Budget Proposal: Karen Reported on gaslight assessment proposal in the city's budget reviews. Representatives in the city said that the proposal doesn't signal out just those with gas lamps, but anyone in the city who is not currently assessed a lighting fee.

Community Q&A- 2 minutes each – Dick - 5 minutes

Announcements: Holiday on Ludlow Friday 12/10 6PM – 9PM

Next Meeting January 3, 2011 at the Clifton Recreation Center

Meeting Adjourned 9: