

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
CLIFTON TOWN MEETING
June 05, 2006

Present: Betsy Black, Carol Brammer, Dan Deering, Kip Eagen, Mike Elovitz, Bill Gordon, Forrest Griffin, Cindy Herrick, Cheryl Jakubowski, David Kieft, Robin Lee, Mary Schubauer-Berigan, Jim Segers, Steve Slack

Meeting called to order – 7:33 pm by David Kieft, presiding in Dick Druffel's absence

Special Guest: Jim O'Reilly, candidate for Ohio Court of Appeals introduced himself. He reminded CTM that he has been a faculty member at UC's College of Law for 25 years, and that he is running in a contested election. Contested elections to seats on the Court of Appeals are rare: on 2 of the last 37 such elections have been contested.

Minutes of May, 2006 CTM: The minutes were accepted as presented (Jim moved, Cher seconded) vote was 11-0-1

Regular Reports

Fire Department Report – none presented

Police Report – Paul Meyer. He said that Dana Jones, Neighborhood Officer since 1999, has been promoted to the post of detective in the person crimes section. Dana mentioned that she was excited at the new opportunity to work primarily on sex offences and violent offenses against children, but will be sorry to leave Clifton. Scott Carpenter presented gifts from the community and a framed, signed picture of the Clifton Fountain. No police report was presented. Applause from all for Dana Jones' exemplary service as Clifton Neighborhood Officer.

Recreation Center Report – Dale Doerman. The Clifton Rec Center has some applications for the Citizen's Police Academy. This provide an opportunity for interested residents to learn more about what the police do and how they do it, and to help in various ways. Summer Camp update: the teen camp is full, there is still some room in the Summer Daycamp. CRC's Mentoring program will begin with a kickoff meeting on Friday, June 9; Mayor Mallory will attend.

Treasurer – Cher. The Library is out of CTM bookmarks, which are given to new cardholders in the 45219, 45220 zip codes. Motion to purchase a set of 1000, for about \$200. (Cher moved, Betsy seconded). Vote 12-0-0. Monthly report presented. Motion to approve as presented. (Bill moved, Robin seconded). Vote was 12-0-0.

Special Reports

July Meeting – Date has been changed to July 10, because of July 4 holiday.

House Tour – Mary & Cher. The House Tour was successful. About 750 tickets were sold and many program book ads were sold, leading to gross receipts of about \$21,000; net receipts were about \$15,000. Mary and Cher thanked all homeowners who placed their houses on the tour, and the committee members for their work. Motion to thank Mary and Cher for chairing a successful tour. (Bill moved, Cindy seconded). Vote 12-0-2. David, acting on behalf of the Executive Committee, presented \$50 gift certificates to Tink's to Mary and Cher as a token of appreciation for their work chairing the House Tour committee.

Main Street Project – Main Street Committee. Committee made a PowerPoint presentation related to the Main Street approach. Rich Hardy, who works with the City planning office,

mentioned the program, indicated that the city had been looking for a community to pioneer this approach, and considered Clifton would be a good choice.

* Main Street uses a 4-prong approach:

1. Design: Managing the physical environment. Educating the community about existing assets, moving towards a visual image of “What Clifton is about” managed by building and signage guidelines, public investment, etc.
2. Promotion: Marketing the unique characteristics of the community; developing and promoting special events emphasizing the unique features of the community
3. Economic Restructuring: Strengthen and diversify the existing business district; get better use of underutilized property; and seek a balanced mix of businesses
4. Organization: Build a consensus among key stakeholders and the community; develop a shared sense of mission / vision / goals; hire a full-time project manager

* Overview of CTM responsibilities

1. The Main Street program requires a 4-year commitment from the community, and a non-profit organization to apply for the program and hire the project manager.
2. Application deadline is 10/07/06 for starting next year.
3. Application must be preceded by a DART (Design Assessment Resource Team) workshop, which has been scheduled for 9/21 (evening tour of Clifton) and 9/22 (full-day assessment)
4. DART fee is \$2,500 + Travel/Entertainment (about \$2,000), to be paid by 08/18/06
5. Long-term funding requirements are \$50,000 – 75,000/yr for 4 years.

* More information: Downtown Ohio, the Ohio organizer of Main Street, provides a great deal of support to the community, including helping with hiring the project manager. Funding for the program might be available from CTM, CBPA, the Business District owners, the City (via Neighborhood block grants), the Uptown Consortium, etc.

* Discussion: In response to a person asking if the building owners would cooperate, the committee mentioned that response to the approach at a December breakfast meeting for business district building owners and store owners was positive. This program complements the Ludlow streetscape project, since both are interested in establishing a visual identity for the Clifton/Ludlow business district. In response to several people asking why we need outside help since we already have lots of expertise in the community, there was discussion of the ways that outsiders can often see things that local residents and business people cannot see because they are over-familiar with the way things are.

* Next Meeting – The Main Street Program in general, and funding for the DART workshop in particular, will be considered at the July CTM meeting.

Ludlow Revitalization – Phil Herrick. Updates: Currently, the project will cost \$1,800,000.

\$1,300,000 has already been awarded. An application has been submitted to the city’s Neighborhood Business District program for the remaining \$500,000. Phil addresses several misconceptions that have been circulated in emails in recent weeks, related to adding a plaza to the plan. He stated that (1) Public Funding for plaza construction has NOT been secured. Any money used for a plaza would come out of money currently allotted to the Ludlow revitalization and streetscape project. (2) The August deadline is only for construction to start this fall. If that deadline is not met, the money will still be available for the project next year. (3) Construction of the plaza would not cause the Gosling Plan to happen. The funding for that plan is not available.

* Discussion by CTM Board members. A bare-bones plaza will cost about \$240,000. The big ticket items in the plan are utility relocation and new sidewalks. Money used for the plaza would probably come out of money allocated to new sidewalks. Sidewalks made of brick or pavers are expensive and hard to maintain; use them strategically. Discussion of

contamination of site by dry-cleaning chemicals. Request for more information on costs of plaza, sidewalk-plaza tradeoffs, and costs of abatement.

- * Discussion by community. Why not use the plaza at the fountain more effectively? Sidewalk paving options mentioned. Although the city CAN take possession of the site in 2007 if the plaza/library complex is not built, they do not intend to do so.
- * Future Activities – More information on the costs of the Plaza and the effects on the Ludlow Revitalization project will be presented at the July or August meeting, and direction from the CTM Board will be requested at that time

Committee Guidelines & Assignment – tabled until next meeting.

Other Business

Jack Brand expressed thanks for Memorial Day parade helpers

Meeting adjourned – 9:29 pm (Cher moved, Kip seconded)

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Gordon, Secretary, gordonwj@zoomtown.com