

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
CLIFTON TOWN MEETING
August 7, 2006

Present: George Bishop, Betsy Black, Carol Brammer, Dick Druffel , Kip Eagen, Mike Elovitz, Bill Gordon, Forrest Griffin, Cindy Herrick, Cheryl Jakubowski, Malcolm Montgomery, Tom Osborn, Steve Slack, Beth Withers

Meeting called to order: 7:39 pm

Special Guest Presentation – Ron Liebau of Cincinnati.Com. At the end of August Cincinnati.com will introduce a new service, “Community Pages”, which will provide lightly moderated sites that communities and interest groups in greater Cincinnati can use to self-publish news, photos, etc. One of these pages will be devoted to Clifton. Access these sites from the **Get Local** link on Cincinnati.com.

Review of Minutes of Last Meeting Motion to approve as submitted (George moved, Cher seconded) vote was 12-0-2

Regular Reports

Fire Department Report – Kevin Campbell. 187 runs in July included 4 extra alarms; 3 fires in Clifton; 2 fires in University Heights; and 1 fire on Vine St. 160 EMS runs include 11 for life support. These numbers are typical. Some of the EMS runs might be heat-related.

Police Report – Officer Keuper. For the past month, robberies were down, burglaries average, breaking/entering low, and auto thefts low. Lots of vice activity. The department does not yet have any information on the Lowell Ave. homicide.

Recreation Center Report – Dale Doerman. Summer day camp ends at end of this week. AFDC starts Tuesday, August 22, and registration is up from last year at the same time. Recent events include a fishfest on July 14 in Burnet Woods, with about 250 participants. A Senior River Trek 1-day overnight camp at Fort Ancient is planned for August 28-29. Clifton School will not open this fall due to very low enrollment.

Treasurer – Cher. NSP funding. We are an approved neighborhood, and so are guaranteed 7,000. We passed the audit with flying colors. Questions about insurance coverage and cost. Answers. Annual cost is about 5,000. There is no group policy that we can buy into; Mallory, Rick Hardy, and others are trying to get such a policy but the insurance companies are not interested. Questions about income/expenses for Canvass Clifton. Last year these were merged together; this year they are shown separately under Fundraising Income and Other Events expenditures. Motion to approve Treasurer’s report as submitted (Bill Moved, Malcolm seconded) Vote was 13-0-1.

Special Reports

Nominating Committee. Slate consisting of Jim, Cindy, Tom, Cher, and community members Jerry Trombley and Crew Jan (???) was proposed. Motion to appoint Nominating Committee members as proposed. (Cher moved, Malcolm seconded) vote was 12-0-2.

Clifton StreetScapes (Street Painting) Manager. The committee running the Clifton StreetScapes festival intends to hire Kip Egan for \$5,000 to run the festival. To avoid any appearance of conflict of interest, he has resigned from the CTM Board as of tonight. He was selected because he started the festival, ran it successfully for 4 years, and last year asked that someone be hired to run it. She was hired for \$5,000, the festival brought in \$11,000 and

paid for itself, but she did not want to do it again. Kip has extensive experience with StreetScapes and other arts-related fundraising.

Question: What is the relationship between CTM and StreetScapes? Cher answered by saying that money earned is kept separate for accounting purposes, but is actually available to CTM for any purposes whatsoever. Also, the Streetscapes committee runs the festival for CTM and its membership overlaps with the CTM board. Question: Does CTM have to approve the hiring of a project manager? Answer. Dick said no action by the board is required; this was a purely informational presentation. Further clarification of the relationship between the StreetScapes committee and CTM is desirable.

Ludlow Revitalization – Phil Herrick. Good news. We are currently \$500,000 short of necessary funding, and our application for the remaining money was rated #1 / 24 by the advisory board. Hope to start construction next summer. Bad news. Have not finished work on the plaza/street improvements tradeoff. Hope to have that done for September meeting.

DART – Cindy. The DART (Downtown Assessment Resource Team) workshop will be held on September 21 and 22. This is a prerequisite for application to join the Main Street program. A motion was made at the last meeting to allocate \$2,500 to pay for the workshop. Money will come from Community Planning line in the budget. Opportunity for community interaction will occur at dinner on Thursday, 09/21, and during the 09/22 all-day meeting. Publicity for meeting, etc. will be arranged. Vote on motion to pay for workshop was 14-0-0.

Main Street Letter of Intent – Cindy. Information for the Board. We sent to Heritage Ohio a non-binding letter of intent on July 22, saying that we intend to apply for inclusion in the Main Street program starting next January. Questions about the connection between this letter, Main Street, and the DART workshop were answered. Questions raised about funding requirements and sources. Answer. Funding sources have not yet been identified. Will Heritage Ohio accept Clifton on that basis? Unknown. Will the Main Street committee proceed anyway? Yes, application deadline is October 6. Review of benefits Clifton will receive as member of Main Street program.

Housing and Zoning Committee – Malcolm. Mosque has requested zoning variance for 6-ft high fence along Clifton Ave. Style of fence will be similar to that around the school site. Variance is needed because of height (4 ft is max height allowed without variance.) No opposition from neighbors. H&Z will request vegetative buffer, close communication with neighboring property owners, and extending fence back from Clifton Ave along adjoining property lines. Neighbors have not reported lighting of site and parking lot as a problem.

Memorial Day Parade – Jenny Burton. Profit of about \$1200, being kept as seed money for next year's parade. Some money was spent for food and for flowers along Ludlow.

Announcements:

There will be a meeting on plans for Uptown Parks at the Clifton Rec Center on 08/15, 5:00 – 6:00 pm

The September meeting will be held on Sept 11 at the Clifton Rec Center starting at 7:00 pm. Brutopia opened today next to Subway.

Meeting adjourned – 9:27 (Cher moved/ Malcolm seconded)

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Gordon, Secretary, gordonwj@zoomtown.com