

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
CLIFTON TOWN MEETING
October 02, 2006

Present: George Bishop, Betsy Black, Carol Brammer, Dick Druffel , Dan Deering, Mike Elovitz, Bill Gordon, Forrest Griffin, Cindy Herrick, Cheryl Jakubowski, David Kieft, Robin Lee, Malcolm Montgomery, Mary Schubauer-Berigan, Jim Segers, Steve Slack

Meeting called to order - 7:05 pm

Review of Minutes of Last Meeting – Modified to correct error in Housing and Zoning report. Motion to accept with changed. (Mary moved, Cher seconded) vote was 11-0-1

Special Guest – Florence Parker, from OKI

She announced that the final public meeting on the Uptown Transportation Study will be held on Tues, 10/17, from 4:00 – 7:00 pm at Cincinnati Junior Academy, 3798 Clifton Ave. Event will be an open house; all are urged to attend as convenient.

Regular Reports

Police Report – Officer Keuper. Presented monthly report. The report listed several aggravated robberies, 4 of which have already been solved with a single arrest. Question about large number of vice arrests at Police Station. These occur because people are brought in for questioning, and are then found to have drug paraphernalia in their possession. Question about activity at the Funeral Home. Officer Keuper replied that the department would ask the Building Inspector to order the property boarded up, and would request at least one check of the property each night. Jack Brand said that the building was already boarded up; that he was getting a demolition permit and would demolish the building by the end of the year; and that “it’s just kids, and they are not in the house.” Lengthy discussion of the recent burglary on Wood Ave. Wood Ave. residents presented a Letter to CTM listing their concerns, including several recent incidents on their street, increased gang activity, heavy and fast traffic on McAlpin, inadequate lighting in the area, and activity at the school construction site. They request help in solving their problems, and actions to reduce quantity and speed of traffic on McAlpin. Paul agreed to attend a Wood Ave. residents’ meeting on Tuesday at 5. He emphasized that District 5 had worked successfully with many other streets in Clifton, and would work with Wood Ave. as well.

Related comments included suggestion that CTM organize around the crime issue on each street; request for brighter street lighting; request for additional volunteers for Safety Committee; restart “street calming” program. Cindy reacted to Letter, saying that CTM is the community and has already done most things requested in the letter; the need is for people willing to volunteer some time and activity on these issues.

Fire Department Report - none

Recreation Center Report – Dale Doermen is out with knee surgery. StreetScapes was a great event; thanks to all for their help and support. New programs include Passport to Fishing for teens, one past and 2 upcoming Seniors trips; and a Teen Rafting at Morgan’s event, that drew 80 teens. Mini-camp for CPS coming up on 11/3 and 11/6.

Treasurer – Cher. Highlights include a transfer of money from General revenues, to purchase CD’s. StreetScapes money is coming in slowly. Motion to accept treasurer’s report (Malcolm moved, Robin seconded). Vote was 15-0-1.

Fairview School – Karen Mulligan. Wants to keep CTM and Clifton community informed of activities. Fairview is a citywide school, but has many children from Clifton. Excited about moving into the community. Upcoming events include a choir performance at the Carriage House Open House on 10/29, and the Lantern Walk on 11/05. Sources of information about

the school include a quarterly newsletter and weekly Falkenpost. If you want a copy, request it and you will be put on the email list. A special tour for Clifton will be scheduled; anyone can request a tour at any time.

Special Reports

Invest in Neighborhoods – Nick Caseris and Isaac Panowitz, seniors at Xavier, explained that Invest in Neighborhoods (IiN) empowers communities through the political process. Ways to empower neighborhoods are to increase dialog with elected officials, and raise the number of actual voters in the community. In the 2004 election, Clifton had a 73% turnout of registered voters. Compare with College Hill, with a 77% turnout. To this end, IiN will help organize a “get out the vote” drive in Clifton.

StreetScapes – Thanks for use of Ludlow Garage. 9 of the 10 paintings sold, for a total of \$3000, split evenly between the artists and the Clifton Cultural Arts Center. One still available for purchase

DART Workshop – The event included a tour of Clifton, dinner, and a full-day workshop that 7 city staffers attended. Thanks to the E. T. Carson Lodge for the use of their space. We will get a written assessment in about 6 weeks.

Main Street Program Resolution – At the last CTM meeting a motion was made to support the an application to join the Main Street Program, and the motion was tabled. Jim distributed a copy of the resolution. Motion to accept resolution with date changed (Malcolm moved, David seconded). Discussion. Does DART work with chain businesses or only with locally owned businesses? Choice of businesses depends on community input. Funding sources? Cindy replied that the MSC will ask for funds from local agencies, companies, and groups to confirm their buy-in as active supporters of the program. Guy asked if the recommendations of the MS program would be submitted to CTM. He was reminded that the resolution supported our application to the MS program, and nothing more. Vote was 16-0-0.

Judge Dinkelacker – running for appellate judge. Introduced himself.

Ludlow Revitalization – Current status – needs 1 or 2 more committee meetings, scheduled for the coming week, to finalize options. Will hold special CTM meeting on 10/30 to allow committee to present recommendations, get community input.

Jack Brand – Progress report on Merchant Lot development. Still working on plans. Met with city finance people last week re possibility of using TIF funding.

CTM Fund Raising – Jim will head up committee, effective immediately.

I75-I74 interchange – Mary – ODOT plans eliminate local access/egress to I75-I74 interchange, and planned widening of highway will have significant impact on Mt. Storm park. Plans not available on web site, and she will email link to members. Comments due by 10/12.

Uptown Consortium Request for Support – The Consortium has requested CTM support for a proposal to build a new site for NIOSH at the Zoo parking lot and adjacent properties, part of the planned Uptown Crossing development. Proposal will bring about 600 new jobs into area. Dick will get more information, which we need before deciding whether to support project. Mike mentioned that this is one of a large number of possible sites for the NIOSH consolidation, so the proposal is not a done deal.

Announcements

There will be an Everybody’s Backyard Picnic in Burnet Woods 10/07, 12 – 3, at the bandshell. Free hot dogs, live entertainment, face painting, etc. All are invited.

The November meeting will be held on 11/06 at Annuciation parish hall, 7:00 – 9:00pm.

Meeting adjourned – 9:26. (Dan moved, Mike seconded)

Respectfully submitted, Bill Gordon, Secretary, gordonwj@zoomtown.com