

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
CLIFTON TOWN MEETING
November 06, 2006

Present: George Bishop, Carol Brammer, Dick Druffel , Dan Deering, Bill Gordon, Forrest Griffin, Cindy Herrick, Cheryl Jakubowski, David Kieft, Malcolm Montgomery, Tom Osborn, Jim Segers, Steve Slack

Meeting called to order – 7:15 pm, at the conclusion of voting

Invited Comments –One speaker urged CTM members to vote against Issue 12 (a sales tax increase to fund a new jail for Hamilton County) and he was followed immediately by Phil Heimlich, County Commissioner, urging CTM members to vote for the issue.

Regular Reports

Fire Department– Kevin Campbell – During October the firehouse reported 142 responses, including 87 medical calls. There were 10 fires, resulting in 1 fatality.

Recreation Center – Dale Doerman – Clifton Rec Center after-school day camp had a successful Hallowe'en party. The Center has an ongoing program for youth to improve disability awareness. Groups of people at Clifton and 12 other Recreation Centers spent 9 months working on a very large Community Quilt, with sections for each of the communities represented. The quilt is now on permanent display in the lobby of the Convention Center.

Police Report – Detective Paul Meyer, Lt. Keppy, and Cptn Jones – Presented the October crime report and progress in solving recent incidents. A burglary on Loraine on Oct. 10 was partly resolved when a stolen car was found on Forest Ave. On Oct. 16 a second arrest was made in the Wood Ave. burglary; this led to additional information which will lead to more arrests in the case. A total of 6 people (3 adults, 3juveniles) took part in the burglary. On Oct 17 a 17-year old from 13th street was arrested on Terrace for breaking into autos. On Oct 22 a suspect was arrested in the burglaries on Glendora and Bishop. Since the arrest, there has been only 1 new incident in the area.

Meyer responded to several questions: Installation of cameras in the business district will be delayed. Just when the city was ready to start the installation, it was decided to replace the system with a system using cameras with better technology and to install the new cameras first in areas with more crime. Graffiti in the community is mostly caused by children of Clifton residents. There were 3 robberies in the past week near Thrall, Middleton, and Wood. Better lighting might have helped.

Bruce Bernard spoke for the Wood Ave. residents, emphasizing that “This month’s issue is Safety.” He reported the Wood Ave residents’ activities in the past month, read a letter from the residents to CTM, discussed options for improved street lighting, and gave the Board copies of handouts listing steps residents can take on their own to reduce the likelihood of crime. Comments from Board: Contact the Uptown Consortium. Work with the Safety Committee. Citizens on Patrol is a way to deal with crime. The Police request greater community involvement. Need to discuss both short-term and long-term approaches to the issue of increased crime in the area. Dick announced that CTM will schedule a special meeting on the Safety issue, probably in December.

Treasurer’s Report – Cher. Motion to approve as submitted (David moved, Carol seconded) Vote was 12-0-1.

Review of Minutes of Last Meeting Motion to approve as submitted (Cher moved, Dan seconded) vote was 11-0-2

Special Reports

Scarlet Oaks zoning presentation. When the city enacted a new zoning code 2 years ago, it designated the Scarlet Oaks area and several other areas as PD districts. The PD designation was valid for 2 years. Before the expiration of that period, property owners could submit 10-year master plans for the property or the district would revert to the underlying zoning district. Scarlet Oaks chose to develop a master plan, which the architects presented to CTM. The master plan indicates mostly small changes to existing property use, but cannot be adopted by the city without a public hearing. Most questions concerned a possible second access to the property by a gravel driveway from Lafayette.

Ludlow Revitalization – Phil Herrick – Final proposal includes new sidewalks and curbs from Whitfield to the north side of Ludlow opposite the fountain, new trees, and tree grates where possible. Cobra-head street lights will be replaced with electric “gas-light-style” lighting. The new sidewalks will be neutral scored concrete, and there will be a few areas with “art carpets” and “outdoor rooms.” A plaza will replace the LLC site and provide better access to the merchant parking lot. The sidewalks at the entrance to Telford will be “bumped out” for additional pedestrian space. Cost of plan is \$1,700,000, of which 1,300,000 is on hand. There is a recommendation to add the remainder to the upcoming city budget. Construction is planned to start next summer. Committee requests that CTM pass 2 motions tonight, to approve the revised plan as submitted and to fund the ongoing maintenance of the plaza and improvements. Need to pass motions tonight because of upcoming city budget discussions.

Motion to approve revised Ludlow Revitalization plan as submitted. (Bill moved, Tom seconded). Discussion. If remaining money is not provided, what will be cut – probably plaza and bundling of wires on south side of Ludlow. Call of Question (Cindy moved, George seconded). Motion approved on vote of 13-0-0.

Motion to split operating and maintenance expenses for new plaza equally with CBPA, to a maximum expense from CTM of \$5,000 per year. (Dan moved, David seconded) Motion approved on vote of 13-0-0.

Election Results – Cher and Annie Marchioni – 56 ballots were cast. Current member Jerry Ransohoff was elected to a 2-year continuation term, and current members Cher and Forrest were elected to 3-year terms. John Berten, Gary Eby, Elizabeth Glazier, Linda Goldenhar, and Brad Thomas were elected to the board as new members serving 3-year terms.

CTM Budget – Cher – Budgeting is in process. She needs requests for line items from Board members as soon as possible.

Parks – Steve – Motion to encourage the city to continue funding for parks at the current level. (Cher moved, Cindy seconded). Lengthy discussion of correct approach to indicate our strong support for city parks while acknowledging that the city has many other conflicting important budgetary needs as well. Motion approved on vote of 11-1-1.

Meeting adjourned – 9:37

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Gordon, Secretary, gordonwj@zoomtown.com