

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CLIFTON TOWN MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2008**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Clifton Town Meeting was called to order on January 7, 2008, at the Clifton Recreation Center, 320 McAlpin Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio, at 7:05 pm, by President Druffel.

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

The following Trustees were present for the meeting: Ron Becker, John Berten, George Bishop, Dick Druffel, Gary Eby, Mike Elovitz, Bill Fant, Linda Goldenhar, Bill Gordon, David Kieft, Steve Keller, Robin Lee, Al McLaughlin, Mary Schubauer-Berigan, Steve Slack and Brad Thomas.

The presence of a quorum is duly noted.

President Druffel noted the passing of former CTM Trustee Jerry Ransohoff on December 14, 2007. President Druffel stated that Mr. Ransohoff's many years of service and contributions to the Clifton community will be missed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following Trustees were elected officers for CTM for 2008:

President: Linda Goldenhar

Vice-Presidents: Dick Druffel and Mary Schubauer-Berigan

Treasurer: Jack Bourgoin

Secretary: Gary Eby

President Goldenhar thanked Past President Druffel for his years of service as CTM President.

President Goldenhar chaired the meeting from this point forward.

REVIEW OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

A draft version of the minutes of the December 3, 2007, meeting had been previously circulated to the Board for review and comment. Upon motion made by Trustee Eby, seconded by Trustee Goldenhar, the minutes of the December 3, 2007, meeting were unanimously approved, with three Trustees abstaining.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report for December, 2007, had been previously circulated to the Board for review and comment. Trustee Gordon answered questions raised by the Trustees concerning the report. Upon motion made by Trustee Keller, seconded by Trustee Berten, the December, 2007, Treasurer's report was unanimously approved, with Trustee Gordon abstaining.

REGULAR REPORTS

Fire Department Report

No report this meeting.

Recreation Center Report

- Seniors participated in holiday programs, including a trip to Pyramid Hill and the Taft Museum. A workshop for seniors on photo montage is scheduled for January 11th.
- The Day Camp event at Newport Aquarium included 25 kids from the Rec Center.
- The Recreation Center is sponsoring winter Basketball and indoor Hockey leagues.

Police Report

Cincinnati Police Detective Paul Meyer presented the police report. He was joined by Officer Governor Williams and Lt. Mike Fern. A report showing December, 2007, crime statistics for Clifton and nearby areas was made available for distribution.

Detective Meyer reported that although crime was generally down in Clifton, there had been a rash of apartment burglaries in the area of Lorraine, Bishop, Brookline and Senator Place. Detective Meyer attributed this rash of burglaries to students living in the apartments leaving the area for the holidays.

Detective Meyer reported that copper theft is a regional problem and also a problem in Clifton. However, one arrest for copper theft in the Clifton area was made, and the problem seems to have abated.

Detective Meyer reported that there was one robbery at 371 Ludlow Avenue, and a suspect has been arrested.

Detective Meyer also reported that there were some thefts from autos, and advised the community not to keep valuable items in plain view in your car.

Trustee Lee reminded everyone of the Citizens on Patrol program and requested that additional Clifton residents volunteer for the program.

Several members of the Clifton community in attendance at the meeting addressed various traffic related issues. Lt. Fern stated that he would advise the patrol officers to be aware of these situations.

Trustee Kieft thanked District 5 for the foot patrol officers in the Ludlow Business District during the holiday shopping season.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Communication and Membership Committee

Trustee Schubauer-Berigan gave a report concerning the status of current membership and plans to increase membership. Trustee Druffel commented that the Communication Committee and the Membership Committee had been merged.

Housing and Zoning Committee

Trustee Montgomery gave an update on the T-Mobile proposal to place a cell phone antenna on Lafayette Hall. Trustee Montgomery reported that he had been advised by Mr. Nickel that T-Mobile was not actively pursuing the proposal at this time. Trustee Druffel reported that he has sent a letter to Scarlet Oaks, with a copy to Mr. Nickel, concerning the action taken by CTM at its December 3, 2007, meeting.

NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT PROGRAM (NSP) PROPOSAL

Trustee Gordon reported that CTM is eligible for a \$7,000.00 grant through the City's NSP program. Trustee Gordon stated that CTM must report to the City how it intends to spend the money, and that this proposal must be voted on by all members of the Clifton community present at the meeting this evening.

Trustee Gordon moved, seconded by Trustee Druffel, that the NSP grant money be allotted as follows: \$4,000 for the Clifton Chronicle; \$1,500 to defray insurance costs; and \$1,500 for StreetScapes. A brief discussion followed concerning various aspects of the proposal.

Upon a vote of all members of the Clifton community in attendance at the meeting, 30 voted to approve the motion, there were no votes opposed, and there were no abstentions.

The motion passed unanimously.

GOOD NEIGHBOR AWARD

Trustee Gordon announced that nominations for the Good Neighbor award must be made shortly. The award will be presented at the February 15, 2008, kick off dinner for the Neighborhood Summit. Anyone wishing to nominate a Clifton resident for this award should send their nomination to Clifton Town Meeting within the next 10 days.

TRUSTEES' PLANNING SESSION

President Goldenhar reported on the recent planning session held by the Trustees and newly elected Trustees on December 8, 2007, to plan for the coming year.

- The Clifton House Tour is a major funding raising event for CTM. The tour is currently scheduled for Mother's Day, 2009, but preparations for the event need to start in the next few months. CTM needs at least two co-chairs for the event.
- Trustee Druffel gave a report on work which is being done to develop an action calendar to assist the Trustees in the smooth running of CTM.
- Trustee Eby gave a brief review of the Clifton boundary issue.
- The need for fund raising was discussed. Volunteers and suggestions were solicited.
- CTM is working to develop relationships with community partners. Trustee Gordon commented that these activities should be part of the Up Town Committee.

LUDLOW REVITALIZATION

A public hearing was held concerning the issuance of a demolition permit for the Bender Optical building, 333 Ludlow Avenue. The hearing examiner has issued a written decision granting the permit. It is expected that the building will be demolished shortly.

Trustee Kieft gave a brief history of the plaza which is planned for the Bender Optical site.

DEPARTMENT OF AGING GRANT

Trustees Kieft and Lee spoke concerning a Department of Aging grant for the Clifton Senior Center. The Senior Center has applied for the grant for the purpose of buying a new van. The Senior Center needs a letter of support from Clifton Town Meeting in connection with the grant.

Trustee Kieft read a draft of the proposed letter in support of the Clifton Senior Center.

Upon motion made by Trustee Kieft, seconded by Trustee Lee, it was moved that the Board approve the sending of the letter read by Trustee Kieft. The motion passed unanimously.

NEIGHBORHOOD SUMMIT

Trustee Thomas reported on the Neighborhood Summit which will be held at the Cintas Center, Xavier University, on Saturday, February 16, 2008. There will be a kick-off dinner on Friday, February 15, 2008. Trustee Bishop encouraged interested community members to attend.

LIBRARY ESSAY CONTEST

Betsy Black reported that there was still time for community members to submit their essay concerning how the reindeer got on top of the Clifton Branch library.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The next meeting will be held on February 4, 2008, at the Clifton Recreation Center, 320 McAlpin Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio, at 7:00 pm.
- Betsy Black reminded everyone that the March 3, 2008, meeting will be held at the Father Klug Center, Annunciation Parish, since the Clifton Recreation Center will not be available due to the Primary Elections which will be held there on March 4, 2008.

There being no further business before the Board, upon motion made by Trustee Thomas, seconded by Trustee Kieft, the meeting was adjourned upon unanimous consent at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Gary Eby, Secretary