

**MINUTES  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
CLIFTON TOWN MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2008**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Clifton Town Meeting was called to order on September 8, 2008, at the Clifton Recreation Center, 320 McAlpin Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio, at 7:03 pm, by President Linda Goldenhar.

**TRUSTEES PRESENT:**

The following Trustees were present for the meeting: Ron Becker, George Bishop, Dick Druffel, Gary Eby, Mike Elovitz, Bill Fant, Linda Goldenhar, Bill Gordon, Robin Lee, Malcolm Montgomery, Jim Segers, and Steve Slack.

The presence of a quorum is duly noted.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

A draft version of the minutes of the August, 2008, meeting had been previously circulated to the Board for review and comment. Upon motion made by Trustee Eby, seconded by President Goldenhar, the minutes of the August 4, 2008, meeting were unanimously approved by those Trustees voting.

**TREASURERS REPORT**

The Treasurer's report for August, 2008, had been previously circulated to the Board for review and comment. Trustee Fant answered questions raised by the Trustees concerning the report. Upon motion made by Trustee Druffel, seconded by President Goldenhar, the August, 2008, Treasurer's report was unanimously approved, with Trustee Fant abstaining.

**REGULAR REPORTS**

**Recreation Center Report**

The Recreation Center Director Tom Reece presented the report. Mr. Reece reported that the fencing program is experiencing a renewed interest.

The Recreation Center will be offering the "My Nose Turns Red" program from September 29 to November 24. This program, primarily designed for home schoolers, will teach circus skills.

Mr. Reece reported that the after school program for students at the Fairview Clifton German language school has 88 students. The before school program has 60 students.

Mr. Reece left Fall Program guides in the meeting room for distribution to community members.

President Goldenhar thanked Mr. Reece for his report.

### Police Report

Cincinnati Police Detective Paul Meyer presented the police report. He was joined by Captain Bailey and Lt. Fern. A report showing August, 2008, crime statistics for Clifton and nearby areas was made available for distribution.

Detective Meyer reported that crime was down in Clifton, compared to last year, by 5%.

Detective Meyer reported that Citizens On Patrol (COP) needs volunteers. Interested community members can contact Trustee Robin Lee.

A question was raised about the number of "panhandlers" in the Ludlow business district. While the police are aware of the situation, the officers advised that the best way to limit this activity is not give any money.

Captain Bailey reported that funding for the walking patrols in the Ludlow Business District will last until sometime in November. In response to questions from Jack Brand, Captain Bailey stated that funding to continue the walking patrols during the December holiday season would probably be made available.

Captain Bailey gave a report on the status of surveillance cameras scheduled to be installed in Clifton. The Police Department is seeking community input concerning the best placement of the cameras. Trustee Bishop and his Safety Committee will coordinate the community input effort.

Trustee Elovitz asked the police officers about several crimes which have been committed in or near the Corinthian restaurant. Captain Bailey stated that these matters are currently under investigation by the police. Captain Bailey encourage residents nearby the establishment to contact him regarding ongoing problems there.

A community members raised the issue of adults riding bicycles on the sidewalk. A discussion ensued concerning the legal issues and police enforcement.

In response to a question, Detective Meyer gave a brief report concerning the recent robbery at the Columbia Saving Bank on Ludlow Ave.

President Goldenhar thanked the officers for their report.

## **CLIFTON HOUSE TOUR**

President Goldenhar introduced Mark Smith and Dan Schwandner, the new co-chairs of the Clifton House Tour Committee. This event will be held on Mother's Day, May 10, 2009.

Mr. Smith gave an overview of the committee's activities to date, and an outline of some time lines and targets in the coming months. The Committee is in the process of selecting candidate houses for the tours, and hopes to have a final list firmed up in the next two months.

Mr. Smith stated that liability insurance issues needed to be clarified. Trustee Gordon gave Mr. Smith contact information for the insurance carrier.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Schwander asked the Board to give them a budget for expenses in connection with the project; as well as a statement of expected revenues.

President Goldenhar thanked Mr. Smith and Mr. Schwander for agreeing to head this project, which is the primary fund raiser for CTM.

## **LAFAYETTE AVE - WATER WORKS PROJECT**

Patrick Arnett and Russell Weber, representatives of the Cincinnati Water Workers, gave a presentation concerning work which will be undertaken on Lafayette Avenue and Lafayette Circle.

The project is scheduled to start in 2 or 3 weeks. The Water Works will be replacing existing water lines with an 8 inch main. After the project is complete the water pressure should remain the same. The crews are expected to work Monday through Thursday,

Letters will be sent to affected households; and there will be a supervisor on site to answer questions concerning the project.

## **COMMUNITY GARDEN REPORT**

Mary Rita Dominic gave a power point presentation concerning the community garden near the old City Barn on Vine and Ruther. There will be a community garden celebration on October 24, 2008.

## **CTM NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT**

The following candidates have been nominated for expiring and vacant Trustee positions: Brian Curwin; Dick Druffel; Karen Imbus; Michael Willing; Gina Marsh; Mark Smith; Malcolm Montgomery; and Jim Segers. Bios of the candidates appear in the Fall edition of the Clifton Chronicle.

Trustee elections will be held immediately prior to the November 3, 2008, CTM meeting.

## **ESQUIRE MOVIE NIGHT**

President Goldenhar reported that the Esquire Movie Night, Raiders of the Lost Ark: The Adaptation, raised about \$3,000 for CTM. Trustee Druffel thanked President Goldenhar and all the other volunteers for their efforts.

## **LUDLOW REVITALIZATION PROJECT**

Phil Herrick gave an update on the status of sidewalk work in connection with the Ludlow Revitalization project.

Mr. Herrick answers questions from community members regarding the placement of truck loading zones and the Cincinnati Metro bus stop. Lisa Storie, owner of Sitwell's, expressed concern over the location of the bus stop and loading zones in the vicinity of Ludlow and Telford. Trustee Montgomery will work with Phil Herrick and Jon Cramer to address and attempt to resolve.

It was noted that during the construction phase that handicap accessibility is still an issue. Trustee Becker stated that CTM should write a letter to the City regarding the handicap accesses issue.

Issues were also raised concerning holes in the existing sidewalk which pose a safety problem. It was stated that CTM would also contact the City about this issue.

## **LUDLOW PLAZA REPORT**

Trustee Druffel gave an update of the Ludlow Plaza issue. He reported that the City has agreed to provide up to \$300,000 for plaza construction; but that the City will not construct the plaza. It will be necessary for the Clifton Community LLC to enter into contractual relationships with the City and the selected contractor.

The City has supplied a list of contractors and a short list has been compiled.

Trustee Druffel also reported that it will be necessary for the Clifton Business and Professional Association, the managing member of the Clifton Community LLC to get involved in the process. A meeting has been scheduled with the CBPA for later in the week.

It was suggested that CTM form a committee to address plaza design and construction issues, in conjunction with CBPA representatives. The following were appointed to the CTM plaza committee: Linda Goldenhar; Tim Bushnell, Bill Fant; Phil Herrick, Ted Johanson; and Dick Druffel.

Several members of the community spoke in connection with their concerns regarding chemical contamination on the plaza site; and possible solutions.

Tim Bushnell reported on the Plaza study meeting which was held to obtain community input into the plaza design and related issues.

## **OPEN FORUM**

State Senator Eric Kearney and Jackie Lewis addressed the community. Senator Kearney discussed his recent support in the State Senate for funding for the Clifton Community Arts Center.

Senator Kearney introduced Jackie Lewis. Ms. Lewis announced the opening of an Obama for President office on Hamilton Avenue which will be serving the Clifton Community.

President Goldenhar stated that representatives of the McCain for President campaign were also welcome to attend the CTM meeting and address the community.

Howard Goldberg addressed the Board and community and requested that CTM file a class action suit against Duke Energy as a result of numerous power outages. No action was taken on Mr. Goldberg's request.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The next meeting will be held on Monday October 6, 2008, at the Clifton Recreation Center, at 7:00 pm.
- Elections for CTM Board members will be held at the November 3, 2008, meeting. The meeting will be held at the Father Klug Center - Annunciation Parish, at the corner of Clifton and Resor Avenues.

There being no further business before the Board, upon motion made by President Goldenhar, seconded by Trustee Eby, the meeting was adjourned upon unanimous consent at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted: Gary Eby, Secretary