

CTM Meeting Minutes
January 5, 2009
Clifton Recreation Center

Trustees in attendance: In attendance: Linda Goldenhar, Dick Druffel, Ron Becker, Bill Fant, Brian Curwin, Michael Willing, John Berten, Jim Segers, Steve Slack, Mike Elovitz, Mark Smith, Karen Imbus, Gina Marsh, George Bishop

The board unanimously approved the minutes for the December 2008 meeting, passed a motion changing the corporate agent for CTM to reflect the change of secretary from Gary Eby to Ron Becker, and reviewed and approved the Treasurer's report.

Regular Reports:

Det. Paul Meyer gave the police report. Although the year-end figures had not yet been completed, he expected that crime rates for 2008 would be roughly the same as 2007. However, he did note that violent crime were lower but that that decline was offset by an increase in theft from autos. The trend was not only in problem in Clifton but citywide. He reiterated the importance of not leaving items visible in the car, especially GPS units and ipods. In a subsequent discussion, suggestions were made to recommend to city officials to develop a city-side PR campaign aimed at educating the public about discouraging such crimes by not leaving things out in their cars. George Bishop volunteered to talk with officials if it would be of help. Linda Goldenhar raised the idea of contact local news programs as a means of promoting awareness, and Michael Willing suggested that victims of theft should look on Craig's list to spot stolen items. Linda Goldenhar also suggested that the safety and gaslight committees might work together on the issue, given the fact that poorly lit areas often promote such criminal activity.

CRC: Tom encourage CTM to explore ways to facilitate better coordination and communication between CTM's efforts and the Rec Center, pointing out that the many parents who bring children to the center for programs are invested in Clifton (even if they live elsewhere) and could be tapped into as a source of energy.

CTM thanked everyone involved in helping to make the December 19 carriage ride event a huge success.

Special CTM Reports:

Mainstreet (Bill Gordon). Bill Gordon reported to CTM on the past activities and future of the Mainstreet Program. Past accomplishments included: putting up holiday decorations, responsibility for Ludlow beautification efforts, obtaining \$150,000 funding for the Plaza, applying for possible funds to pay for renovation of corner by fire house, and completion of survey.

Mainstreet will go through significant changes in upcoming month. By the end of January, the office will close and John Cramer will leave the program. The organization anticipates that the emerging efforts by Uptown Consortium to create a pilot program in the Clifton neighborhood designed to improve the publicity, safety, and beautification of the business district would logically take over many of the responsibilities of Mainstreet. In assessing the past 2-years success of the program, Gordon mentioned that the program itself assumes strong input from local governments, business owners, and community members. Clifton's Mainstreet efforts saw little cooperation from the city or business owners. Uptown's pilot program is expected to offer the kind of institutional support that had been lacking in the past. Also, recent changes in the business owners (as evidenced by participation on the Holidays on Ludlow event) offers promise for the future.

Ludlow Revitalization: Bill Gordon also updated CTM on the status of the Ludlow revitalization project. the electrical inspection had been completed and awaited approval by Duke. The completion of the sidewalks would be started "soon" (presumably when weather permitted). Gina Marsh mentioned that many of the new light posts were already chipped and urged the city to follow up with the contractor to remedy the situation.

Clifton House Tour: Mark Smith will meet with Committee chairs to establish goals and timelines. There are currently 8 houses and CCAC on the tour with possibilities of getting another house on board.

Clifton Plaza: Ted Johanson reported on the status of the plaza committee's efforts. The committee will meet with the contracted firm (KZF) on January 27 to review designs. There will be a public meeting in February to get final public input on the design. The goal is to complete the plaza by September 2009. Jan Brown-Checco mentioned that the committee is in the early stages of thinking about possible art for the plaza and mentioned the importance of coordinating such efforts with the upcoming art carpet project that will take place this year as part of the side walk revitalization. There was discussion and agreement that the design and possible art for the plaza, the art carpets, and the fountain plaza should work together to create a cohesive identity. It was emphasized that there is not enough money in the \$300,000 budget for art in the plaza, so funds will have to be raised. Linda Goldenhar suggested thinking about how the streetscapes event could be developed into a fundraiser that targets art in the plaza.

CTM's 2009 Goals Dick Druffel followed up the December retreat by offering a draft of 9 goals for 2009:

- 1) Make the 2009 Clifton House Tour the most successful house tour on record.
- 2) Get the Clifton Plaza designed and built within the calendar year making it an effective and beautiful gateway to CBPA's Merchant Parking Lot.
- 3) Work with Uptown Consortium, CBPA, Mainstreet and other stakeholders to develop and put the Clifton Pilot Project in place during 2009.
- 4) Continue to build the relationships with CBPA, MainStreet, CCAC, the Clifton Community Fund and the Clifton Community LLC so that the Clifton Community is well-served by all organizations and our work together is seamless and as efficient and effective as it can be.
- 5) Make Clifton a safer place by working with the City, The Police Department and Uptown Consortium to improve our Safety methods and measures. Further develop CPOP to increase the eyes on Clifton streets. George Bishop called for more Citizens on Patrol volunteers and a following discussion stressed the importance of safety issues. A variety of ideas were proposed for how to improve awareness of and involvement in COP, including regular reporting of the group's activities).
- 6) Determine whether Form Based Codes would be effective and an improvement for Clifton
- 7) Develop CTM Movie Night into an excellent event and fund raiser. Dick Druffel pointed out that CTM will need to revisit how to balance fundraising efforts and energy between the street painting event that had been an important part of the community in the past but had not been seen or developed as an explicit fundraising event for CTM and the movie night event. Several people voiced support for the importance of the street painting event as an important part of the community.
- 8) Continue to develop the communications between CTM and the community and the other Clifton stakeholders utilizing the CTM Web Site, The Chronicle, the CTM Email list, and other methods to make our communications as effective and efficient as they can be.
- 9) Continue to develop CTM as a community based organization ensuring that the community is well- served and well-represented by CTM. Increase CTM Membership.

Steve Slack recommended adding a focus on improving Burnet Woods (especially the end nearest Ludlow/Clifton) to the 2009 goals. He will draft a goal item to be submitted to the list.

Mark Smith suggested developing a list of criteria to help measure the success in reaching these goals.

A list of committee membership will be circulated and reviewed by trustees in an effort to update membership and encourage trustee's involvement with committees that need help.

Bill Fant made a motion for up to \$200 to be spent on a sound mixer to facilitate better sound at CTM meetings. The motion passed unanimously.

An audience member raised the issue of undermined pedestrian safety on the north end of Clifton Avenue created by the lack of a sidewalk. His complaint was supported and discussion of how community members could call the city hotline to create a file on the topic as a means of getting a city response.

Review and approve: Minutes from the December 8, 2008 Meeting – Gary/Ron Treasurer's Report (include update of 2009 Budget) – Bill Regular Reports 1) Fire 2) Police 3) Recreation 4) Burnet Woods Trailside Museum 5) CCAC Special CTM Reports Clifton House Tour Update – Mark & Julia – 10 minutes
Detail of the various committees and their chair persons Clifton Plaza Update – Jan & Ted – 10 Minutes
MainStreet Update – Mary/Bill – 5 minutes CTM Retreat 2009 CTM Committees and Chair Persons
CTM Goals for 2009 – Dick – 20 minutes Community Q&A- 2 minutes each – Dick - 5 minutes Tell us your concerns, ask a question or make a comment Announcements: Next CTM Meeting Monday February 3 at 7 PM at the Clifton Recreation Center