

CTM Meeting Minutes  
OCTOBER 5, 2009  
Clifton Recreation Center

Trustees in attendance: John Berten, George Bishop, Ron Becker, Bill Fant, Karen Imbus, Steve Slack, Mike Elovitz, Mark Smith, Malcolm Montgomery, Jim Segers

Tabled approval of the minutes and review of the Treasurer's report for September because there was of no quorum.

Fire Report (Capt. Johnson). 140 responses. 8 fires, 1 extra alarm fire (on Ridgeway Ave.), 96 ems responses. G. Bishop followed up on his efforts to raise concerns about possible closings of local stations. The Fire chief declined to come to the meeting because he didn't feel there were any plans to close stations. G. Bishop said he would stay on top of it.

Police report: Det. Paul Meyer (District 5). 1. There was a severe stabbing at Dixsmth and Clifton between two teenagers. Arrest made on Terrace between Clifton and Ormand. 2. 2 recent home burglaries. One at Bryant and Middleton through an unlocked ground floor window at night. Det. Meyer underscored importance of locking windows and doors. Middleton and McAlpine during day. Broke out rear door glass. 3. On Telford there was an armed robbery by 5-member group (3 males, 2 females) who showed a gun around 1 am. 4. A community member asked for an update on the Ambar-owner shooting. No arrest has been made but the investigation is ongoing. 5. A community member raised concerns about increased crime, especially about the crowd hanging out at the fountain plaza. Det. Meyer says that some of the crime can be traced to the people hanging out in the plaza. Park police have been called in and some arrests have been made. In general, however, Clifton crime statistics have improved, despite high profile incidents like the Ambar shooting. For example, thefts from autos are down. Det Meyer stated that the activity at the plaza will continue to be watched. Citizen on Patrol asked for undercover officers to be sent to the Plaza. M. Elovitz asked about the profile of the people at the plaza. Det Meyer said there is a range of people. Some are high school kids from Walnut Hills and CSPA, some homeless, and some from Clifton. The homeless adults get money from teens and then buy beer at Keller's and UDF and take it back to the Plaza. A resident from that corner said he noticed a dramatic upswing of activity at the corner of Clifton and Ludlow late at night. A community member asked if there is any evidence of more sophisticated criminal activity (as opposed to low-hanging fruit crimes). Det Meyer said there was no evidence. George Bishop recommended a community solution aimed at taking back the plaza by creating our own events at the Plaza.

Clifton Rec Report: Tom Reese. CRC had reception at the CCAC. Voss Finn is a Clifton artist who will be working with the artist in residence program. Encourage people to look for program guides outside for information on the Center's programming.

Friends of Library and CCAC are hosting a book sale Oct 15-17. Volunteers sought to help with event, especially on Saturday at 5 when the event needs to be packed up.

#### Candidates and Issues:

Kevin Farmer spoke on behalf of Brockman. Among her issues: youth development and public safety. She would like a city-wide youth council. Wants to form more community watch programs to support police efforts and reduce crime.

Robert Shumake and Michael Flanagan. Spoke in favor of Issue 5 to support renewal of funding for MR/DD programs. The levy is 73% of the program's budget. Spoke on his view of the importance of such funding for helping many community members.

Shekar Jayraman from Sec of State's office. Explained how the Secretary of State's office serves the community. Recently initiated a social health index to communicate quality of life issues in different communities. Provides a range of quality of life data for Ohio communities. The office is also working to improve the process for filing to start a business.

Don Moony spoke against Issue 9. In February CTM voted to support the streetcar system and to make Clifton a stop on the system. Issue 9 is an amendment to the city charter that is far more than just about streetcars. Any time the city spends a dime on public transportation, there would have to be a public vote. This would have enormous consequences on the city's ability to govern wisely. It is widely opposed by various city organizations. G. Bishop spoke against the issue as well, warning about the implications of the issue for city governance.

Although the board couldn't vote because of the lack of a quorum, Karen Imbus circulated a draft of a resolution in which CTM would oppose Issue 9. Karen Imbus would revise the resolution, circulate it to the board, and post it on the website.

Clifton Plaza Update: Jan and Ted. The contractor has submitted paper work with the city and construction should begin soon, starting with the excavation of the sewer line. After that discovery, there will be a clearer idea of how much money will be available to spend on alternative items from the \$25,000 contingency fund on (e.g., screening, water sources, furniture items, Clifton plaza signage, drinking fountain). Various merchants have been contacted for required construction materials. The committee will soon meet with CBPA to review the plan elements. There are some possible sources of funding for the alternative items, so the plan is fluid.

Streetscapes Festival: Kip Eggen summarized the event. Despite the change of venue due to rain, the event was a success. Approximately 3,000 attended (as compared to 5000 when on Telford). 8 of the 10 teams participated. Had non-stop music both days. The 4 artcars were a huge success. Decided to move the event on Thursday night because of forecasts for rain, which would make the event impossible to hold outside. The art will be auctioned off at a CCAC in late Oct/early Nov with 50% going to the artists and 50% to CTM and CCAC. Estimate of budget indicate that the event may have raised \$1000 over expenses (without the T-shirt sales included).

Art from the Attic, John Berten reported that the fundraising sale was a huge success with about 200 or the 250 items were sold.

CTM elections reminder: Election will be Nov 2 at CCAC. Voting will start at 6:30 and go until 7:10 to accommodate late arrivals. To vote, one must be a paid CTM member. Members can pay dues on that night. Those candidates in attendance introduced themselves.

Movie Night: Ron Becker summarized the details of the movie night event that will take place Oct 25 at the Esquire. Tickets are now on sale \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids under 12.

Tom Lohre from The Clifton Chronicle proposed setting up a Chronicle blog on the CTM website. Also exploring creating an advertiser coupon insert which will then extend circulation. Considering putting owner of Proud Rooster on the cover of the next issue. The deadline for the next issue is Nov 4 and comes out Dec 5.

Community Q and A:

Dan Ames raised concerns about the fact that the community bulletin boards on Telford have still not gone up and asked for an update. Kip Eggen said it is on a punch list of final items.

Lantern Walk needs a volunteer to make it go this year.

Betsy announced that early voting forms are available at the Library.

Adjourned: 8:35.