

CTM Meeting Minutes  
7:00 PM  
December 5, 2011  
Clifton Recreation Center

Meeting Called to Order:

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Clifton Town Meeting was called to order on December 5, 2011 at 7:03 PM at the Clifton Recreation Center at 320 McAlpin Avenue, by Trustee Karen Imbus, who chaired the meeting.

Trustees in attendance for the meeting: Bob Blum, Eric Clark, Dick Druffel, Linda Goldenhar, Karen Imbus, Ben Pantoja, Jeff Rose, Pete Schneider, and Mary Jo Vesper. The presence of a quorum is duly noted.

**Regular Reports:**

**Fire:** Report given by Captain Kevin Campbell. During the month of November, the Clifton fire department had 171 runs, including 115 EMS responses, 38 non-medical responses, and 18 fire alarms. The fall and winter are normally the busiest seasons of the year for the department, and this year is no exception. They responded to three extra alarms and three structure fires. Captain Campbell stated that residents are always welcome to visit the firehouse.

**Police:** No report given.

**Recreation:** Report given by Arnelle Dow. The center now has new carpet in both the office and the landing. New chairs and tables had also just arrived and would be in set up in time for the next CTM meeting. Ms. Dow provided detail on a recent girls' action team that had been meeting regularly. The 10-week long leadership program partners 9-12 year-old girls with a professional therapist/social worker. The girls chose to support the charity Faces without Places, which helps homeless youth. They raised funds and will be donating them to the charity in the near future along with over 200 Christmas cards that they made.

**Burnet Woods Trailside Museum:** No report given.

**CCAC:** No report given.

**Special CTM Reports:**

**CTM Trustee Service:** K. Imbus thanked several term-limited trustees for their years of service to the Clifton community. Those individuals included, Mike Willing (who donated time outside of his demands as a doctor) , Brian Curwin (who has taken over membership development and is up for re-election for a second term), Jim Segers (who was heavily involved with StreetScapes), Malcolm Montgomery (who continuously provided leadership on

the Housing & Zoning committee), and Dick Druffel (who served for 4 years as CTM President; helped drive a number of projects/programs in Clifton, including construction of the Clifton plaza; and is a tremendous asset to the Clifton community). K. Imbus extended her sincere thanks to all of these individuals.

L. Goldenhar extended the Board's thanks to K. Imbus for her years of service to Clifton, as both a Vice President and President of CTM.

**CTM New Trustees Elections:** L. Goldenhar reported. All candidates who ran were elected: Linda Ash, Bruce Bernard, Tom Dwyer, Buddy Goose, and Michael Moran were elected for three-year terms, and Brian Curwin was re-elected for two more years.

**Holidays on Ludlow:** Report given by George Roden. Mr. Roden stated that pamphlets had been distributed to Clifton businesses describing the holiday events happening on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The events will include the Fairview Clifton Choir, the Sinfonian Brass Ensemble (paid for by CBPA), and the Clifton Trombone Choir. Carriage rides will also take place this year, with the route illuminated by candlelight. Candle bags will be filled on Wednesday morning at 10am in the basement of the Ludlow Garage. Pictures will be taken with Santa and emailed to individuals after the event. Other activities include: (i) local authors and musicians will be signing books/CDs at the Columbia Savings Bank, (ii) a kids' snowflake design contest will be PNC Bank, (iii) cookie decorating at U.S. Bank, and (iv) ornament creation at Aquarius Star with support from the Clifton Cultural Art Center - ornament creation. Other merchants will also be having special events or sales throughout the evening. Mr. Roden requested that the Holidays on Ludlow be distributed to the CTM list-serv. L. Goldenhar asked if the event had a website that residents could be directed to. Mr. Roden said that the event does have a Facebook page, and he encouraged those in the audience to check it out. The event will also be showcased in several community publications. K. Imbus mentioned the Shop Local campaign will also be going on with reusable shopping bags to be handed out in the Clifton Plaza.

**Beautification Committee Report:** M. Vesper reported. She stated that Ludlow Avenue is now lit up for the holidays thanks to the help of numerous volunteers. Adam Balz led the efforts again this year and showed the volunteers how to decorate. M. Vesper thanked Olives for the wonderful buffet lunch they provided to the volunteers. The decorations will be taken down sometime in January. She also thanked the Clifton Community Fund for their gracious donation to cover the cost of the new holiday lights. The plaza was also mulched.

**Mayor's Recycling Challenge Follow-Up:** K. Imbus reported. She said that CTM has submitted Clifton's plan for increasing recycling participation and that CTM received \$100 just for signing up. She mentioned that Clifton is tied for the best recycling participation rate of all the neighborhoods in the city. The challenge includes several milestones, including increasing recycling participation by 10%; collecting green recycling carts not being used, and reaching out to apartment buildings and mixed use buildings, which can now participate in the recycling program. She stated that someone from the Board and/or community will need to help lead the efforts.

## **Reviewed and Approved:**

**Secretary's Report:** A draft version of the minutes of the November 14, 2011, regular meeting had been previously circulated to the Board for review and comment.

Motion: B. Blum moved to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2011, regular meeting. P. Schneider seconded.

Vote Results: The minutes of the November 14, 2011, regular meeting were unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** The November Treasurer's report had been previously circulated to the board for review and comment. P. Schneider reviewed the report with previously provided comments from B. Fant.

Motion: P. Schneider moved to approve the November Treasurer's report. D. Druffel seconded.

Vote results: The November Treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

P. Schneider thanked the Board for their stewardship and responsible handling of CTM funds over the past three years.

**2012 Clifton House Tour:** B. Blum reported. The Clifton House Tour typically has eight to ten homes, and the committee is still working on securing the final few homes. The event will be held on Mother's Day of 2012. The committee still needs sub-committee heads for the volunteer committee and ticket sales committee. B. Blum is the co-chair with E. Clark. Currently, the subcommittees are working on various tasks. L. Goldenhar mentioned that former CTM trustee, Mark Smith, left great notes from the 2009 tour. E. Clark said he can email materials to anyone interested in helping with sub-committees. He stated that there are also resources still on the CTM Board for the two open positions, including B. Fant who led the ticket sales committee in 2009 and K. Imbus who led the volunteer committee. B. Blum said they'd appreciate any further leads. K. Imbus mentioned that these positions might be a nice way for the newest CTM board members to get involved.

**CTM Board Retreat:** K. Imbus stated that a CTM board retreat will take place on Saturday, January 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am until 12pm. The retreat will allow current and new trustees to help define CTM's mission and vision, review CTM's committee structure, discuss how to transition tasks and roles, and determine how to become an even more effective board and asset to the community.

## **Audience Q&A:**

Audience member Denise Driehaus stated that she recently moved into the area (Clifton Heights) and was in attendance to listen and learn about Clifton's issues. She will be on the primary in March and encouraged the audience to learn more about her. She is open to any conversation and sits on various committees. She has met with Mr. Goessling to discuss

Clifton's food desert issue, is working for additional protections for residents who serve as Citizens on Patrol, and is working to help keep older adults in their homes if they are able to live alone.

Announcements: Next meeting is January 9, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the Clifton Rec. Center.

Meeting Adjourned 7:41 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Jeff Rose, Secretary