



CTM Meeting Agenda
January 9, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
Clifton Recreation Center

Mike Moran, Chris Hueselman, Mary Jo Vesper, Ron Becker, Pete Schneider, Ben Pantoja, Tom Dwyer, Malcolm Montgomery, Buddy Goose, Erik Clark, Linda Ash, Jeff Rose

Review and approve:

Minutes from the December 5, 2011, Meeting – Jeff Rose. Accepted unanimously.

Treasurer's Report – Bill Fant Provided an over view of recent changes in the budget. 2011 saw overall reduction of funds by \$2,200. Primary reasons: exceeded expectations in fundraising (TriHealth grant, Movie Night success, Chronicle ad revenue above expected.) Some expenses were less due to some Plaza costs being taken over by CBPA. LLC expenses fell under anticipated. Major unanticipated costs were related to Streetscapes (for tent and other expenses). Report showed how much of the 2009 income from House Tour had been spent over the last two years (2010: -4,094; 2011: 2,820.75). The report was accepted with one abstention.

2012 Budget proposal:

Bill Fant presented a draft for the 2012 budget. Issues:

1. Need to identify an estimation for House Tour fundraising goal.
2. Most of remaining line items were built off of previous year's expenses.
3. \$1,528.26: new tax bill for Plaza (down significantly).
4. Recommend adding \$10,000 expense line item for House Tour.
5. The Board needs to recommend what expense to use when applying for NSP funds.

Discussion:

1. Vesper recommended budgeting \$4,500 for LLC expenses.
2. Gosse asked whether the \$2,000 budget line for Streetscapes was adequate given last years \$5,000 expenditure. Raising the number might make sense.
3. The process of approving the budget was summarizing (comments on modifying the budget given before February meeting at which time the budget can be approved.) Ideas for the 2012 budget will be emailed to Bill Fant.

Pete Schneider announced that Bill Fant is resigning from the CTM Board. The board unanimously thanked Bill for his tremendous guidance and professional as the Treasurer and Board member.

Regular Reports

1. Fire. Kevin Campbell: Month of December 171 response (16 natural fires) 1900 Response for 2011 (168 actual fires-which include fires outside of Clifton). EMS system is evolving under the new Chief of Fire. Every fire company in Cincinnati is equipped with at least one ALS pack.

Recommended CTM invite new fire chief. Invited everyone into firehouse. Phone contact: 352-2334

2. Police. Off. Lisa Johnson (Lisa.Johnson@cincinnati-OH.gov). 569-8507. Reported 2 arrests for burglary. Currently focusing on street signs and efforts to combat graffiti. Asked for citizens to send in photos of graffiti. Asked citizens to take notes on drug activity. Capt. Bailey is leaving after 4 1/2 years. Cpt. Bailey spoke about his shift out of Clifton and about the transition in leadership.
3. Recreation. Arnel highlighted current activities and events at CRC. Cincinnati Opera event was a huge success (Tortoise and the Hare). In the next event they will be writing music. Art for Artists is an upcoming program for seniors (Tuesdays 12:45). The CRC's flag football team will be travelling to Florida for an event.
4. Burnet Woods Trailside Museum. No rep.
5. CCAC No rep.

Special CTM Reports

P. Schneider made a motion that Ron Becker fill Fant's vacancy. Motion approved unanimously.

Resolution to Elect New Officer's – Pete Schneider
Secretary- Ron Becker
Treasurer-Tom Dwyer
VP-Mary Jo Vesper, Ben Pantoja
President-Pete Schneider

Motion made to approve. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

CTM Board Retreat – Summary - Pete Schneider

P.S. reported on the events that took place at the CTM board retreat on January 7. Although we didn't get through the full agenda, the retreat was very successful. Solid goals were set. Highlights: revisited alignment of shifts in board structure and its committee-based manner of doing business. Felt that we want to continue with that structure. 5 standing committees and 2 ad hoc committees (of which one may be disbanded and one may become a standing committee). Looked a liaison positions (both past and proposals for possible additions).

2012 challenges:

Improving Chronicle efficiencies.
Pulling off a successful House Tour
Increasing community involvement

Additional committees for 2012:

Pete Schneider introduced a resolution to create an ad hoc committee that would be charged with reviewing issues related to the boundaries of Clifton as spelled out in the CTM charter. A subsequent discussion for clarity regarding other issues that had been brought up in the retreat led to a report that there was an effort to explore issues of the nature of executive actions under time constraints.

Malcolm Montgomery asked for clarification on the language (i.e., not that the committee's goal is to necessarily align with neighboring communities. Huelseman also raised the issue of the need for talking with neighboring communities.

R. Becker recommended that the resolution be revised to be more vague and simply create a committee to investigate the current issue regarding Clifton's current boundaries.

The resolution was revised accordingly.

Ad Hoc Committee Establishment

Resolution:

CTM establish an Ad Hoc committee to investigate and report regularly to the full board on the current issues regarding the boundaries of the community of Clifton.

Resolution passed unanimously.

Beautification Committee Report –Mary Jo Vesper

The committee just finished taking down the holiday decorations and thanked the Clifton Community Fund for the new lights. Positive news: moving forward on the gateway project at the corners of Vine and Wolper. State of Ohio is providing funds for restructuring Wolper (what that will mean for the corner's, so the committee will investigate impact).

Plaza Committee – Mary Jo Vesper Issued tabled.

2012 Clifton House Tour – Bob Blum. Currently have 8 houses tentatively lined up for the tour.

Holidays on Ludlow– George Roden: Reported on the highly successful event. All responses were positive. Thanks given to Malcolm, Montgomery and the many people who helped with the event. Dan given special thanks for time helping with luminaries. The event grew considerably this year. More activity on the street. The carriage man reported that he felt the event was the most vibrant of those he has worked for in the area. Most feedback was that the event needed a second carriage, which would increase capacity (because of smaller sized second carriage) by %50. Some business owners reported that CBPA might pick up additional cost of a second carriage. He felt that the dramatically better participation from the business this year might necessitate a restructuring of how the event gets organized (one that would facilitate oversight of the expanded event— activities on the plaza, for example.) Because of the limitations of the business owners, he felt the businesses wouldn't be able to take up such work. Asked for questions: Tom Lohre asked for a story on the event with the thank you's included. Pete Schneider and everyone present thanked George and the crew for their work.

Goesling's Market Update – Marilyn Hyland reported that the city requested revision on the building permit. They expect the building permits to be issues any day now. Once approved, the renovations will take 3 months (involving all aspect of the store). Steve closed on the property May 16, 2011. No one is more anxious to open the store than Steve Goesling. The opening will now probably be around April 1. There are early plans to have a 3-day series of events to celebrate the re-opening and welcomed anyone who wanted to volunteer on the committee. Gina Marsh reported rumors about financing trouble and asked whether the rumors could be addressed. Ms. Hyland stated that she thought they were in good shape.

Candidate Introduction –Luke Brockmeier, who is running in a democratic primary to represent this district in the state house. There's no incumbent because it is a new district. He is a community organizer for various causes. Lived in the district for 10 years. And as openly pro-choice candidate in the race he feels he represent these neighborhoods well. He spoke about his political positions, goals, and views. Beyond introducing himself, he also stated he was attending the meeting to find out what mattered to the community. Contact info: www.lukeforohio.com.

Clifton Chronicle Update—Tom Lohre reported that he lost his long-term proofreader. He reported that it has been a consistent problem to retain long-term help and that this dynamic is requiring a dramatic shift in The Chronicle (away from a volunteer-only position). The only option to continue to keep the quality of The Chronicle will require paying someone. Ended with the strong assertion that a decision on how to change must take place quickly.

Pete Schneider agreed that he would facilitate a meeting between Tom Lohre and the Communications committee.

Community Q & A—

- Betsy Black asked who the LLC members will be. Currently it will be Pete Schneider and Mary Jo Vesper.
- Steve Slack asked for follow up on the decisions regard the proposed impact of MLK reconstruction on Burnet Woods. P.S. was almost certain that the city had abandoned the plans, but that he would get back and confirm that point.
- Kip Egan: Asked if anyone else had seen coyotes in the area?
- Chris Hueselman reported that he has just started an ongoing project (Spring in Our Steps) charged with ambitious goals of cleaning up city steps, alley ways, and sidewalks that have been neglected for years. It is an initiative to reawaken the visibility of pedestrian places that have lapsed into disuse. More info of getting involved at: www.springinoursteps.wordpress.com
- State Rep. Denise Dreihaus (running in Dem primary) was in attendance, raised issue of a prohibition on fracking. State Senator Eric Kearny thanked Clifton for its support and raised issue of upcoming budget correction bill. Also encouraged citizens to connect the Legislature regarding jobs bill. Also mentioned his work of importance of grocery stores and neighborhoods.
- Tom Lohre announced that Bearcat Cash has a link on its website.

Announcements: **Next Meeting February 6, 2012 Clifton Rec. Center, 7:00 p.m.**