



CTM Meeting Agenda
February 6, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
Clifton Recreation Center

In attendance: Mike Moran, Chris Hueselman, Ron Becker, Pete Schneider, Ben Pantoja, Tom Dwyer, Malcolm Montgomery, Buddy Goose, Erik Clark, Linda Ash, Jeff Rose, Bruce Bernard, Bob Blum, Linda Goldenhar, Mary Jo Vesper

Review and approve:

Minutes from the January 7, 2012, Meeting – Ron Becker moved with 4 abstentions

Treasurer's Report – Tom Dwyer – Gave an overview of January accounts. Discussed his shift to a cash-based report procedure in order to confirm auditor's expectations. Raise possibility of moving the cd accounts from Columbia to a bank with more flexible hours to facilitate his ability to work with the bank.

2012 Budget Review & Approval (Pete Schneider)

Reviewed the projected 2012 budget. LLC and Plaza lines will be combined with sub-lines. Bernard asked how a committee request for certain expenses would procedurally be dealt with. A discussion about the proper procedures clarified the process.

Changes for Chronicle projections: income: 7,200 expenses: 11,000

A discussion took place over the projected expenses and income lines for the House Tour.

Asked for \$300 budget to promote participation for Recycling Program. If participation helps the effort win prizes, the money could be recouped. The request was approved.

The budget was moved and seconded and approved unanimously.

Regular Reports

Fire: no report

Police: Lisa Johnson updated the work on graffiti and underscored the importance of taking photographs of graffiti and keep track of expenses; a drug arrest was made by FBI and ATF. Discussed a driver who seems to be texting people to meet him on different days in different locations to deal drugs. No consistency on car description. Efforts are ongoing and asked if you see anything suspicious (often during the day). Trying to promote: know your neighbors so you can be a more effective police ally.

569-8507 lisa.johnson@cincinnati-oh.gov (email is favored).

Requested a letter from CTM discussing the seriousness of the graffiti problem as the cases go to trial.

Said she was aware of the upcoming parking permit change near Cincinnati State.

Was asked about upcoming meeting on metal robberies and she said she was aware of the efforts. Was asked if there was a change in metal burglaries in district 5. She said it follows the price of metal.

Last Wednesday, the resident parking permit program for the area near Cincinnati State was approved by the city against the objection by Cincinnati State. A neighbor involved in the efforts thanked CTM for its help.

Recreation: Arnel Dow: registration for the summer camp programs starting soon. The Center is considering a Clifton yard sale for Earth Day weekend (April 21) in the CRC parking lot. Would love to hear from people interested in participating. Mentioned that because of primary elections the CRC won't be available for the CTM meeting on the first Monday of March. C. Hueselman mentioned that the Great American Clean Up could productively coordinate with the yard sale event.

Burnet Woods Trailside Museum: No report
CCAC: No report

Pete Schneider announced that a stack on note cards with important phone numbers is available at the CRC.

Special CTM Reports

2012 Committees Review & Approval (Pete Schneider).

Reviewed the current membership of the standing and ad hoc committees and liaison positions. Recommended disbanding the parking ad hoc committee. Recommended moving Green committee to a standing committee and creating Charter and Bylaws committee. Hueselman reminded the board about concerns raised by parking connected to the Islamic Center and asked if the parking committee should remain to handle that this year. It was reported that the issue had been dealt with outside of CTM's purview. L. Goldenhar asked what the mission of the Charter and bylaws ad hoc committee would be. Clark explained that it is expected that the committee would propose amendments to the bylaws to enable CTM to function better.

Motion to approve as recommended: the motion was approved unanimously.

Goldenhar asked if we felt that all committee and positions were adequately filled with volunteers/board members. Schneider said he felt we were 75% there and asked committees to fill the staffing gaps.

2012 Clifton House Tour (Eric Clark)

The houses for the tour have been finalized. Although the committees all have chairs, but he encouraged any one interested in volunteering to contact him or committee members. Ludlow Wines has volunteered to be a location people can purchase tickets in advance and day of. Goldenhar mentioned that in the last tour all trustees were "asked" to buy a certain number of tickets and be responsible for selling them. Ben Pantoja has volunteered to be the co-chair. Lohre asked for an essay with details about Home Tour to be published in the Chronicle which will be out the week before the House Tour.

I-75 Reconstruction Project (Eric Clark).

Hopple Street interchange has been delayed 5 years. The I 75 has been pushed back 15 years. The Mitchell Street and Western Hills will proceed since work has already begun. Delays are due to ODOT funding shortfalls. The city has not decided whether these delays will affect the MLK straightening. The city still wants to straighten it, but timing is uncertain.

Communications Committee (Jeff Rose)

Provided an update on the proposed plans of the communication committee, including result of survey of the community (98% of respondents have ability to read e-copy; few people visit the website), main areas of interest: police reports, current Clifton news); 50/50 split between mailing check and on-line payment.)

Key elements of plan:

1. Frequency of Chronicle per year, whether to change the quarterly publishing we have had. What the long-term number will be still uncertain but in 2012 will do no more than three.
2. Medium: 2-16 print with extra material in online pdf.

3. Publisher: historically it has been all volunteer labor, but we feel it would be best to move to a paid publisher. We allocated money in the 2012 budget to pay for a publisher. Tom has generously volunteered helping with next issue while we transition.

2012 Budget Overview:

Income: keep 2011 ad rates for 2012. Move to pre-paid ads to save on labor.

3 issues x 2,400 = \$7,200

Expenses: reviewing printer options to identify money savings from new printers; mailing costs; paid publisher.

Total expense for 3 mailings: \$10,936

Differential: \$3,736.

Key variables that may change: printing costs and publisher costs.

Linda Goldenhar recommended making it clearer that The Chronicle is the communication arm of CTM so that the community understands the value of CTM and membership. Schneider responded that that issue raises the more substantive question of whether advertisers should be included or how the Chronicle could function or would be perceived by the community if it was more narrowly identified as the communication wing of the community. Vesper mentioned that we need to consider how this would influence NSP funding (Schneider explained that we have found out that NSP funding will pay for a third party publisher). Dwyer recommended connecting with other community council efforts. Huelsman raised the issue of possible conflicts of interests that might arise if a board member took that role. Montgomery stated that he felt that in such a situation that there be an open and transparent competition process.

Housing & Zoning Committee (Mary Jo Vesper)

Hallmark Development: University Edge: Gave an update on the apartment development on Ruther & Jefferson Ave. Phase 2 of the development will occur on Ruther across the street from Clifton residents on Ruther.

Vesper gave an overview of the project. 344 beds in total finished project. Project aimed at students connected to the East UC campus. Reported that the developers were asked to make some changes to the plans to improve the project for Clifton residents on Ruther and the developers were receptive. A question was asked about the wires and whether they were going to be buried. Goldenhar asked if there was any discussion of putting a traffic light at the corner. She said there was going to be a traffic study conducted. Huelsman asked what the process had been in the approval of this development. As a resident who lives very nearby, he was frustrated by his perception of a silence on that. Vesper reported that there had been a public hearing when it was discussed as a single phase. This is the moment for public input on the newly separated phase two. A resident who lives on Ruther spoke up that no one on Ruther received notice of the project. She also mentioned that the speed limit on Ruther should be lowered and recommended that CTM ask for that to be included in the letter. Huelsman complained about notification issue and opportunities for meaningful public input.

Vesper introduced a resolution.

Insert final wording of resolution (obtain from Mary Jo).

The resolution was revised to better reflect the tenor of the concern. Approved: 8 for, 4 opposed, 2 abstentions

Green Committee

Great American Cleanup (Christian Huelsman)

Reported on the Great American Clean Up Event on April 21. Asked if the beautification committee had any plans for spring planting they can get free blubs but should move quickly. Sat March 31 there will be a freeway on/off ramp clean up event.

RecycleBank Challenge – Update (Bruce Bernard) Bruce Bernard discussed the city's recycle challenge competition. Suggested using the listserv to educate people to register for the recycle rewards. Goal: recover

233 misused bins. CTM eligible for \$1,000 grand prize. Identified Feb 19 and 20 as targeted days to increase participation to recover missing/misused bins. Asked for CTM members to sign up for the event

CMHA – Presentation and Q/A (Ted Bergh)

Gave overview of the CMHA Program. State agency funded by federal government.

They were asked for details on their presence in Clifton. They recently purchased a 4 family unit on Sherlock Ave. An audience member expressed concern about CMHA moving into that part of Clifton and excoriated CTM for what he perceived to be a lack of concern for the area south of Ludlow. As a counterpoint, Bernard spoke from his personal experience as a child in a struggling family that received support from a neighborhood and argued that a community like Clifton should rely on HUD's and CMHA's track record and review process. Huelsman spoke against a rhetoric that identifies good and bad neighborhood and assumptions about people who live there. He asserted that Clifton and the qualities we take pride in are valuable to a wide range of residents, including students, seniors, and low-income households. Clark argued that Clifton be aware of the impact of the income of the surrounding neighborhood for a variety of things, including the health of the business district. That didn't mean he thought CTM should oppose this project.

Curwin asked what the process is if complaints emerge. CMHA builds a report with the neighbors. There is a talk-to-us line to share concerns. Goldenhar asked what, if any role, CTM would play in the relationship. The representative said that CMHA would take the lead in reaching out to neighbors. Goldenhar suggested holding an open house after the renovations.

Community Q & A

Vesper underscored the importance of the Ruther residence's perspectives on the boundary issue.

Announcements: **Next Meeting: Location and date TBA, 7:00 p.m.**