



**CTM Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2015
Clifton Cultural Arts Center**

Present: Ashley Fritz, Joyce Rich, Morgan Rich, Kevin Marsh, Michael Moran, Tony Sizemore, Pat Knapp, Ben Pantoja, Eric Urbas, Adam Hyland, Nicholas Hollan, Shaun McCance , Mike Schur, Linda Ash

Absent: Rama Kasturi, Adam Balz

A quorum is present. Meeting called to order at 7:06pm

Police Report

Neighborhood Liaison Officer Nick Hageman shared STARS report information.

Uptown Properties has agreed to purchase 500 "Theft from Auto" signs to be posted in the neighborhood. These signs have been found to be effective on the UC campus. Theft from Autos was up 100% year over year.

District 5 will have officer levels boosted by 10 from the newly graduated recruit class.

New Citizens Police Academy classes are open for registration at this time.

Daniel Ames asked if pictures of graffiti on Shiloh Street have been presented to the Police. Officer Hageman indicated that Keep Cincinnati Beautiful is the neighborhoods best resource for graffiti removal, and they start their covering activity in the Spring.

Officer Hageman can be reached at 513.569.8527; email is nicholas.hageman@cincinnati-oh.gov. See the Clifton Community website for other police contact info on the Public Safety page.

Fire Report

Captain James Kettler from Engine 34 reported that his company had 2 major structure fires in the Clifton area during the past month. The most known was the electrical fire at the building where Sitwell's occupies on Ludlow Avenue. The fire started in the basement and ran through a pipe chase. The other fire was due to an electrical power line that snapped due to snow/ice.

This weekend is beginning of Daylight Savings Time. This is a good reminder to change your smoke/fire detector battery. The average life of a carbon monoxide detector is 5-7 years. Most units start to give false detection of carbon monoxide when it is dying.

Trustee Hyland asked if any of the electric wires running across Ludlow Avenue are active. Cpt. Kettler indicated he knew at least the ones near Sitwell's were not and possibly others were not also.

Trustee McCance asked about when to know that knob & tube wiring was becoming worn. Cpt. Kettler advised that sometimes you will notice electric motors making knocking sounds.

Captain Kettler can be reached at 513.352.2334; email is james.kettler@cincinnati-oh.gov; or visit the fire station on Ludlow Avenue.

Library Report

No library report was provided.

Recreation Center

Service Area Manager Tom Reese reported on some new programs starting this Spring:

+ Track and Field

+ Volleyball in the evenings for adults

Karate will be postponed due to the teacher having a significant family illness.

6-7 pm is now available for kids to have pick up games and other fun.

Adult members are allowed to play ping pong and the video games.

If you see some things in the new building that are “missing” or of concern, please report it so that something can possibly be done. New lights were put on the stairwell near the parking lot as a result of a citizen report. Also, new programming is always considered. Please make suggestions.

CCAC

CCAC Executive Director Leslie Mooney reported copper was stolen from air conditioning units in the last month. CCAC is working to find funding to improve lighting around these units. Next classes start March 23 – about 80 classes. Please see the website www.cliftonculturalarts.org for signups. A Movement & Motivation Class is being held for girls aged 9-15, and it is free if eligible for reduced/free school lunches. Tom Lohre Art Show: Sidewalk Shrines and Noted Icons opens March 6 and runs through April 3.

CBPA

No report was provided.

Minutes of the February CTM meeting were approved as written.

Trustee Sizemore made a motion to have the Executive Committee spend no more than \$75 on a gift for the outgoing Engine 34 Captain Kevin Campbell. Motion passed.

Events Committee

Chairperson Nicholas Hollan reported on the potential of an event around the All Star Baseball game. Neighborhoods have the opportunity to apply to CoC for a celebration / party event on July 14 evening (the night of the game).

Hollan moved that CTM work collaboratively with CPBA to apply for this event. The Events Committee would work on this. McCance asked if we were committing to spend money at this time and how much money would be provided by CoC. Holland advised that CoC would provide some level of funding, and CTM could decide later on any spending. Motion approved.

Trustee Sizemore reported on House Tour preparations. Home writeups are underway. Art work / design is underway that will feed poster and ticket designs. A key topic at this point in time is the need for volunteers to help during the day of the event. A Clifton News email seeking volunteers was sent during February - see Trustee Ashley Fritz, who is leading the volunteer organizing efforts for the House Tour. Trustees will hold a phone banking effort on Thursday, March 5 at the Rec Center to find volunteers.

Transportation Committee

Chairperson Mike Schur reported on speed limit reductions on Vine Street. Councilmember Seelbach's office is seeking changing Vine Street to 30 mph on northbound lane between Mitchell and Erkenbrecker (currently 35 mph) and to 25mph on the curved section near Glenmary and Bishop. The southbound lane between Mitchell and Erkenbrecker is already 30 mph.

Schur also noted that McAlpin also has a speed limit of 35 mph. McAlpin and Vine both appear to be "outliers" in Clifton relative to all other streets being at 25 mph or 30 mph. An audience member (Cathy) indicated that she lives on Ruther and it is also signed at 35 mph. Kip Eagen advised he lives on McAlpin and there are many residents that are emailing Schur with support of the McAlpin reduction.

Timeline of any DOTE traffic studies or implementation is unknown. Avondale neighborhood council has not been contacted to obtain their feedback or position on potential Vine Street speed limit changes.

Sizemore asked the Committee to work on the issue and develop it further for discussion in April.

Trustee Marsh asked Kip and Cathy to please help muster residents' opinions on this matter to allow CTM to vote on a future motion with residents' interests in mind.

Lloyd Engelbrecht brought up the crosswalk signal at Ludlow and Rue de la Paix being too short a time to cross safely. Mr. Engelbrecht had raised this issue during a 2014 CTM meeting. Marsh reported on the past events from 2014 and that a resident who is a professional traffic engineer had agreed to look into the matter. Marsh provided contact information to Trustee Schur earlier this year. We have been unable to reach this resident by email, but we will use alternative means.

Website / Social Media Committee

Chairperson Eric Urbas reported that the website was migrated over to a new server and the result was significant increase in speed. Urbas has tested the speeds on the old server and the new server. Site loads in 2 seconds which is much faster.

Marsh reported that the email listserv would move over to MailChimp during the month. 3 emails will be sent: first will announce the change, and then there will be 2 simultaneous emails - 1 from each system (old and MailChimp)

Business Committee

Chairperson Morgan Rich reported on three issues the Committee worked on:

1. Facades

Short term – easy to mitigate such as blinking signs are forbidden and percent visibility through windows.

Mid/long term – address continuity and compliance of larger signs. No process for this, yet.

2. Impending library vacancy

Did some brainstorming using information from the Ludlow 21 Working Group survey results. Bakery, Burger place, Deli. Will talk to some possible tenants to see if any could be interested.

3. How should CTM interact with the Ludlow 21 Working Group

No consensus at this time.

M. Rich advised that a full presentation of the Ludlow 21 Working Group survey will be made at a future monthly meeting.

Deer Management Committee

Chairperson Ben Pantoja reported that the CTM resolution was presented to the City Park Board on Feb 19. They approved of the sterilization proposal and sent it on to ODNR for approval. Trustee Hyland indicated ODNR told him that they would get to the matter during April.

Pantoja advised the Committee would remain dormant until new action was required.

Chronicle

Chairperson Ashley Fritz advised the print version is forthcoming in mail. For the Summer edition: April 17 advertising deadline & April 24 editorial deadline.

Treasurers Report

Treasurer Michael Moran reported on February results. \$2.69 income. Expenses \$1091. Net expense of \$1088.31.

CTM has total assets/reserves of \$69,607.89 with one liability of Plaza LLC expenses of \$1,410.47. Moran presented the details of 5 months of Plaza LLC expenses for review but no action.

Marsh advised that the Plaza LLC bylaws required expenses over \$500 to have unanimous consent of all Plaza LLC members. Marsh asked if such consent was being provided. Prior and current CTM representatives of the Plaza LLC did not know. Sizemore agreed to setup a Plaza LLC Committee meeting.

CTM's application for funds were approved by NSP.

Sizemore moved to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion passed.

Housing and Zoning Committee

Chairperson Hyland advised the Gaslight Gardens development has a March 16 appeal hearing. Developer has met with the neighbors. Neighbors are still upset about the parking even after the developer has improved parking by removing the bicycle parking area. Buffer fence is still being discussed. Trustee Knapp asked how many parking spaces to meet the zoning code. Hyland advised approximately 20 spaces more would be needed.

Hyland reported on Clifton Boundaries. The City Planning Department has asked neighborhoods to review existing draft boundary maps. March 20 is the City's deadline for feedback. Clifton has some "overlap" boundaries with Avondale (Vine Street Cemetery) and Corryville (Burnet Woods) and CUF (Good Sam Hospital area). Hyland showed some older maps from various years as well as the current draft map. Audience member asked if both sides of Ruther Avenue are in Clifton? Same questions could come up for residents of Bishop Street. No answers were possible at this time.

Trustee M. Rich suggested if residents on a street such as Ruther or Bishop want to be part of Clifton that CTM support their request.

Trustee Moran suggested we continue to indicate Burnet Woods be part of Clifton even if other neighborhoods claim Burnet Woods.

Cathy from Ruther advised she would gather signatures from residents in support of being part of Clifton.

Hyland advised he would ask for more feedback from other Trustees and present a motion for an email vote prior to the City's March 20 deadline.

Trustee Updates / Announcements

March 23, Monday, 6-8 pm – City of Cincinnati Open Budgeting at Clifton Rec Center. See Clifton Community website for details. An RSVP is requested so that the discussion groups can be planned out.

April 12, 4pm – Probasco Fountain Restoration Dedication. More details to follow.

March 7 - Neighborhood Summit.

Public Q&A

Daniel Ames asked if the January CTM minutes had been posted to the website. Trustee Marsh advised they were posted today and that the February minutes would be posted in early March.

Trustee Hyland asked that we invite ODOT to come to a future meeting to explain their process for construction along I-75 that will be cutting into Mount Storm hillside. Hyland is concerned about how the hill will be kept stable.

Adjournment/next meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

The next CTM meeting is at 7 p.m., Monday, April 6, 2015, at the Clifton Recreation Center.