



**CTM Meeting Minutes  
November 7, 2016  
Clifton Recreation Center**

Present: Adam Balz, Kevin Marsh, Michael Moran, Ben Pantoja, Eric Urbas, Adam Hyland, Shaun McCance, Joyce Rich, Peter Block, Malcolm Montgomery, Rama Kasturi

Absent: Nicholas Hollan, Erin Hinson, Cindy Oakenfull, Ashley Fritz

A quorum is present. Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

**Police Report**

Neighborhood Liaison Officer Nick Hageman shared STARS report information.

Crime down 12% YTD vs last year. Please be more wary of your surroundings now that sundown comes earlier. Please keep an eye on your neighbors. Theft from auto is down overall.

Officer Hageman spent time in Burnet Woods today and asked homeless people he met to please give CPD a break in this area of the City. He also advised the CPD is spending time to coordinate with local agencies and churches to ensure peaceful responses to the trial of Ray Tensing.

Need at least three, but preferably four people, to restart Citizens on Patrol. Currently Clifton has zero.

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

**Fire Report**

Lt. Ramsteder from Engine 34 reported that his company had 133 runs, but no major structure fires in the Clifton area during the past month. 435 Narcan runs in the entire City during September, but Engine 34 did only 4. October numbers not available at this date.

Please remember that if you are leaving your house for the holidays to please secure areas near hot water heaters, furnaces, and fire places. Keep nothing combustible around these. You should always have a fire detector on every floor.

Captain Ken Caldwell can be reached at 513.352.2334; email is [ken.caldwell@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:ken.caldwell@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 that teen socials are being organized again for Nov – Jan. These are theme oriented events such as roller skating, skiing, etc. There are some donations available to cover memberships for teens, if needed. There is also a new Teen Commission forming that allows for leadership training.

Online Rec Center Calendar is at

<http://cincyrec.org/search/basicprogram.aspx?k=Clifton%2BRecreation%2BCenter#results>

**CCAC**

No CCAC report was provided. Online CCAC calendar of events is at

<http://www.cliftonculturalarts.org/events/coming-events/>

And their schedule of classes is at <http://www.cliftonculturalarts.org/classes/all-classes/>

**CBPA**

No report was provided.

**Minutes of the October CTM meeting were approved as written.**

**Treasurer’s Report**

Treasurer Shaun McCance presented the report. Monthly activity: Revenue: \$2484.25, Expenses: \$376.87. Net income: \$2107.38. Total assets \$87,614.72. Details of assets:

**Clifton Town Meeting**

**BALANCE SHEET**

As of November 1, 2016

	TOTAL
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
Cash on Hand	254.00
Cert of Deposit 33	13,969.28
Cert of Deposit 91	38,009.87
Checking	27,365.03
PayPal Bank	7,617.61
Prepaid Postage	398.93
<b>Total Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$87,614.72</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$87,614.72</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$87,614.72</b>

McCance reviewed Committee budgets remaining to spend in consideration of the decision that 2015 spending that carried into 2016 did not count towards the 2016 budget amount. This only impacted the Chronicle, Plaza LLC and Holidays on Ludow expenses.

McCance projects full year spending at \$54,572 and full year revenue at \$54,602 for an estimated net income of \$60. We were budgeted to lose \$5000 this year.

Motion to accept to the Treasurer's report passed.

### **Executive Committee**

President Eric Urbas advised on the Neighborhood Support Funds (NSF). He requested that the community submit ideas, and the entire community who attend the December meeting will vote on where to spend the funds.

One email vote on a motion was approved to increase the charitable contribution to the Parks Foundation up \$378.63 to a total of \$9,000. The Cincinnati Parks Foundation will send us a donor agreement which will define the terms of our gift including such details as the funds usage in Burnet Woods for the purchase of a new sign at the Brookline Entrance on Jefferson. Construction would be anticipated in the spring of 2017.

Urbas requested all Committee Chairs advise input to him for the 2017 budget preparation.

The 2015 tax filing will be made on time in November.

### **Nominating Committee**

Chairperson Ben Pantoja advised that all bios were provided ontime by the 7 candidates for the 5 positions for election. Voting will be from 6-7pm on Dec 5. Pantoja advised that due to the possibility of a tie, we need to have a rule on how to deal with this situation. Pantoja provided a written process describing how to resolve ties and moved that the Board approve:

#### **Standing Rule for December 5, 2016 Trustee Elections**

Inform people as they vote from 6-7pm, that, in the event of a tie, there will be a tie-breaker vote during the regular meeting at approximately 7:45pm. Count the votes and announce result by approximately 7:30pm.

If there is a tie, read aloud, in random order, the bios of those who have tied. The bios are much shorter this year (200 words maximum), so this should not take too long.

Re-vote using the normal method of verifying ID's versus membership list and filling out ballot. This shouldn't take too long because there will be far fewer people.

In the extremely unlikely case that there are further ties, use coin tosses to finish.

### **Discussion**

Rich - We are disenfranchising the populous who voted between 6-7pm if they are not here.

Marsh – We can hold the vote for NSP projects later during the Dec meeting, and this will hopefully cause more people to attend the meeting and therefore be present for a tie breaking vote.

Pantoja – We need to elect the officers in January, and if we don't elect all the Trustees in December, he did not see how it was possible to elect officers.

Motion passed.

Pantoja advised he was not going to be able to attend the December meeting, but the Nominating Committee would run the elections in his absence. Trustee Moran, a Nominating Committee member, advised he would not be able to attend the December meeting.

### **Councilmember Amy Murray Q&A**

Councilmember Amy Murray came to the meeting to share what is happening at City Council and answer questions. She is not on the voting ballot this year.

She passed out a list of “frequently called numbers” for residents use.

She referred everyone to sign up for the “Fix It Cincy” app on their smartphone to report various issues that the City should address including, but not limited to, potholes, graffiti, corner cans overflowing,

The City is working on a new app to show the status of roads that have been plowed after a snowfall.

Murray advised she is the Chairperson of the Major Transportation & Regional Cooperation Committee is working on addressing the Western Hills Viaduct. She has been working with County Commissioner Todd Portune to create a plan. She is also working on Metro buses. Bus headways used to be every 20 minutes, but in many cases they run only once an hour. She wants people to be able to get from home to work more easily.

The streetcar was part of the Major Transportation Committee. She did not vote for the streetcar, but as Chair of the Committee she did spend a lot of focus on ensuring the project stayed on track timing and budget wise. There are 5 total streetcars. Streetcars can be chartered for a 4 hour event. In December, there will be a Santa Streetcar. The City is always looking for more people to collaborate with on streetcar ideas.

Murray said she appreciated everyone attending the community council as the input from community council is valued by City Council as part of their decision making process.

She advised that MSD related topics are out of scope of her committee.

Questions to the Councilmember:

Who has the major responsibility for the planning and execution of the Western Hills Viaduct project? It is city property, but the county maintains it. Collaboration will be required to achieve success.

Is the City going to reprogram the timing of the traffic lights to ensure the streetcar can meet its timing deadlines between stops? A study will be done of the downtown traffic including the streetcar. However, TransDev is accountable to meet the agreed upon headways with the current setup.

Clifton Hills Avenue resident asked about the action that Murray's Committee was taking Nov 8 on the CTM Resolution in support of removing the traffic control device on Clifton Hills Avenue. President Urbas advised CTM would provide an update on that topic later during the agenda of tonight's meeting.

Urbas thanked Councilmember Murray for attending.

### **Business District Committee**

Chairperson Peter Block deferred to Trustee Rich who made a motion:

WHEREAS the original application for NBDIP and Uptown Consortium grants was for planning improvements in the business district, and that use is no longer permitted, CTM hereby changes the purpose to facade improvement in the business district, that the funds may be usefully employed to make the area more attractive and financially successful.

Discussion: What does "façade Improvement" mean? Signage, cornice work, windows, doors, painting, and anything else that is on the outside of the building.

Is this the same program that was previously attempted? Yes, this is the same program. 50% of the project must come from the business or building owner. Money is reimbursed. 3 bids are required for each project.

Rich advised there are 14 businesses, 1 building owner, and 1 resident that have expressed written interest in the program.

Pantoja advised that both CBPA and CTM need to approve this motion. There was a very good turnout at the CBPA indicating interest and support. CPBA voted to approve the change to a façade improvement program.

What is the scope of the "business district"? Howell, Ormond, Ludlow, Clifton Av, Teleford, Jefferson, but not Vine/Woolper area.

Marsh read the names of the businesses / building owners that have indicated written interest in façade improvements so that everyone would know and so that residents would ask these businesses what their plans were in an effort to keep them motivated to do the improvements:

1. Building owner, Dennis Turner who owns "Lydia's on Ludlow" building
2. Lydia's on Ludlow
3. Ace Hardware
4. Live at the Ludlow Garage
5. Toku Baru

6. Maya
7. Paolo's
8. Cincinnati EyeCare Team
9. Harvest
10. Favorite Vapors
11. Pangaea
12. Brown's Tour & Travel
13. Howell Ave. Pet Hospital
14. Ludlow Wines
15. Individual, Kip Eagen for a mural on the back of the firehouse
16. World Peace Yoga

Marsh asked if the Committee was still pursuing a method for how to select winners if the requests for the grant exceeded the total funds available. Given the large interest in the program this time, Marsh believed it was likely there would not be enough funds to cover all 15 businesses. Block advised that the Committee believed a good solution was to let to the requestors vote on the winners.

Marsh moved to amend the motion to note that if the total requests for the grant exceeded the available funds that the requestors would vote to decide which requests would be chosen to receive funds. Motion to amend was not seconded.

Rich advised that \$20k of the \$72k will disappear if the façade improvement path was not chosen. This \$20k was a grant from Uptown Consortium. She also shared that Ross Patton is taking a new job, but he will support this change process with CTM at the NBDU.

Motion passed.

Resident question– what is being done about a comprehensive business plan? Trustee Montgomery advised that on Nov 21 will be a meeting to discuss this topic with some professionals from UC who are planners.

### **Events Committee**

**Lantern walk** Trustee Balz reported that 300-350 people attended. Fairview-Clifton German Language School Art Teacher planned a Lantern Making Event / Pasta Dinner on Friday beforehand. About 100 people attended that event for which CTM bought the art supplies.

Trustees Fritz, Oakenfull, Moran all helped to produce the event. CRC donated popcorn and the popper and this was a success. The event made some money by selling drinks leftover from CliftonFest and popcorn. Balz wrote a procedure for how to do this event next year.

**Holidays on Ludlow** Trustee Rich reported the event will be on Friday, Dec 2 from 6-9pm. Carriage rides are locked in. Cincinnati Bethel Church singers and a barber shop quartet will perform. Additional activity planning is happening. Santa will be at the former library location and there will be a pop-up shop organized by Ludlow 21 LLC there as well.

Trustee Balz advised holiday decorations will be put up on Saturday, Nov 19, 9:30am on Ludlow Avenue. Need pruners and/or step ladders.

### **LLC Committee**

Chairperson Eric Urbas advised no change in the tax liability issue for 2011 and 2012 for the Clifton Community LLC (owner of the Plaza property).

### **Transportation Committee**

Trustee Marsh reported that the Oct 18 Open House event for gathering community input on the Clifton Bicycling Infrastructure Plan was well attended. People came up with a large quantity of ideas and interacted with the two maps. The Committee will summarize the feedback in the coming weeks in order to prepare a rough draft of a plan. This plan will be presented to the Trustees for review and to the community in preparation for another community input session in late winter / early spring 2017. Intentions are to then take this feedback and create a final draft plan for review and approval by the Trustees.

The Committee met with City DOTE Director Michael Moore on Oct 27 in Clifton. Discussion topics included pedestrian safety at various key intersections: Ludlow Ave at Brookline, Ludlow Av at Morrison, Ludlow Av at Clifton Hills Av where children attending DePaul Cristo Rey High School cross, and Clifton Av at Lafayette. DOTE is already studying the Clifton Av area at Lafayette based on a recent City Council motion.

The Clifton Hills Av traffic barrier device was also discussed. Moore had received the CTM Resolution, and he noted that it had been referred to the Major Transportation & Regional Cooperation Committee by Councilmember Flynn. Moore did not know what action the Council Committee would take.

### **Parks Committee**

Chairperson Rama Kasturi reported that Cleanup Cincinnati went with her on Oct 8 to clean up Burnet Woods. Resident Lisa Slack will do a Honeysuckle Hit Squad event on Nov 12. Participants should bring manual saws, pruners, but no chainsaws. There will be two more events after this one. Slack advised she was going to take the necessary class to allow the squad to use chemical treatment on cut honeysuckle in the future. Current the chemical treatment can only be applied by a Parks Dept. employee.

### **Membership Committee**

Chairperson Kevin Marsh presented an update on membership for 2016. The drive has been running since spring of this year. Two "articles" have appeared in the *Clifton Chronicle*, several articles have appeared in the emailed Clifton News, individual emails have been sent to members, and postings have been made on NextDoor and Facebook.

As agreed with the Nominating Committee, Membership will have a table at the elections night to allow people to make their memberships current prior to voting. This will be an improvement over prior years where the Nominating Committee had to do both tasks.

A focused postal mailing will go out soon for people that have not responded to other means as well as for the few people that have never provided CTM with a contact email.

Discussion:

To whom are letters sent? Everyone who has not replied to all the emails, website postings, and Clifton Chronicle articles.

Can CTM offer 2 year memberships? This idea can be considered. It is similar to how vehicle registration renewals are done. The Committee will review how to implement.

How many members do we have? At this point, we have about 170 members paid current for 2016. This lower than recent times (around 35-400) and the all-time high period of 820 in 2007).

### **Proposal for new art festival**

Kip Eagen made a proposal for a new art festival, "Quiet on the Set". This is an attempt to bring back a unique arts festival to Clifton. StreetScapes was such a festival. This is a rough draft of the overall concept and is open to input and feedback.

The proposal is a unique concept for a film festival. Instead of going to a theater to watch films on a screen, at this festival you go to stage sets throughout the community to watch films being made by community organizations, independent groups, families and individuals. This festival is a combination of Live Theater...Film Production and community interaction.

Imagine three temporary film sets...professionally lit and set up throughout the community, local film makers, community groups, families and individuals will have the opportunity to sign up for both rehearsal time and "quite on the set" time to film their cinematic masterpieces. Over a two day weekend the community / audience will be able to see the raw "footage" as it is created. There could be a contest where all the filmmakers could submit their final works and there could be a screening at the Esquire Theatre

Possible Funding:

Grant from ArtsWave...neighborhood arts and festival grant

UpTown Consortium

Individuals and Merchants

Other Community Organizations such as Banks

This is a family event for all ages. There would be nothing for sale during the event – no food trucks, no beer, etc. Perhaps there would be music happening in alleys near the filming. The idea was tested with some local filmmaking groups in the area, and it was very well received.

Grant deadline is Dec 2. Kip asked for CTM to be a fiscal agent to receive the grant and asked for \$500 to be committed tonight with a total of \$1000.

Urbas made a motion to support this project as follows:

"For the purpose of allowing an application to be made by the December 2nd deadline for Arts Wave Grant, CTM agrees to act as the Presenter for a new festival called "Quiet on the Set". CTM further agrees to act as the fiscal entity to allow donations, grants, and other funds to be collected and made available for the event. Although no funding will be committed at this time, CTM further agrees to consider a funding amount for the event at a future date."

#### Discussion

When would it happen? Late spring / early summer.

When would commitment of other funding be needed? ArtsWave asks for committed / proposed funding sources in the grant application.

Is there an indoor option? Kip advised he is thinking about Masonic Lodge, Under Clifton Market, CCAC,

McCance – we should fund this, but discuss it as part of the 2017 Budget setting process that is voted on in January.

Several Trustees shared they viewed this project favorably.

Moran moved to amend the motion to commit \$500 from CTM towards the project to the resolution. Motion to amend passed with no discussion.

For the purpose of allowing an application to be made by the December 2nd deadline for Arts Wave Grant, CTM agrees to act as the Presenter for a new festival called "Quiet on the Set". CTM further agrees to act as the fiscal entity to allow donations, grants, and other funds to be collected and made available for the event. \$500 is committed at this time, and CTM further agrees to consider an additional funding amount for the event at a future date.

Amended motion as noted above passed.

#### **Trustee Updates / Announcements**

Urbas – thanked Ben Pantoja for his service of 6 years to CTM including roles as President, Vice President, and many Chairperson roles.

Pantoja – feels good that we are struggling to try and do good things for the community.

Marsh – continuing the appreciation for his service, Marsh thanked Pantoja for getting Trustees started on the Google Drive so that we could have a good place to store important documents, procedures, etc. This preserves the institutional memory of the organization and helps new Trustees learn quicker.

Rich – Next CBPA meeting is Nov 21. The CBPA has received a proposal for a mixed used development from Gaslight Property that includes the business district parking lot. The meeting will be at US Bank at 3pm, and it is open to anyone who wants to attend. CPBA owns the lot.

Montgomery – the lighting installation on the Plaza is an ongoing. Thanked Ace Hardware of Clifton for their help and donations.

McCance – we need to vote on the Plaza bill from the Clifton Community LLC as it takes us significantly over budget. He will propose an email vote during November.

McCance advised that he feels we have too much money in savings and we need to spend some of our excess assets. He proposed purchasing 100 shares of Clifton Market at \$200 each that would remain on our books for some time, and then be resold back to the Clifton Market. He stated this would be helpful support in the Market’s first year of operation.

**Public Q&A**

Aftab Pureval made a speech appealing to residents for their vote for his candidacy as Hamilton County Clerk of Courts.

Kip Eagen advised that by the end of next week two new utility box art installations would be completed. Brookline – “Where is Waldo? Pez Dispenser” and Berkshire – “Birdcage.”

**Adjournment/next meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

The next CTM meeting is at 7 p.m., Monday, Dec 5, 2016, at the Clifton Recreation Center.

Respectfully submitted by Kevin Marsh, CTM Secretary.