

CTM

CLIFTON TOWN MEETING



February 6, 2017, 7pm, Clifton Recreation Center

Trustees Present: Adam Balz, Peter Block, Christine Celsor, Ashley Fritz, Brad Hawse, Rama Kasturi, Seth Maney, Kevin Marsh, Shaun McCance, Malcolm Montgomery, Michael Moran, Cindy Oakenfull, Joyce Rich, Eric Urbas.

Trustees Absent: Nicholas Hollan

Regular Reports:

Police: Officer Hageman reported that crime has increased a small amount. There is no definite information on a permanent District 5 location. He believes the Central Parkway location that has been discussed would be a good fit. Rama Kasturi mentioned there have been drug deals on her street and wanted to know what police are doing about this. Officer Hageman said they are actively working on this issue and they are diligent about following up on reported drug sales.

Fire: Gary Wright announced that Chief Braun is retiring. The Fire Department will no longer provide smoke detectors, but you can call them and they will help to properly install them in your house. The number to call is 357-7585. 25 fires this month, 126 medical runs, and 30 alarms. Administered Narcan to reported heroin overdoses have been slowing down.

Library: No Report.

Recreation Center: Tom Reece says they are about half full for summer camp. He will distribute a statement of inclusion at the recreation center. Reminded everyone that they rent out space on the weekends, and that the rental costs are very affordable.

CCAC: They have an exhibition of 1920s clothing on Friday, February 10, from 6-8pm. Zac Morgan will be performing Sunday, February 12. The Macy's Art Sampler will be the following Saturday, February 18. For a full list of CCAC classes and events please see <http://www.cliftonculturalarts.org>

CBPA: The 2017 Executive Committee Team for CBPA: President Lydia Stec, Vice President Adam Hyland, Treasurer Jack Brand, and Secretary Anna Ferguson.

Mayor John Cranley with City Updates and Questions: City Council voted for Cincinnati becoming a Sanctuary City. The Mayor is focusing on the increasing jobs and reducing poverty. Cincinnati is hiring more than 100 additional police officers. The Mayor, with the support of City Council, are working towards having a judge to work specifically with Housing Court. The goal of this is to hold bad landlords accountable for negligent behavior regarding their property. Currently, landlords do not have serious consequences for negligent behavior. If there is a judge specifically for housing cases, they will be more awareness of repeat offenders. The Mayor would like to have this operational next year.

Questions for the Mayor: Joyce Rich asked if there is anything citizens can do to expedite the appointment of a judge for Housing Court? Mayor Cranley said interested

residents should call and email commissioners and the Hamilton County Common Pleas Judges to encourage them to support this cause.

Shaun McCance asked what recourse there will be to affect change? The Mayor said he would like to see landlords charged with criminal negligence. He would also like to shift the law department resources to focus on cleaning up problem properties (litter, disrepair), and holding landlords accountable for their properties.

Malcolm Montgomery expressed concern that judges are influenced by donations, and how to keep property owners from influencing judges because they have the money for influence. Mayor Cranley said he thinks this is not a problem because the judges would be held accountable on these particular issues if they are being responsible.

Joyce Rich asked if Burnett Woods will be getting any improvements this year? The Mayor said he does not think so.

Daniel Ames asked if any entity that calls itself a sanctuary city could be responsible for and charged for crimes committed by those who sought sanctuary? Mayor Cranley explained that he and the majority of the council believe they are behaving in a way to help people from violence and oppression. He is proud to stand with immigrants and refugees.

Statement of Inclusion: Clifton is a neighborhood that prides itself on being friendly, welcoming, and diverse. We welcome all people to Clifton, regardless of race, ethnicity, nation of origin, age, religion, disability, gender, gender identity, or sexual orientation. CTM stands firmly against all acts of hate, intimidation, and discrimination. We are stronger together.

Motion passes.

Kevin Marsh suggests we send it to various organizations in Clifton. Vote passes.

Approval of Minutes: Kevin Marsh had corrections to the minutes. The minutes will be amended. Motion to approve amended minutes carries.

Clifton Market Report: Adam Hyland reported Clifton Market opened on January 22 and there were lines to the back of the store with people buying groceries. He thanked everyone for their support, including Market Manager Keith Brock. March 15 will mark the third year since they started selling shares. An audience member said thank you and to keep up the good work. State Representative Brigid Kelly offered congratulations and presented Adam Hyland with a commendation.

Clifton Market Loan Update: We approved to spend up to \$3000 on legal council. Frost, Brown and Todd were signed as the legal group to determine if Clifton Town Meeting can legally loan Clifton Market money.

CCAC Building Update: Leslie Mooney reported there is a meeting at CRC Tuesday, February 7 at 7pm, with CPS and the Neighborhood School Committee. CCAC has been working with the CTM Education Committee, CUF, Spring Grove and Fairview-Clifton German Language School. They are all in agreement that CCAC should stay in its building. They have some locations to share with the CPS Board where a neighborhood school could be located. Leslie would like this to be reaffirmed at the meeting tomorrow night. The CCAC have not looked at other location options, but it would be a slim to zero chance they could find another suitable location in Clifton. She would like to here Clifton's questions or concerns, and encouraged everyone to attend Tuesday's meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Cash assets are just under \$80,000. Motion to accept the treasurer's report passes.

Education Committee: Kevin Marsh reported the Education Committee has had multiple meetings with CPS in the past months. Superintendent Mary Ronan will reserve some classrooms for a neighborhood school at the Vine Street School to serve Clifton, CUF and Spring Grove Village. Board member Bill Myles will be assigned to help this process. The Education Committee wanted more than preschool available to neighborhood families at the Vine Street School. Following their February 1 meeting with Bill Myles, the education committee announced the Vine Street School will have a

kindergarten class starting in 2017-18. Kevin Marsh said it's time for the Education Committee and CPS to build a communication plan. The Board of Education will hold a fact finding meeting, February 7, at 7pm at the Clifton Recreation Center. Kevin Marsh is grateful that this meeting is finally going to happen. A next step will be curriculum for the neighborhood school. Bill Myles would like to have all interested parties involved. CPS has visited building locations. Kevin Marsh believes there will be enrollment at Vine to start then possibly transition to a permanent location elsewhere. Malcolm Montgomery reiterated that he supports the neighborhood school and the CCAC staying in its current location. Eric Urbas says we have a rare opportunity to get both things, and to work together.

Business Committee Report: Joyce Rich is working on the Facade Improvement Program. They are looking for an architect to help with feasibility issues. Applications for NBDP grants are due March 3. Email any ideas to Joyce. Christine Celsor asked what kinds of projects the NBDP grants would support. Joyce said last year CTM got approved for plaques and facade improvement. Eric Urbas suggested new plaza lights as an idea for an improvement project.

The Merchant Lot purchase is proceeding ahead to build a garage with rental housing units. There is some concern over not having enough public parking during and after the construction.

Public Safety: Kevin Marsh discussed the relocation of the District 5 Police Headquarters. A site on Central Parkway is being considered for the District 5 relocation. Kevin Marsh will update the Board in March.

Golf Outing: John Whedon, Eric Urbas, and Joyce Rich met on January 22 to discuss the annual CTM golf outing. They would like to have the project supported by the proceeds from the golf outing chosen by March. The golf outing will be held on August 26 with tee time at 2pm at Avon Fields Golf Course. The recipient of the Friend of Clifton award needs to be chosen by CTM trustees.

The current list of possible projects:

1. Fairview-Clifton German Language School. They would like to add a turf field behind the carriage house for soccer and other field sports. John Whedon has worked on the golf outing for the past 4 years and has reviewed the projects of the past. He would like a beneficiary that can have an impact on the neighborhood. He has children at Fairview and thinks this would benefit Fairview kids and the surrounding Clifton community. The Athletic Boosters at Fairview have some money to donate to this project. Tom Reece says they should all meet with FCGLS's LSMDC also, and discuss the future of the carriage house.
2. Mt. Storm Park improvement.
3. Burnett Woods improvement.
4. Clifton Community Fund.

At the meeting Rama Kasturi asked that the SPCA (Society For Prevention Of Cruelty To Animals) to be considered.

Derek Bauman: Signed up to speak at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Bauman is running for City Council and wanted to say he's here to learn more about the Clifton community. He lives in OTR and is very interested in public transportation. He spent 25 years as a police officer, then worked for the city of Mason as patrol officer. Mr. Bauman is for economic development, and attracting and retaining families in the city. He supports Amtrak expansion in Cincinnati. He also supports inclusion and diversity, and treatment for addicts rather than arrest.

Motion passed to engage with pro bono attorney regarding CTM bylaws.

Trustee Updates: Rama Kasturi reported that Clean Up Cincy is interested in organizing a clean up event at Burnett Woods on February 25.. Shaun McCance has taken all pertinent materials to the accountant. A few small mobile communication towers will be installed in Clifton. The issue will be investigated by CTM's housing and zoning committee.

Adam Balz will be the Clifton House Tour lead. He would like all CTM trustees to volunteer. He reached out to CPBA about the flower pots on Ludlow Avenue. Adam Balz would like to relocate the pots along Ludlow and to get all businesses to sponsor the pots. Remaining flower pots without business sponsors will go back to sponsor stickers with citizens support. Adam Balz would like offers for community service days to coordinate a cleanup on the Plaza. Business details of the plaza also need to be arranged.

Community Q&A: A community member said trees on Ludlow have been taken down and would like new trees to be planted in there place. Seth Maney said he will check on this.

Daniel Ames gave the history vignette. He said CTM was formed when Cincinnati wanted to make Clifton Avenue a four lane road. This group was formed in opposition to the city, but that things can happen even with good relations. Keep on the job CTM.

Move to adjourned 8:41pm accepted.

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