



**CTM Meeting Minutes
April 2, 2018
Clifton Recreation Center**

Present: Adam Balz, Kevin Marsh, Buddy Goose, Adam Hawse, Eric Urbas, Seth Maney, Pat Borders, Ashley Fritz, Joyce Rich, Christine Celsor, Peter Block, Malcolm Montgomery, Rama Kasturi, Vince Metzger

Absent: Gina Marsh

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

Police Report

Neighborhood Liaison Officer Hageman advised that Clifton has had an 88% reduction year over year on major crimes. Auto thefts continue to be an issue. 5 in Clifton were stolen in the morning likely while people were trying to warm them up. Property crimes are up 3% year over year due to auto theft.

Capt. Doug Wiseman has taken over as Commander of District 5. Patrol officers have relocated to the temporary location in College Hill.

Neighborhood Liaison 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

Lieutenant Gary Wright, Engine Co 34, reported they had 8 runs, but no major structure fires in the Clifton area during the past month. 7 Narcan runs occurred.

Please test your smoke detectors on a monthly basis. Spring is a great time to clean out your attic, basements, and garage.

Captain James Kettler from Engine 34 passed away in late March while off duty. Visitation will be held on April 3 at Spring Grove Funeral home from 5-8pm. Funeral on April 4, 10am, at St. Monica's Church in Northside. No public memorial plaque is planned at this time.

Captain Ron Wilson will take over as leader of Engine Co 34. He can be reached at 513.352.2334; or visit the fire station on Ludlow Avenue.

Library Report

Clifton Branch Manager Lisa Hamrick reported she is attending an opioid symposium in Columbus this month in an effort to continue learning about how to make the Library safe and responsive to opioid.

My Librarian appointments are available for a variety of services including such things as personal technology & workforce development. One hour per appointment.

April technology topic is Pinterest.

Information about the Clifton Branch can be found online at <http://www.cincinnati.org/branches/clifton.html>

Recreation Center

Service Area Manager Tom Reese reported that Summer Camp is now full. Please call the Center to seek out alternative arrangements. The Center has support for Teens with nothing to do.

Question: How is the 2019 operating budget looking? Preliminary information is that 6 pools may close and 2 centers may close. No known issues at Clifton.

Online Rec Center Calendar is at

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

CBPA

Pat Borders reported that the Summer Music Series begins in late May; every Fri & Sat.

Question: How is The Whole Bowl allowed to operate given the Urban Overlay District?

Short answer, they are several businesses that do not comply with some aspect of the Urban Overlay District. Some also appear to not comply, but they actually do.

The CTM Business District Committee is taking a look at this issue in more detail.

Question: Is Housing and Zoning Committee looking at this also?

Yes, they will.

CCAC

CCAC Executive Director Leslie Mooney reported that this month's Second Sunday. Bila Latin Youth Dancers. Free for kids. Final exhibition in current location will open May 4th. Opening reception will include a Q&A session regarding the relocation plans.

CCAC is departing the current building on August 31, and they will be using temporary spaces in Clifton while they continue to work on the plan for the permanent location. They will be seeking volunteers to help them with packing and moving activities.

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/>

Household Composting

Trustee Rama Kasturi introduced Michelle Balz, resident of Clifton, who has written a book on Household Composting. The book is in its 3rd printing, and is available at Joseph Beth Booksellers, the Public Library, and also online. Michelle was unexpectedly unable to attend the meeting tonight. Kasturi urged everyone to learn about composting and to read the book by Michelle.

Howell Avenue Development Project

President Christine Celsor introduced a representative of Gaslight Property who provided some background on what has happened up to now on this project. The first community input session was held in November 2017. Gaslight Property hired an architectural firm about 30 days ago. The primary architect is a Clifton resident.

Current planning schedule indicates the project would come online in 2020.

The architecture firm is working on initial renderings for the development that do take into account the initial community feedback. Next community input gathering meeting is scheduled for April 30 at 6:30pm at the Clifton Rec Center.

How high can you build now with no zoning changes? 50 feet on Howell with no setback. 35 feet limit on Ormond with setbacks; however, current homes are non-compliant.

Housing & Zoning Committee

Chairperson Christine Celsor introduced Trustee Brad Hawse to advise the update on the DePaul Cristo Rey High School Zoning Variance Hearing. Hawse said the Zoning Variance Hearing resulted in approval of the project with the following conditions that CTM had voted on:

1. Traffic increase on Clifton Hills – once project is completed, they believe over 90% of the traffic will happen via the Central Parkway
2. New semi-circle driveway on Clifton Hills – will be used during construction for pick up / drop off for intern students. Resubmitted plans show that it will be eliminated after construction.
3. Removal of trees – 3 or 4 major trees will be removed and replaced with new trees.
4. Secondary egress on Clifton Hills – required for safety. Will have limited use – about 30 minutes in the morning for some large vehicles that cannot turn around easily otherwise. Will also use it to empty the parking lot after large special events.
5. Hillside overlay zone concerns – Messer Construction will inspect current state of homeowners properties to ensure that there will be no impact from upcoming constructions. They have submitted geotechnical engineering plans.

Celsor advised that the Committee was just starting to review the development at Gaslight Bar & Grill which is being considered for the former Library location at the corner of Ludlow and Ormond. As it is in the Urban Overlay District, additional review is required by the City.

Storefront windows are proposed to be folding, according style, inward swinging. They will be dark bronze, anodized aluminum. The windows will have a look similar to what is present at Adriaticos restaurant. Rooftop dining will be accessed via an interior stair tower on the back of the building. 49 seats requested and 37 seats are the maximum allowed by building code.

What is the timing? They would like to move forward to allow an early Summer opening as opposed to a late Summer / early Fall opening.

What might the apartment renters think about having an open top restaurant next to them? Unknown at this time.

Celsor indicated that we are unclear about any deadline. Gaslight Property notified CTM last Friday that they made an application with the City. Celsor stated that the Committee would continue to review the plan in conjunction with the Business District Committee.

Treasurers Report

Treasurer Buddy Goose reported on monthly results. \$5,769 income including restricted funds for CANS PTO of \$688. Expenses \$4.73. Net income of \$5,704.27.

CTM has total assets/reserves of \$78,478 with no outstanding liabilities.

Goose shared our Sales and Use Tax Exemption Certificate and asked all Trustees to always use it when making purchases so that we don't pay Sales Tax unnecessarily.

NSP Contract was approved by the City. Goose wants to move our NSP selection vote earlier in the year from now on to allow.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's report passed.

Education Committee

Chairperson Vince Metzger reported that the Clifton Area Neighborhood School will remain at its temporary location through end of 2019 school year, and move into the permanent location on Clifton Avenue in the Fall of 2019. Enrollment is continuing. 20 enrolled in PreK with 5 additional in progress. Kindergarten is at 12 and 1st grade is 10, with additional enrollments in progress. Last year, boundaries were not well enforced by CPS. This year CPS will enforce boundaries. There are about 100 Kindergarten aged children within the current boundaries.

There was a charrette held by UC DAAP on March 2-4 and they will represent the results of their work on April 14, 10am-12pm, "Nature Play Showcase" at the CCAC. This presentation is free and family friendly.

2018 House Tour Update

Trustee Adam Balz noted that ad sales are now over \$10,000 which is more than the previous 3 House Tours and congratulated Buddy Goose for his leadership on this activity. There is only one bus company who can provide services so Balz will engage with them tomorrow to secure this key element of the tour.

Posters, tickets, and save the date cards are going to the printer.

Balz asked that all Trustees please attend all upcoming planning meetings.

Business Committee

Chairperson Joyce Rich shared a letter with Trustees for CTM's support of the NBDIP submission of a design/plan process for a Clifton gateway. Rich moved that CTM approve the letter.

Body of the letter: "Clifton Town Meeting is fully aware of and in support of the Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program application for a Clifton Gateway Design Plan. Clifton Town Meetings commitment to this project consists of 50 hours of volunteer time."

Discussion: who will be providing the volunteer time? Rich stated it would be mostly her.

Motion passes.

Bylaws Committee

Chairperson Malcolm Montgomery said the Committee has been meeting but due to demands of the House Tour he believes that a bylaws vote by the membership during June as originally intended will not be possible.

Committee will shift focus to Standing Rules since the deadline for a bylaws vote this Spring cannot be met.

Trustee Updates / Announcements

Goose - Memorial Day Parade is coming 2 weeks after House Tour. Goose is leading the event planning, and he is pursuing the permits now.

Fritz - Clifton Chronicle deadlines are advertising April 17, Editorial content April 24. Print will arrive approx. May 20. House Tour volunteers are now being sought.

Kasturi - Sat April 7, there will be an invasive species removal event in Burnet Woods being led by UC.

Montgomery - spoke with the insurance underwriter about coverage for liability from installation of plaza lighting and is pursuing getting more details on this. Both building owners are supportive.

Block - introduced Sean Mullaney, Chairperson of the CTM Arts & Culture Committee. Committee is evaluating art murals, and they are also working with CliftonFest to provide support. Block noted there are 3 possible mural spaces: Arlin's, 2 walls on Clifton Market, and J. Gumbo's.

Balz - cleaned up the planting beds at Ritchie's, and discovered it is being overcome with an invasive grasses. He will gather Committee members.

Marsh - Invest In Neighborhoods is holding its quarterly meeting on April 25th. They have announced they are rolling out the aggregated insurance option for community councils this month. This option will save CTM money on liability insurance. They are also discussing

the schedule for the City's 2019 Community Budget Requests (formerly known as Priority Budget Requests). Kasturi asked how much money would be saved. Urbas replied that it was about 50% savings and Goose advised we spend about \$2000 per year.

Kasturi – There is Farm to Table event this Friday at the Lloyd Library.

Golf Outing Committee

Chairperson Eric Urbas advised that the Committee has reviewed options, and now recommends that Clifton Community Fund (CCF) be the beneficiary for 2018 in support of application of further artwork on various remaining utility boxes.

Urbas made the following motion:

“The Clifton Community Fund is selected as the partner-beneficiary for the 2018 CTM Golf Outing. The proceeds will be used for the further application of artwork to utility boxes within the neighborhood. It is anticipated the Clifton Town Meeting will act as the fiscal agent for the project funds. Event proceeds will be allocated as follows:

1. First \$8000 in proceeds distributed 5/8 to the beneficiary, 3/8 to CTM
2. All proceeds over \$8000 go to the beneficiary”

Discussion: Block does not find the utility box art terribly inspiring but he does like them. He would prefer the creation of a mural fund. Urbas advised that in discussions with CCF they were interested in potentially spending the monies on other artwork. Goose moved to amend the motion to “The proceeds will be used for the further application of public artwork within the neighborhood.”

Motion to amend passes.
Amended motion passes.

The March meeting minutes were approved as submitted.

Clifton Market Update

President Gary Crawford was unable to attend due to family emergency. Rama Kasturi is the Director of Communications for Clifton Market and made some remarks on Crawford's behalf. Owners were notified that Clifton Market turned a profit in February. Store reset has occurred that included moving bulk food to a more accessible location and updating of the sushi bar. Financial information: weekly sales are averaging \$127,000 and target is \$150,000. Last Board meeting was public. April 16 is next Board meeting, but Kasturi is not sure if that one will be public.

Annual shareholders meeting will be held on June 23rd at the Esquire Theatre. This will include election of directors. Kasturi asked community members to please set up and serve on the Board. You can self-nominate with 25 members or await a soon to be defined process on nominations. April 9 is the deadline for nominations.

How much profit was made in February? It was approx. \$7500.

Cincinnati Zoo Levy

Dan Marsh of the Cincinnati Zoo requested that all residents consider voting to support the upcoming tax levy for the Cincinnati Zoo. This is a renewal levy so it will not raise your property taxes. This will be Issue 2 on the May 8 election ballot. This is an operating levy not for capital projects. Zoo Blooms runs through April.

Public Q&A

Fasching is April 7, 1-5pm. Come visit at Fairview-Clifton German Language School.

Adjournment/next meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

The next CTM meeting is at 7 p.m., Monday, May 7, 2018, at the Clifton Recreation Center.

Respectfully submitted by Kevin Marsh, CTM Secretary.