

CTM

CLIFTON TOWN MEETING



July 14, 2014, 7pm
CCAC

Present: Linda Ash, Adam Balz, Ashley Fritz, Buddy Goose, Adam Hyland, Kevin Marsh, Ben Pantoja, Eric Urbas

Absent: Bruce Bernard, Tom Dwyer, Pat Knapp, Michael Moran, Joyce Rich, Morgan Rich, Tony Sizemore

Firehouse Update

Fire Captain Kettler reported that there were no major incidents. They are currently working on student housing safety issues. A child drowned at a CRC pool. Free CPR kits are available, and can be requested at the firehouse. Many firehouse improvements have been made. Some of these include painting the door red, planting flowers in flower boxes, and landscaping. The sidewalk outside the firehouse was designed to match with the fountain across the street, and is now visible.

CRC Update

A 10 year old drowned at a CRC pool in Walnut Hills. There was overcrowding and the water was too high and cloudy. It was not during a CRC summer camp. Children must have a parent or guardian present now. Renovation of the CRC building is about 90% complete. In a few months staff will move in, then get ready to open in a few months. McKie Rec Center has 75 kids in the camp this summer. All the kids go to I Can Swim program two times a week. Before and after school programs are within one or two spots of capacity. Before and after school programs will be held at Fairview until the CRC reopens. There are art classes at the CCAC, and more classes will start up soon.

Clifton Hills Update

A diagram showed the traffic problem on Clifton Hills. Commuters cut through to get to Ludlow. The Cincinnati Department of Transportation has been working with the residents to look at solutions to the traffic. One possible solution for traffic would have barriers in place so cars can't turn onto Clifton hills. A connector on Central parkway would also cut traffic. Dr. Owens, President of Cincinnati State, asked Mayor Cranley to delay the closing the ramps from I-74 so it would be easier

for students to get to Cincinnati State. CTM and the neighbors of Clifton Hills are trying to get other groups involved on this issue to make more of an impact. It was revealed that ODOT changed their schedule to meet the needs of the city and Cincinnati State without consulting residents of the neighborhood.

Bike Share Program

Jason Barron, Executive Director, from the CincyBike Share program let CTM know that to make it into Phase 1 of the project we have to pick a location. There will be 35 bike share stations around the city. Installation of stations will begin in August, and should be up and running in October. With this bicycle program you can use apps to see where bicycles are available, make an online profile, and they have them in other cities in the US. The bicycles are heavy duty, with bike lights powered by the wheels. They have GPS chips, paperless rentals, and are made in USA. They are working on ways to make helmets available.

The original spot chosen for the bike share was on Clifton Avenue next to the Fire Station. Captain Kettler would not like it by the firehouse because there is a blind corner and heavy traffic.

Kevin asked to vote on a resolution to recommend that the bike share location be placed on Howell Avenue at the Business District Parking lot. This location needs to be discussed further with CPBA since they own this property. The resolution passed.

Business District Update

Kathleen Norris sent her final report on improving the Ludlow Business District. Trustees received the report by email. There will be a meeting tomorrow, July 15th, with the other groups involved with the project to discuss the report. Ben Pantoja shared a summary of Trustee input on items in the contract that were not included in the final report. The following are items that were not included: 1). an analysis of the building spaces in an editable file, 2). a summary of the focus group, 3) a list of property owners who were contacted, and a copy of the recommendations given to them, 4). a copy of the leasing plan, 5). a copy of communications with property owners, and 6). a summary of what was achieved with the businesses that she worked with. Ben Pantoja will present all these issues at the meeting tomorrow.

MLK Project Plan

A letter was shared to show CTM's support of the concepts in the MLK/Reading Rd. Corridor Study that were previously presented.

Changes in Zoning

The city is trying to streamline their zoning. Adam Hyland has been reviewing the zoning changes that will be taking place.

Utility Box Project

Kip Eagen shared Phase 2 plans for the Utility Box Project. It is completely funded. They painted six utility boxes last year, and they will be painting seven this time. He shared project locations and the concepts for the art.

Golf Outing Update

The golf outing will take place August 16, 2pm at Avon Fields. The price is \$80 per golfer. Django and Keystone Grill will be there. Dinner is included. All sponsors are filled and there will be prizes. We have publicized the event on Facebook, NextDoor, and the website.

Motion to approve May and June minutes

Approved

Memorial Day Parade Update

The Memorial Day Parade & Cookout was very successful. Thanks was given to CBPA for providing \$500, and to Scott Crawford for the use of CliftonFest tents, ice, and storage. Brian from Ace Hardware provided a pickup truck for the Boy Scouts. CTM made two times what they expected from food and drink sales.

Resolution of Bicycle Infrastructure

Kevin Marsh made a motion to approve a resolution supporting bicycling infrastructure in Clifton:

Resolution

Clifton Town Meeting desires to make Clifton into a premiere bicycling community within greater Cincinnati in order to improve the vibrancy, safety and overall health of visitors and residents. To do so requires continued investment in on-street infrastructure such as the Central Parkway protected bikeway, bike lanes, sharrows, and bicycle related signage. These features add tremendous value for local businesses and help make our communities more livable and attractive to active individuals and families. Our neighborhood supports the initiative to promote more on-street bicycle infrastructure that connects Clifton to other neighborhoods in Cincinnati. Residents of Clifton use bicycles on established roadways in order to commute to work, school, and shop. We need and endorse the full usage of roads for cyclists for a full and productive lifestyle, not just recreational riding on off-road trails.

Implementation

CTM Executive Committee will email the resolution as part of a cover letter to the Mayor, all members of City Council, and the Interim City Manager by July 31, 2014.

Motion passed unanimously.

Membership Drive Update

Kevin Marsh reported that the membership drive is ongoing. There are currently 104 active paying members. There have been four new lifetime members this year. \$201 in donations have been made via the online membership section of the website. By the end of the month, those who have not renewed will get a membership form in the mail. Website renewals are not as high as hoped despite publicizing this method on NextDoor, the website, and Facebook.

Website

Kevin Marsh reported that free Google analytics are now running on our website. More people are going to CTM's website. Later this year, a more detailed report will be made regarding analytics on the website.

Clifton Chronicle Update

Vicki Black addressed CTM about changing her contract. She explained that she would be willing to take on additional duties related to the Clifton Chronicle for an increase of \$300 per quarterly issue. CTM trustees will discuss this at a later time.

Community Q&A

Audience wanted to know how CTM's donation to CliftonFest was spent last year. CTM trustees do not know, but Kevin Marsh said we know what CTM's money will be spent on for CliftonFest this year.

Compliments were given to CTM for the flowers on Ludlow.

The meeting adjourned at 9pm.