



CTM Minutes - Group: CTM Board Meeting

By Barry Gee, Secretary

Date: August 8, 7:00 pm

Location: Hybrid Meeting – In-person at Clifton Recreation Center

Board Members Present (14): In Person: Gerald Checco, Jan Checco, Barry Gee, Mary Pat Lienhart, Logan Sand, Nestor Melnyk, Nick Gregg, Rachel Wells, Jayme Ritter, Mansee Chauhan, Justin Ogilby, Tim Noonan

Virtual Attendance: Mike Roller, Genet Singh

Absent (1): John Whedon

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

(U) below will represent a unanimous vote.

Public Attendance (45): In-Person: Lt. Dave Owens (plus 3 additional firefighters), Michelle Murphy, Micah Ovadia, Tom Lienhart, Kip Eagan, Collin Fitzpatrick, Lauren Worley, FD Harper, Jim Goetz, Harry Budke, Vice Mayor Kearney, Councilmember Jeffreys, Alex Stanton, Emily Custer, Marilyn Schwiers, Evelyn Schott, Peggy Moses, Dave Taylor, Claudia Taylor, Florencia Garayoa, Leslie Mooney, Mike Anagnostou, Paolo Salamone, John Carnevale, Jeff Wilson, Kevin Maurer, Julie Shelton, Maddie Shelton, Sam Shelton, James Christy, Vanessa Thomas, Cynthia Duvall

Virtual Attendance: Sophia Melnyk, RuthAnn Bumiller, Margaret Reich, Karen Mitchell, Angel Cobb, Allison Sears, Eric Urbas, Cassandra Clement, Ben Pantoja, one unknown

Welcome to our meeting – Contact the CTM email at contactctm@cliftoncommunity.org

Treasurer’s Report – Tim Noonan.

July posted as part of July meeting minutes. Received \$10K from Strader grant. Received \$1500 toward Safe Clifton Fund.

Police Report – Officer Shawn Dent, Cincinnati Police Dept. (CPD)

Officer Dent was unable to attend this meeting.

Speakers related to safety issues:

Mike Anagnostou – Clifton Business Association, Ludlow Wines

He said there has recently been an increase in very violent behavior and aggressive panhandling. On 7/3 he was watering plants and Duane Taylor approached to say he was upset at having his photo taken. Mike said he took the photo since Mr. Taylor was panhandling an elderly resident that uses a walker. Mr. Taylor swung at him and threatened to take him down. An off-duty officer in the area ordered Mr. Taylor to leave. He said that Mr. Taylor is not homeless.

He said that merchants know which panhandlers are dangerous and that it is unfair to characterize the business owners as being mean to panhandlers.

Paolo Salamone – Paolo a Modern Jeweler

He said that over the last few years the alleys near Dewey’s have been getting dangerous. He said a shirtless man tried to force his way into his business and then ran into J. Gumbos. In this incident police were able to arrest the individual. Paolo also stated that Diggs Plaza is a real problem area and that every day he must clean up needles and beer cans. He has clients of his business to their cars. He asked the community for help in solving the issues he is facing.

John Carnevale – The Upside Brew

Stated that the problems with panhandling are a legitimate concern and that he never expected the level of trouble seen now. He said that previously he used a friendlier approach but now realizes that was the wrong approach. He has had to physically fight a guy in the alley and now has zero tolerance and has seen things improve with this approach. He also stated that he knows that we have to help people in need who often don't know where to get help and that it is a small group that causes most issues.

Florencia Garayoa – Sitwells Act II

She stated that in the past she has had issues with harassment by panhandlers and has had issues at her outside tables. She said that she has driven people to shelters in the past. She is concerned that people are congregating at the bus stop and drinking beer in that area.

Leslie Mooney – Clifton Cultural Arts Center (CCAC)

She stated that in the last year she and others feel unsafe to let their kids walk to Skyline. Her twelve-year-old saw someone touching themselves. From the CCAC perspective they want to keep doors open so folks can easily come in, but she is now less willing to do that. She may have to go to a buzzer/security situation. She is concerned for the safety of the reception area employees.

Dave Taylor – Gaslight Properties/Ludlow Garage

He said that Duane Taylor, who was bothering customers at the Ludlow Garage attacked him. He said that the police did nothing about this incident. Another individual has broken in twice. In cases such as these the individuals often have their cases dismissed. He also said that an individual walked into one of the apartments he manages and masturbated.

Genet Singh – Clifton Market

She stated that she has seen an increase in aggressive panhandling, to the point that it is out of control. She said people will stop coming to the business district if they are fearful and that we cannot afford to have folks intimidating customers. She said that Duane Taylor punched Gurmukh Singh in the neck and that we cannot continue to operate like this.

Kevin Maurer – Arlins Bar & Restaurant

He stated that he has worked here for twenty years and has not seen this level of crime incidents in the area. He said the situation is untenable and he worries that he will not be able to attract and keep staff. He said that it is a small group causing the problems and that they are adversely impacting businesses.

Jeff Wilson – Clifton Business District Social Media Coordinator

He said he had shown footage of Duane Taylor attacking Mr. Singh and other Auntie Apple incidents. He recommends not giving money to panhandlers and suggested that we need language for signage to support not giving money to panhandlers.

Cynthia Duvall – Preserve Burnet Woods

Stated that Diggs Plaza provides a center for our community. She said that these are cyclical problems that increase every July/August. She said that we need to determine how we activate the plaza to increase usage and suggested events such as wine tastings. She stated that there should be better programming and that the plaza should not be the scapegoat.

Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Kearney

She said that Gerald Checco organized a 7/18 meeting with community councils to discuss safety issues. She is following up on the concerns expressed during that meeting.

She said that the CPD force is one hundred officers from the projected target level and is trying to hire recruits. She said that she would ask District 5 to increase patrols in the area.

She has inquired about CTM's questioning if there should be a charge for a patrol car for the additional police details CTM is requesting. She will update CTM on this issue once she gets a definitive answer from the city.

There was discussion about updating the aggressive panhandling ordinance to address the problems we are seeing in Clifton. She said that "aggressive" needs more definition and her office is working on updates to the ordinance and the Law Dept. is discussing potential updates. She will report back.

John Carnevale asked a question about prosecutions for the people arrested in our area. She said that her office will check with the Law Dept on the status of area prosecutions and report back.

Audience members also expressed concern about trouble at the Hookah Bar and around the Shell station. She stated that she will address with District 5 and said she would ask Capt. Caton to attend a future CTM meeting.

Councilmember Mark Jeffreys

Has lived in Clifton on Evanswood Place for twenty years.

Concerning panhandling he said that he went to Auntie Apples recently and found the entrance blocked by a panhandler. He also said his wife will not go to the Shell station. He stated that he is not a fan of the crowdfunding of city services such as paying for additional police details. He stated that he will follow up with CPD on enforcement.

He agreed with the idea of activating Diggs Plaza to encourage increased use.

Fire Report – Lt. Dave Owens, Cincinnati Fire Dept. (CFD)

Lt. Dave Owens stated that Engine 34 firehouse had 268 runs, up 36% from the month before and 23% from the previous year.

Electrical Safety is the CFD focus for this month with attention paid to circuit breakers, panels, fuses, GFCI outlets and the use of appropriate lightbulbs.

CFD is accepting applicants for employment until 8/31. Applicants can find information on how to apply on the CFD website.

Clifton Recreation Center Report — Collin Fitzpatrick

There is the Back to School Bash scheduled for August 12th. CANS, Fairview, and Romero Academy are participating. There will be food, a DJ, and a bouncy house.

Clifton Area Neighborhood School (CANS)

No report this month

Clifton Library / Clifton Welcome & Connect — Jeanne Strauss-De Groot

No report this month

Motions/Letters for Approval

Motion 1 - creation of an Ad Hoc committee to discuss safety improvements around Diggs Plaza.

CTM had applied for a Strader grant of \$25K, received \$10K for this effort. The committee will create a menu of options and will have representation from all stakeholders. The committee will then present the menu of options to the Cincinnati Park Board.

Rachel Wells proposed, Jan Checco 2nd (U)

Motion 2 - Mural at Middleton/McAlpin Budget Request for \$400

Kip Eagan said that the original idea was to do this at Middleton and Warren. They are now proposing the mural be at Middleton and McAlpin. This will be the first crosswalk mural with hopes of more in the future. These murals will aid in traffic calming.

Michelle Murphy, member of CTM Transportation Committee stated that she likes the idea but opposes this location because it is part of Marcus Square, named for Jacob Rader Marcus, a renowned reform rabbi associated with Hebrew Union College and the mural would not be appropriate there.

Justin Ogilby proposed motion, Nick Gregg 2 Motioned passed with all voting members voting yes and with four board members abstaining (Rachel Wells, Jan Checco, Genet Singh and Jayme Ritter).

Letters:

Motion 3 – Change request to Municipal Code for panhandling near an entrance to a facility.

Motion 4 – Letter requesting elimination of patrol car fee from police details.

Motion 5 – Letter to Queen City Metro to evaluate issues at bus stop on Clifton Ave. south of Ludlow.

Motion 6 – Letter to Cincinnati Park Board concerning safety in Burnet Woods.

Motion 7 – Letter to faith community asking for help with working with homeless.

Overarching motion to approve all letters proposed by Gerald Checco, Barry Gee 2nd (U)

Nominating Committee Updates

There are six people interested in running for the five available board slots: FD Harper, Nick Gregg, Leah Kottyan, Josh Lea, Genet Singh, and Gene Smiley. Bios are in Fall Chronicle.

CTM Bylaws

Nick Gregg stated that the Governance Committee will send the potential bylaw changes to the full CTM board soon. Once approved the committee will send the proposed changes to all CTM members.

Clifton House Tour

Leslie Mooney stated that a group wanting to conduct a Clifton House Tour reached out to CCAC to potentially serve as fiscal agent for the tour. Proceeds from the house tour could potentially fund a future arts and culture festival.

CTM Candidate Night

Gerald discussed having a candidate night in October during the CTM board meeting.

Motion to hold candidate night in October proposed by Gerald Checco, Nestor Melnyk 2nd (U)

Retirement of Veronica (USPS)

Michelle Murphy said that our long-time postal clerk, Veronica is retiring effective 8/28. She does not want a formal celebration. Gerald Checco, Jeff Wilson, and Mark Jeffreys will collaborate on a possible Mayoral Proclamation for her.

Committee Roll Call – Cancelled due to time constraints.

Public Safety – Tim Noonan

Arts & Culture – Mike Roller

Caretaking – Jayme Ritter

Chronicle - Jan Checco

Communications – Rachel Wells

Events – Barry Gee

Governance - Mary Pat Lienhart

Housing & Zoning – Nestor Melnyk/Jayne Ritter

Membership/Nominating – Gerald Checco

Parks - Mary Pat Lienhart / Mansee Chauhan

Transportation – Justin Ogilby

Liaison Roll Call – Cancelled due to time constraints.

Uptown Consortium – Gerald Checco

Invest in Neighborhoods – Gerald Checco

Tri-Health / UCHealth – Justin Ogilby

Clifton Community Fund – Tim Noonan

Clifton Business Association – Jan Checco

Neighborhoods of Uptown – Rachel Wells

Community Questions/Concerns:

Next CTM Board Meeting 9/11.

Motion to adjourn at 7:12 submitted by Jan Checco, Second Mary Pat Lienhart (U)

Respectfully submitted,
Barry Gee, Secretary

Attachments: [CTM File location](#)

August 2023 CTM Agenda

Treasurer's Report – Income Statement

Treasurer's Report – Balance Sheet

Treasurer's Report – Bank Activity

Treasurer's Report – Transactions

Letter requesting change to panhandling ordinance.

Letter requesting elimination of patrol car fee for police details.

Letter to Metro requesting that they evaluate issues at bus stop on Clifton Ave.
Letter to Park Board concerning Burnet Woods
Letter to Faith community



Agenda August 7, 2023 – CTM Meeting

Clifton Town Meeting — your community council —

will hold its next monthly Board of Trustees meeting on

Monday, August 7, 2023, at 7:00 pm. The public is welcome to attend.

Start	Time	Topic	Topic Lead
7:00	1	Welcome	President Gerald Checco
7:01	2	Roll Call/ Appr. May meeting minutes	Secretary Barry Gee
7:03	2	Treasurer Report	Treasurer Tim Noonan
7:05	15	Police Report	P.O. Shawn Dent
7:20	10	Fire House Report	
7:25	5	CRC Report	Collin Fitzpatrick
7:30	10	Clifton Library	Jeanne Strauss de Groote
7:40	5	Neighborhood School CANS Report – Back to School	Julia Bonfield
7:45	5	Strader Grant – Creation of Ad Hoc Committee Motion 1	Gerald
7:50	5	Mural at pedestrian crossing Middleton/ McAlpin – Budget request Motion 2	Mike Roller/ Justin Ogilby
7:55	10	Letters to approval <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for Municipal Code Change Motion 3 Request for elimination of car fee for Police Details Motion 4 Request to evaluate bus station on Clifton South of Ludlow Motion 5 Request about recurring encampment at Burnert Woods Motion 6 	President Gerald Checco
8:05	5	Nominating Committee Updates	Gerald/ Barry/ MaryPat
8:10	10	By-Laws review update	MaryPat/ Nick
8:20	5	House Tour as an event to fund a neighborhood festival	
8:25	5	Discussion about “Candidates Night”	President Gerald Checco
8:30	Committees and Liaison Reports		
	20	Committees Roll Call <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public Safety Arts & Culture Caretaking Chronicle Communication Events Governance Housing & Zoning Membership/ Nominating Parks Transportation 	President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tim Noonan Mike Roller Jayme Ritter Jan Brown Checco Rachel Wells Barry Gee Mary Pat Lienhart Nestor Melnyk/ Jayme Ritter Gerald Checco Mary Pat Lienhart/Mansee Chauhan Justin Ogilby
8:50	5	Liaison Roll Call <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uptown Consortium Invest In Neighborhoods TriHealth/ UC Health Clifton Community Fund 	President <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gerald Gerald Checco Justin Ogilby Tim Noonan

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clifton Business Association • Neighborhoods of Uptown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan Checco/ Genet Singh • Rachel Wells
8:55	10	Community Questions/Concerns	President
9:05	5	Thanks- Giving	
9:10		Adjournment – Next meeting 8/7/23	President

MOTIONS

#	Sponsor	
1	President	To create a ad-hoc committee regarding safety improvements at Digg's Plaza
2	Ogilby/Roller	To approve a \$400 donation for the creation of a mural on pedestrian crossing on Middleton, just north of McAlpin
Letters		
3	President	Change request to Municipal Code for panhandling near an entrance of a Facility
4	President	Eliminate car fees from Police Details cost
5	President	Evaluate bus station on Clifton South of Ludlow
6	President	Safety in Burnet Woods

Language to be added to Mailchimp:

Several CTM members have reported receiving unsolicited emails they believe came from someone using our email list. We do not make our list available for such purposes. If you receive marketing emails from a person or organization you haven't previously interacted with and believe it is someone using the CTM email list, please forward them to us at contactctm@cliftoncommunity.org.

Clifton Community Council
Clifton Town Meeting (Consolidated)
Income Statement
From Jan 2023 to Aug 2023

Financial Row	Amount
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
11510 - Donation	\$114.00
11520 - Interest - General Account	\$173.14
12530 - CTM Member Payment	\$1,164.00
14510 - Non-NSP Grant Income	\$10,000.00
14520 - NSP Grant	\$9,872.00
14540 - Safe Clifton Fund	\$2,850.00
15571 - Memorial Day Income	\$2,248.09
16510 - Grant from CCF	\$7,443.31
21510 - Advertising	\$16,779.00
31510 - Art Sales	\$2,376.30
31540 - Interest - Art	\$171.67
Total - Income	\$53,191.51
Gross Profit	\$53,191.51
Expense	
11110 - Administrative - General	\$1,646.00
11140 - Committee Support	\$387.50
11180 - PayPal Fees Other	\$50.43
14110 - Non-NSP Grant Exp.	(\$868.00)
14120 - NSP Grant Expense	\$8,572.00
15570 - Memorial Day Expense	\$200.00
16110 - CCF Project	\$6,675.19
21120 - Design	\$2,000.00
21130 - Mailing	\$2,483.93
21140 - Printing	\$5,214.77
31110 - Payment to Artists	\$2,794.08
31115 - Fees Square	\$32.00
Total - Expense	\$29,187.90
Net Ordinary Income	\$24,003.61
Net Income	\$24,003.61

**Clifton Community Council
Clifton Town Meeting (Consolidated)**

**Balance Sheet
End of Aug 2023**

Financial Row	Amount
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank	
1000 - Cash	
1010 - Superior - Gen	\$49,263.63
1011 - Superior - Chronicle	\$28,051.67
1012 - Superior - Art	\$9,776.65
1013 - Certificate of Deposit 4/29	\$40,978.60
1014 - Bank Membership	\$5.01
Total - 1000 - Cash	\$128,075.56
Total Bank	\$128,075.56
Other Current Asset	
3300 - Chronicle Prepaid Mailing USPS	\$2,516.57
Total Other Current Asset	\$2,516.57
Total Current Assets	\$130,592.13
Total ASSETS	\$130,592.13
Liabilities & Equity	
Equity	
3200 - Opening Balance	\$121,735.04
Retained Earnings	(\$15,146.52)
Net Income	\$24,003.61
Total Equity	\$130,592.13
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$130,592.13

August EOM

Bank - Gen		\$ 53,708.01
Book - Gen		\$ 49,510.01
CK 1209	Ohio WC	\$ (120.00)
CK 1227	Margaret Reich	\$ (221.00)
CK 1228	Verdin	\$ (2,485.00)
CK 1229	CBA	\$ (1,372.00)
<i>Out of Balance</i>		\$ -

Bank - Chronicle		\$ 28,051.67
Book - Chronicle		\$ 27,805.29
ECK	Covap	\$ (246.38)
<i>Out of Balance</i>		\$ -

Bank - Art		\$ 10,427.56
Book - Art		\$ 9,754.86
CK 1661		\$ (605.50)
CK 1662		\$ (33.60)
CK 1663		\$ (33.60)
<i>Out of Balance</i>		\$ -

Bank - Member		\$ 5.01
Book - Member		\$ 5.01
<i>Out of Balance</i>		\$ -

Bank - CD		\$ 40,978.60
Book - CD		\$ 40,978.60

Out of Balance

\$

-

Clifton Community Council
Clifton Town Meeting (Consolidated)
Transaction Detail
August 1, 2023 - August 31, 2023

Type	Date	Document Number	Name	Memo	Account	C lr	Split	Qty	Amount
Deposit	8/2/2023	DEP94		Strader Fund	Cash : Superior - Gen	F	14510 - Non-NSP Grant Income		\$10,000.00
Deposit	8/2/2023	DEP94		Stader Fund	Non-NSP Grant Income	F	1010 - Cash : Superior - Gen		(\$10,000.00)
Deposit	8/4/2023	DEP96		Chronicle Advertising	Cash : Superior - Chronicle	F	21510 - Advertising		\$422.00
Deposit	8/4/2023	DEP95		Safe Clifton Fund	Cash : Superior - Gen	F	14540 - Safe Clifton Fund		\$1,500.00
Deposit	8/4/2023	DEP95		Safe Clifton Fund	Safe Clifton Fund	F	1010 - Cash : Superior - Gen		(\$1,500.00)
Deposit	8/4/2023	DEP96		Chronicle Advertising	Advertising	F	1011 - Cash : Superior - Chronicle		(\$422.00)
Check	8/10/2023	11	Josephine Angel - Design	Chronicle Design	Cash : Superior - Gen	F	21120 - Design		(\$1,000.00)
Check	8/10/2023	11	Josephine Angel - Design	Chronicle Design	Design	F	1010 - Cash : Superior - Gen		\$1,000.00
Deposit	8/10/2023	DEP97		Chronicle Advertising	Cash : Superior - Chronicle	F	21510 - Advertising		\$112.00
Deposit	8/10/2023	DEP97			Advertising	F	1011 - Cash : Superior - Chronicle		(\$112.00)
Check	8/11/2023	12	MakeMyNewspaper - Printing	Chronicle Printing	Cash : Superior - Chronicle	F	21140 - Printing		(\$2,002.21)
Check	8/11/2023	12	MakeMyNewspaper - Printing	Chronicle Printing	Printing	F	1011 - Cash : Superior - Chronicle		\$2,002.21
Check	8/12/2023	1662	Marsha Shortt	Artist Payment	Cash : Superior - Art	F	31110 - Payment to Artists		(\$33.60)
Check	8/12/2023	1661	Kathleen Piercefeld	Artist Payment	Payment to Artists	F	1012 - Cash : Superior - Art		\$605.50
Check	8/12/2023	1661	Kathleen Piercefeld	Artist Payment	Cash : Superior - Art	F	31110 - Payment to Artists		(\$605.50)
Check	8/12/2023	1662	Marsha Shortt	Artist Payment	Payment to Artists	F	1012 - Cash : Superior - Art		\$33.60
Deposit	8/14/2023	DEP98		OLG Sales	Cash : Superior - Art	F	31510 - Art Sales		\$141.13
Deposit	8/14/2023	DEP98		OLG Sales	Art Sales	F	1012 - Cash : Superior - Art		(\$141.13)
Deposit	8/15/2023	DEP99		Chronicle Advertising	Cash : Superior - Chronicle	F	21510 - Advertising		\$68.00
Deposit	8/15/2023	DEP99		Chronicle Advertising	Advertising	F	1011 - Cash : Superior - Chronicle		(\$68.00)
Deposit	8/16/2023	DEP100		Safe Clifton Fund	Cash : Superior - Gen	F	- Split -		\$97.52
Deposit	8/16/2023	DEP100		Paypal fees	PayPal Fees Other	F	1010 - Cash : Superior - Gen		\$2.48
Deposit	8/16/2023	DEP100		Safe Clifton Fund	Safe Clifton Fund	F	1010 - Cash : Superior - Gen		(\$100.00)
Check	8/19/2023	1663	Marsha Shortt	Artist Payment	Cash : Superior - Art	F	31110 - Payment to Artists		(\$33.60)
Check	8/19/2023	1663	Marsha Shortt	Artist Payment	Payment to Artists	F	1012 - Cash : Superior - Art		\$33.60
Check	8/21/2023	15	United States Postal Service USPS	Chronicle Mailing	Cash : Superior - Chronicle	F	3300 - Chronicle Prepaid Mailing USPS		(\$2,000.00)
Check	8/21/2023	15	United States Postal Service USPS	Chronicle Mailing	Chronicle Prepaid Mailing USPS	F	1011 - Cash : Superior - Chronicle		\$2,000.00
Check	8/30/2023	1228	Verdin Company	CCF Clock Tower Project	Cash : Superior - Gen	F	16110 - CCF Project		(\$2,485.00)
Check	8/30/2023	1229	Clifton Business Association	NSP 2023	NSP Grant Expense	F	1010 - Cash : Superior - Gen		\$1,372.00
Check	8/30/2023	1229	Clifton Business Association	NSP 2023	Cash : Superior - Gen	F	14120 - NSP Grant Expense		(\$1,372.00)
Check	8/30/2023	1227	Margaret Reich	CCF Clock Tower Project	CCF Project	F	1010 - Cash : Superior - Gen		\$221.00
Check	8/30/2023	1227	Margaret Reich	CCF Clock Tower Project	Cash : Superior - Gen	F	16110 - CCF Project		(\$221.00)

Type	Date	Document Number	Name	Memo	Account	Clr	Split	Qty	Amount
Check	8/30/2023	18	COVAP - Mailing Services	Chronicle Mailing	Mailing	F	1010 - Cash : Superior - Gen		\$246.38
Check	8/30/2023	18	COVAP - Mailing Services	Chronicle Mailing211	Cash : Superior - Gen	F	21130 - Mailing		(\$246.38)
Check	8/30/2023	1228	Verdin Company	CCF Clock Tower Project	CCF Project	F	1010 - Cash : Superior - Gen		\$2,485.00
Journal	8/30/2023	JE19		Void Of Check #1201	Cash : Superior - Gen	F	16110 - CCF Project		\$2,706.00
Journal	8/30/2023	JE19			CCF Project	F	1010 - Cash : Superior - Gen		(\$2,706.00)
Journal	8/30/2023	JE18			Chronicle Prepaid Mailing USPS	F	21130 - Mailing		(\$846.24)
Journal	8/30/2023	JE18			Mailing	F	3300 - Chronicle Prepaid Mailing USPS		\$846.24
Deposit	8/31/2023	DEP101		OLG Interest	Cash : Superior - Art	F	31540 - Interest - Art		\$21.79
Deposit	8/31/2023	DEP101			Interest - Art	F	1012 - Cash : Superior - Art		(\$21.79)
Total									\$0.00



Clifton Town Meeting
P.O. Box 20042
Cincinnati, OH 45220

Board of Trustees 2023

Gérald Checco
President

Nestor Melnyk
Vice President 1

Mary Pat Lienhardt
Vice President 2

Tim Noonan
Treasurer

Barry Gee
Secretary

Trustees

Mansee Chauhan
Jan Brown Checco
Nick Gregg
Justin Ogilby
Jayme Ritter
Michael Roller
Logan Sand
Genet Singh
Rachel Wells
John Whedon

August xx, 2023
Sent Electronically:

Re: Solicitation & Panhandling

Dear Members of Cincinnati City Council:

Our great community of Clifton has benefited for many years from a complete, compact, vibrant, eclectic and creative business district as demonstrated by the map attached. Nearly all of the merchants are small owner-operated businesses (not chain stores) fulfilling their "American Dream". Many shopkeepers are not American-born, reflecting the cultural diversity of our neighborhood.

Recuperation from COVID has not been easy, despite continued support of the neighborhood. One difficulty is dealing with the problem of panhandling which is currently regulated by Cincinnati Municipal Code Section 910-12. The Code is simply unworkable, as it leaves a lot to interpretation and time lapse. Even with the help of the five banks of security cameras that we've installed to cooperate with the police, maintaining a safe environment for our businesses has become impossible. The main problem is the interpretation of:

(d) It is unlawful for any person to solicit in an aggressive manner, including any of the following actions:

- 1. Soliciting in a manner that impedes access to or from, or use of a building, vehicle or establishment;*
- 2. Soliciting in a manner that would alarm, intimidate, threaten, menace, harass, or coerce a reasonable person;*

This statement is unworkable. When confronted by a police officer, panhandlers just claim that they are not aggressive and are not impeding. Customers and business owners disagree with the panhandler.

A simple modification to the Code would be to add:

- 3. Soliciting within 10' of the door or access to a Facility.*

Please consider this change to help your hardworking businesses that contribute so much to the quality of life in all of our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Gérald Checco, *President*



Clifton Town

Meeting

P.O. Box 20042

Cincinnati, OH 45220



**Clifton Business
Association**

P.O. Box 20007

Cincinnati, OH 45220

August 7, 2023
Sent Electronically:

Re: Police Details Clifton Business District

Dear Members of Cincinnati City Council:

Clifton Business District has been challenged this year by an increase in illegal activities, some reported, that have strained our community both psychologically and financially. We have created, once again in 2023, a fundraising effort to raise money to hire regular police details to patrol the business district several times per week. Last year these details were very effective in diffusing tense situations and demonstrating to our citizens that we cared about their well-being.

We are thrilled to report that we have raised about \$25,000 toward this effort. As you may know, a police detail costs \$75 per hour - \$50 for the officer and \$25 for a car that is parked in the business district during the shift. The presence of a car is a very good decoy, but its cost doesn't really represent an expense for the City and seems exploitive for the community.

In a spirit of partnership with Cincinnati's community councils that already give so much in volunteering and fundraising for the quality of life in their neighborhoods, we ask you to consider elimination of the car fee (\$25) for all community-funded details and events. The police fleet cannot be paid for on the backs of our dedicated residents, business owners and volunteers.

Sincerely,

Gérald Checco,
*Clifton Town Meeting
President*

Mike Anagnostou
*Clifton Business Association
President*



August 8, 2023
Sent Electronically

Clifton Town Meeting
P.O. Box 20042
Cincinnati, OH 45220

Brandy Jones
Senior Vice President
External Affairs
customerservice@go-metro.com

Board of Trustees 2023

Gérald Checco
President

Subject: Metro Bus Stop Shelter
Clifton Avenue @ Ludlow
Send by email

Nestor Melnyk
Vice President 1

Dear Ms. Jones:

Mary Pat Lienhardt
Vice President 2

The Community of Clifton would like to bring to your attention some difficulties related to the bus shelter located on Clifton Avenue, south of Ludlow and adjacent to the shell gas station/ convenience store.

Tim Noonan
Treasurer

This bus shelter is consistently filthy and occupied for long periods of time by vagrants. It has become a place of congregation for illegal activities that then spill over the business district and endanger the lives of our patrons and residents.

Barry Gee
Secretary

This problem needs to be solved as soon as possible, especially as Metro engages in upgrades, including the BRT, that are aimed at increasing ridership. To that end, we would like to meet with you and evaluate some potential changes.

Trustees

Mansee Chauhan
Jan Brown Checco
Nick Gregg
Justin Ogilby
Jayme Ritter
Michael Roller
Logan Sand
Genet Singh
Rachel Wells
John Whedon

Please contact me at your convenience,

Gérald Checco, *President*



Clifton Town Meeting
P.O. Box 20042
Cincinnati, OH 45220

Board of Trustees 2023

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Rachel Wells
John Whedon

August 8, 2023
Sent Electronically

Jason Barron
Director
Cincinnati Park Board
Jason.Barron@Cincinnati-oh.gov

Subject: recurring encampments in Burnet Woods
Sent by email.

Dear Mr. Barron:

The Community of Clifton would like to bring to your attention some difficulties related to recurring encampments in Burnet Woods.

The community has worked periodically with Parks' staff to remedy the problem, but we would like to have a more proactive approach, instead of the reactive way we approach the problem. We understand that this issue involves not only the Park Board, but also CPD, the hospitals, metro, the businesses on Ludlow, and Clifton residents. We also understand that old ways of solving problems do not work but require creative thinking and use of technology.

This problem creates a real stress on the community and needs to be addressed immediately.

Please contact me at your convenience,


Gérald Checco, *President*



**Clifton Town
Meeting**

P.O. Box 20042
Cincinnati, OH 45220



**Clifton Business
Association**

P.O. Box 20007
Cincinnati, OH 45220

August 8, 2023
Sent Electronically:
Re: Social Issues in Clifton, 2023

Dear Leaders of our Faith community,
We are reaching out to you today for your counsel and help.

As you may have experienced yourselves, Clifton has been challenged the last few months with an increase in petty crimes, some related to unhoused residents, some related to drug additions, and many related to mental illnesses. As a consequence, we have seen an increase in aggressive panhandling, threats of physical harm to merchants and residents, break-ins after hours of commercial and residential properties, breaking of large windows followed by thefts, destruction of public properties, overdoses happening in public spaces, drunkenness and people passed out on benches, induction of panic (followed by intervention of a police SWAT team), a Metro bus shelter populated by individuals not using the bus but instead buying, using and overdosing at this stop, videos of sex traffic at Telford Plaza and in the Habanero parking lot. All these activities, coupled with cautionary news from cities like San Francisco, Seattle and Portland, seem to indicate that the situation will not be improving by itself. In fact, it will become worse.

We are very mindful that the problems to solve are complicated, deep and wide ranging. There is need for affordable housing throughout the city which is also behind for the basic maintenance of its infrastructure. Mental illnesses are insufficiently treated and managed within the USA. We are concerned about the ineffectiveness of drug and addiction policies. All of these issues should be the business of local, state, and national government, and we as community leaders can encourage residents to express their preferences for solutions at the ballot box.

At leaders at the neighborhood level, we have both the opportunity and responsibility to act. Clifton must not be allowed to deteriorate to where problems become insurmountable. Simply put, to document troubles, but do nothing is unacceptable.

We invite you to gather for discussion of these issues. Hosting the conversation at the Clifton Branch Library will be three Clifton civic organizations - Clifton Town Meeting (our community council), Clifton Business Association and Clifton Community Fund.

Please let us know - by filling out the google form in this link - if you would like to participate in this discussion. (link address here) We appreciate your perspective and your insights towards creation of a shared strategy for improvements.

Sincerely,

Gérald Checco,
Clifton Town Meeting
President

Mike Anagnostou
Clifton Business Association
President