



CTM Minutes - Group: CTM Board Meeting

By Barry Gee, Secretary

Date: October 2, 6:30 pm

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

Board Members Present (12): In Person: Gerald Checco, Jan Checco, Barry Gee, Mary Pat Lienhart, Nestor Melnyk, Nick Gregg, Rachel Wells, Jayme Ritter, Justin Ogilby, Tim Noonan, Genet Singh, John Whedon

Virtual Attendance: None

Absent (1): Logan Sand

A quorum is present. Meeting called to order at 6:30pm by Gerald Checco.

(U) below will represent a unanimous vote.

Public Attendance (58): Tom Lienhart, Kevin Flynn, Todd Zinser, Collin Fitzpatrick, Thayne Maynard, FD Harper, Jack Cunningham, Lauren Worley, Leah Kottyan, Ann Ellis, Karen Noonan, Mark McKillip, Shawn Baker, Scott Ellis, Ruth Ann Buhmiller, Carol Donnelly, phone #...81, Toni, Bonnie Speeg, Jeff Wilson, Michelle Schwenkner, Peter Block, Lew Ebstein, unknown, Shawn Dent, Louise Bettman, Jeanne Strauss De Groot, Alex Stanton, Scott Johnson, Erin Delaney, Jeremy Yap, Beth Luken, Stephan Nieschmitz, Jasmine Xi, Marilyn Schwiers, Seth Walsh, Lt Lanter/Dist 4, Four firefighters, Em Humphress, Malcolm Montgomery, Allison Sears, Sophia for Meeka Owens, Kevin Marsh, Tony McDaniel, John Hooton, Jeff Cramerding, Anna Albi, Reggie Harris, Sophia Melnyk, Bob Hyland, Janay Howard, Julia Bonfield, Bryan Cannon, Eugeny MiKheer, Peggy Moses

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

August Meeting Minutes — Gerald Checco submits motion to approve August meeting minutes, Jan Checco seconds (U).

September Meeting Minutes — Gerald Checco submits motion to approve August meeting minutes, Jan Checco seconds (Passes with Rachel Wells, Barry Gee abstaining due to not being in attendance).

Candidates Night

Sale of Railroad: Todd Zinser, representing Citizens for a Transparent Railroad Vote. They wrote letters to Mayor Pureval and the president of the railroad board of trustees to recommend public hearings to get community input. The board said they thought that the Cincinnati Enquirer forum was enough public input. He said there are two ways to slow this proposal down. One option is to vote no and the other is to negotiate. He suggested that the city pull the proposal off the November ballot. The state legislature requires that the voters approve any sale, and the sale is permanent. He said that if we don't like the result of a yes vote, we can't change.

Sale of Rail: Kevin Flynn asks that everyone vote no on the sale of the railroad. He stated that there is a lack of transparency, and that the public didn't find out about this proposed change until after approval by trustees. He stated that 42% of the city's budget is from the railroad rent. He said that the city should insist that we get fair market rent. He believes the city will get more in future rent since it has steadily risen since 1987. He stated that many things proposed as possible fixes with the sale proceeds have not come in the past from the general fund and have other funding sources.

Zoo: Thane Maynard asked for the public's yes vote on Issue 19 (the Cincinnati Zoo levy). Taxpayers are the zoo's biggest supporter. The proceeds from this levy will be used for the zoo's operating budget and not capital improvements. He brought an alligator named Cruncher to the meeting.

Treasurer's Report – Tim Noonan.

Tim said that he will meet October 11th with the treasurer of the Clifton Community Fund that has offered to conduct a review of CTM finances. The goal of the meeting is to come up with reports that will assist with transparency.

Candidates Night cont'd

Library: Jeanne Strauss DeGroot said the library is asking the public to renew the current levy of .5 mill for 100K value. The library has forty locations. Funding currently is 57% from the State of Ohio, 43% from levies. Strategic priorities include maintaining useful resources, conducting classes, providing reliable information, connecting people to subject matter experts, and providing welcoming spaces. The library annually circulates seven million items and has three million visitors.

City Council: Seth Walsh lives in Clifton and was appointed this year when Greg Landsman was elected to Congress. He has worked in College Hill on neighborhood improvements such as affordable housing and promoting business development. He stated that currently most of the discussion is focused on about ten neighborhoods and that we need to have more attention focused on other neighborhoods. He is currently working on a project with Sedamsville.

City Council: Scotty Johnson was elected in 2021 and is the Chairman of the Public Safety and Governance committee. He said we have an amazing city with a collaborative effort with all fifty-two neighborhoods participating.

City Council: Mark Jeffreys is a Clifton resident and was previously on the board of the Clifton Town Meeting. He focuses on making Cincinnati safer, cleaner, and greener. He currently serves on the Public Safety and Governance committee. Pedestrian safety is his big focus and focuses on enforcement, education, and engineering. He said that he is engaged with the Cincinnati Police Department on enforcement. He stated that he is working to get driver education classes restored with Cincinnati Public Schools.

City Council – Meeka Owens was represented by an aide, Sophia, currently a junior at Xavier University. She stated that Owens is focusing on gun violence prevention and worked to have gun violence declared a health emergency. Owens is also working on affordable housing and racial equity.

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

Officer Dent stated that the crime statistics from the previous twenty-eight days looked better. Violent crimes and auto theft are trending downward. He said that he welcomes community group input and citizens should reach out to get problems solved. He recently attended a quality-of-life group meeting that focuses on getting resources to help with the city's unhoused population. Justin Ogilby asked Officer Dent if he received the letter that he sent asking for additional speed enforcement. He stated that he received the letter and that the concern areas are being prioritized. He said that Ludlow recently had speed humps installed and that more are scheduled for Clifton Ave.

Rachel Wells asked about the recent news story about a Ring camera that was installed and pointing at Diggs Plaza. Officer Dent said that to his knowledge that issue was not reported to CPD.

Fire Report – Tyler Morgan, Cincinnati Fire Dept. (CFD)

Runs are up for the month. There were 178 EMS runs and 86 fire/other runs. There are now an average of 310 runs per day. Four years ago, the city was averaging 230 runs per day.

October is fire safety month. The city is having a fire safety event on Sunday, October 8th at Yeatmans Cove.

CFD will be conducting college campus fire inspection throughout the month.

Candidates Night cont'd

City Council: Reggie Harris is the Committee Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee. He is focusing on an affordable housing strategy. He stated that the goal is to make it easier to get affordable housing tax credits. He said that 70% of affordable housing dollars were invested in 11 neighborhoods and that 954 units were completed in the past year. An audience member asked if he supports a tax increase for affordable housing. He answered no.

City Council: Anna Albi is currently on the Madisonville Community Council. She comes from a gun violence prevention background. She stated that the State of Ohio is not doing a good job on gun violence prevention. One example concerns firearms storage when kids are in a house. In Madisonville a three-year-old was killed and they distributed gun locks in the community. She also worked on gun a safety ordinance where domestic abusers can't own a gun. Her father was a police officer, and her mother was a public defender.

Rachel Wells asked how community councils can be more representative. Albi stated that she will work as a communicator and will work with the City Manager's office on community communication improvements.

Sale of Rail: Jeff Cramerding had previously been told that we should never sell the railroad. However, currently he believes that it is the right thing to do. He says that the city can get more upfront by selling then renting out over the long term. He stated that the sale proceeds of 1.6 billion dollars would be lock boxed and only used for infrastructure. John Whedon asked how we can ensure that the money will still be used as it is today. Cramerding responded that any change to that would need to be approved by the state legislature and the voters.

City Council: Jeff Cramerding said that the affordable housing trust fund has more money than ever before showing that the state legislature and the city listened to the public. He stated that we should be proud of our city's police and fire departments and that there has been an 8.5% drop in violent crime.

City Council: Jan-Michele Kearney has lived in Avondale and Clifton and has attended previous CTM meetings. She has met with the CTM Safety Committee and is aware of the recent Burnet Woods issues and the recently established

Peter Block Committee. She said that it is important to attend community council meetings to find out what is happening in the area. She said that she is working for equitable development such as making sure that women and minorities some of jobs from increased infrastructure spending.

Board of Education: Bryan Cannon is originally from Boston. His older siblings were forced to go to South Boston schools and experienced harassment. He stated that he was lucky that he went to a different school and ended up with a quality education. He stated that this is the reason why he is running for the school board. He said that Cincinnati Public Schools recently released a report showing that 30-40% are proficient. He asked what about the 60-70% that aren't? He is the only candidate that holds a superintendent license, and he is currently a teacher. John Whedon asked what are his top two or three ideas. He answered that changing the culture and making all students proud of their schools and hiring the right leaders.

Board of Education: Eve Bolton is a current school board member that has been on the board for sixteen years. She said that she is on the school board because she knows we have critical decisions to make. We are approaching the bicentennial of CPS in three years. She stated that the federal and state governments are cutting back and we will need to adjust to that. She said that we also need to provide more choices for students.

Clifton Recreation Center Report — Collin Fitzpatrick

There is a Halloween Carnival on Oct 21st in partnership with CANS, CCAC and CTM. There will also be Carpool Cinema that night that will show the movie ET. The teen event for this month is on the 27th at Kings Island. He also stated that CRC has seen Increased enrollment at their after-school program.

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

10/14 from 2:00 – 5:00 will be Customer Appreciation Day with live music and games. She stated that in 2019 the library published a facilities master plan with a ten-year roadmap. To date, fourteen major improvements have been completed.

Clifton Chronicle Report

Postponed

Clifton Area Neighborhood School (CANS) Julia Bonfield

Julia is the Resource Coordinator at CANS. The school is now up to the 6th grade with 330 kids. Space issues are still being discussed. The Ohio Department of Education released report cards and CANS meeting or exceeding in every category.

CTM Bylaws

Clarification of bylaws, language consistency B, C, D, E, I, G

Board Representation A, F, K, M

Board Flexibility/Accountability H, L, J, N

Proposed by CTM Member (non-Board Member) O – taken off due to incorrect timing per Mary Pat

Nick Gregg – Let's be civil. Changes were circulated at the last meeting and board voted on to pass to membership to vote on. No changes will be made until voted on.

Malcolm Montgomery stated that he appreciates the work but feels that it consolidates power in a smaller group. He says that the city requires that CTM be the neighborhood's voice and that they can't allow outsiders to serve unless voted on. The change would require 45 people to show up for the meeting to change. He said that CTM should not be using electronic voting and should be in a forum where discussion takes place. He stated that the CTM board has already used electronic votes for the AUD issue. He says that electronic voting erodes transparency. He advised to vote no.

Nick Gregg said that the changes proposed were already sent out to members. He stated that we only meet monthly so sometimes we must act in the interest of

time and electronic voting helps with this process. He said the proposal calls for a maximum of two non-residents of 11 board members (or 15 if it doesn't change).

Mary Pat Lienhart said that since 1961 outsiders could be trustees and in 2021 that changed. She said this was due to the concern of developers coming in.

Genet Singh stated that as a business owner she cares for the community and is willing to give up her time for this. Malcolm responded that if you don't live in the community, you should not be at the level of a trustee. He is afraid of someone coming in without the same concern as the community. He stated that there already is a business association.

Bob Hyland stated that the CTM President should not be on nominating committee and asked if it violates Robert's Rules of Order. He also asked if CTM Trustees involved in private development in the neighborhood should be on the Housing and Zoning Committee. He is concerned that this does not provide for checks and balances. He is encouraging a no vote on the proposed bylaw changes. Rachel Wells proposed motion (Gerald Checco second) (U) to send notification of proposed bylaw changes to entire email list, not just members. Passed (U)

Peter Block Ad Hoc Committee

Lauren Worley stated that the work of the committee is underway, and they have had productive meetings with young people that have brought some great ideas. More to report as work continues.

Committee Roll Call – Cancelled due to time constraints (exception is Housing/Zoning).

Public Safety – Tim Noonan

Arts & Culture – Open

Caretaking – Jayme Ritter

Chronicle - Jan Checco

Communications – Rachel Wells

Events – Barry Gee

Governance - Mary Pat Lienhart

Housing & Zoning – Nestor Melnyk/Jayne Ritter – Alive and Well does have current liquor license and want to get updated license – they were on a temporary license. Nestor proposed a motion in support of their license. Jan Checco seconded. (U)

Membership/Nominating – Gerald Checco

Parks - Mary Pat Lienhart

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 9:13 submitted by Justin Ogilby, Nick Gregg 2nd (U).

Respectfully submitted,
Barry Gee, Secretary

Attachments:
October 2023 CTM Agenda
Treasurer's Report



Agenda October 2, 2023 – CTM Meeting

Clifton Town Meeting — your community council —

will hold its next monthly Board of Trustees meeting on

Monday, October 2, 2023, at 6:30 pm. The public is welcome to attend.

Start	Time	Topic	Topic Lead
6:30		Welcome	President Gerald Checco
		Roll Call	Secretary Gee
Candidates/ Issues Night			Race↓↓
3 minutes per candidate/ issues, plus 2 minutes questions and transition			
6:30		Sale of Rail – Todd Zinser	Issue
6:35		Sale of Rail – David Mann	Issue
6:40		Sale of Rail - Kevin Flynn	Issue
6:45		Zoo - Thane Menard	Issue
6:50		Library – Jeanne Strauss DeGrout	Issue
6:55		Bryan Cannon	Board of Ed.
7:00		Eve Bolton	Board of Ed.
7:05		Jan Michelle Kearney	City Council
7:10		Reggie Harris	City Council
7:15		Jeff Cramerding	City Council
7:20		Seth Walsh	City Council
7:25		Ann Albi	City Council
7:30		Mark Jeffreys	City Council
7:35		Victoria Parks	City Council
7:40	5	Buffer/ Break	
7:45	2	Approval of August, September minutes	Secretary Gee
7:47	3	Treasurer Report/ bi-annual review	Treasurer Noonan
7:50	15	Police Report	P.O. Shawn Dent
8:05	5	Fire House Report	
8:10	5	CRC Report	Collin Fitzpatrick
8:15	5	Clifton Branch Library Report	Jeanne Strauss DeGrout
8:20	5	Chronicle Report	Jan Brown Checco
8:25	5	CANS Report	Julia Bonfield
8:30	30	Bylaws discussion	Mary Pat/ Nick
		Categories	Items
		Clarification of bylaws, language consistency, Board Representation Board Flexibility/ Accountability Proposed by CTM Member (non-Board Member)	B, C, D, E, I, G A, F, K, M H, L, J, N O
Additional agenda items if time allows			
	5	Report AdHoc Unhoused in Burnet Woods Committee	Peter Block
	5	Other Committees update/ reports	All
	5	Community Questions/Concerns	
		Adjournment –	President
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11/6/23 at 6:00 – Elections 11/6/23 at 7:00 - Meeting 	

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

**Balance Sheet
End of Oct 2023**

Financial Row	Amount
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Bank	
1000 - Cash	
1010 - Superior - Gen	\$51,623.28
1011 - Superior - Chronicle	\$27,917.29
1012 - Superior - Art	\$9,977.84
1013 - Certificate of Deposit 4/29	\$41,762.21
1014 - Bank Membership	\$5.01
Total - 1000 - Cash	\$131,285.63
Total Bank	\$131,285.63
Other Current Asset	
3300 - Chronicle Prepaid Mailing USPS	\$2,516.57
Total Other Current Asset	\$2,516.57
Total Current Assets	\$133,802.20
Total ASSETS	\$133,802.20
Liabilities & Equity	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
4001 - NSP City of Cincinnati Grant	\$9,872.00
4003 - Clifton Community Fund Grant	\$19,218.31
4004 - Strader Grant	\$10,000.00
4005 - Safe Clifton Fund CBA	\$3,580.00
Total Accounts Payable	\$42,670.31
Total Current Liabilities	\$42,670.31
Equity	
3200 - Opening Balance	\$106,438.52
Net Income	(\$15,306.63)
Total Equity	\$91,131.89
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$133,802.20

Clifton Community Council
Clifton Town Meeting : Clifton Community Council
Income Statement
Oct 2023

Financial Row	Amount
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
11520 - Interest - General Account	\$395.79
12530 - CTM Member Payment	\$624.00
21510 - Advertising	\$112.00
Total - Income	\$1,131.79
Gross Profit	\$1,131.79
Expense	
11180 - PayPal Fees Other	\$9.74
12110 - Fees PayPal	\$5.85
31110 - Payment to Artists	\$101.50
Total - Expense	\$117.09
Net Ordinary Income	\$1,014.70
Net Income	\$1,014.70

