

Westwood Civic Association

Steering Meeting

March 14, 2012

Present: J. McNulty, J. Minor, I. McNulty, M. Jenkins, B. Weber, J. D'Angelo, J. Henke, T. Minor, J. Hildebrand, Kimmet, V. Baumann, M. Kuhl, M. Gweyn, K. Strasser, S. Lewis, B. Lee

Absent: Sr. Ann Rene McConn (excused), J. Sess

City economic dev Gerald Fortson replacing Markea, formerly of small business management now neighborhood focus, formerly lived on Westwood, still learning the issues and projects, will be on the Bracken Woods project.

M. Kuhl referenced earlier discussion with Tom Klum about rfp requirement for WestCURC like previously required of WCA. Concern about city taking some admin fees out of our TIFF funds. Just want more details. Joel - reps of city can't talk to homeowners, WestCURC able to initiate the contacts. J. McNulty strategic priority to get rid of tear down multi-family vacant buildings. What to do with land that comes vacant, empty? No one is excited about building right now. Push over next few years, small business incubators, jobs on the west side, office complex, light manufacturing, business relationships, and encouragement of new entities.

3454 McHenry

Vote in committee today went the other way. to city council tomorrow. East Westwood's civic association supported it. TIFF funds remain an issue. HUD application expected from North Fairmount Community group..

Can still write them a letter, copy Chabot, Roll Hills, East Westwood some movement to join, EW seemed hesitant

Shirley Herzog

retiring from Fairfield schools after 35 years, send it to WHP

Master plan for the city

J. McNulty, Mention of developments, open house,

CMHA input desired

B. Weber requests no more section 8, request alignment of need, in favor of the law, term limits for CMHA board, working, section 8, enforcement of chronic nuisance, reduce concentration of section 8 housing in Westwood, approved by City Council, I. McNulty commented on the presence of section 8 in single-family, we're specifically

MOTION by B. Weber - letter to CMHA in favor of support for chronic nuisance law, reduce concentration of subsidized multi-family, demolish Cora and Harrison building, 60/40 strategic plan,

SECONDED by I. McNulty

PASSED unanimously.

Good Guy Loitering

B. Lee after taking a year off it's time to get it going throughout Westwood, starting around Opening Day and going through Halloween, roughly. It's to occupy the physical space, vey casually, modeling neighborly behavior.

Effective short-term. Typically 8-11 p.m. Announcements go out through email list, the media, and Facebook page. Brian wants help identifying locations. Coordination with COPP. Work with police. Ask Stephanie & Lt. Bauer to identify streets. Lt. Ba had advised mlt nights at same lcatn.

See notes from Joel about election and officers and in notebook

Committees

Becky distributed committees list and asked for input on assignments and responsibilities like moving gardens under infrastructure. New members invited to submit preferences. Chairs to be chosen after new members take effect. All board members should be on a minimum of 2 committees. Invite members and business community to be involved. Preservation keep as stand alone

Election dinner

April 17

appetizers - up to \$100

MOTION by J. Kimmet allow up to \$100

SECONDED by JH

PASSED unanimously

Dr. Strawn, Westwood United Methodist Church, JM had breakfast with him recently, talked about concerns and opportunities, My Neighbor's Place was discussed, missions and plans discussed. Hopes to have same conversation with other ministers. MNP Westwood only, IDs required, Churches in neighborhood hurting for local membership, avg drive for parishioners is 3 miles. Strategic plan. All good for Westwood. Concern about strengthening the neighborhood. Helping people - how are we doing it through all these services, balance, and impact on neighborhood, continue in dialogue with the churches and within the parish, understand the current status, any negative impact. M. Gweyn recounted a previous incident she was involved in some years ago. N. D'Angelo gave a similar account involving panhandling and is concerned about negative comments about Westwood. B. Weber - we have to work on the perception and the real problems. McNulty - have to watch out for Westwood. Have to convey our perception of impact. M. Kuhl: give Outreach Committee a charge, the task to coordinate job of talking to the churches. Jill we need to ask how they measure success

Harrison Boudinot project

Lt. Bauer working on the business outreach starting point. City on the Hill connection. We identified a number of initiatives to work on. J. McNulty emphasized Westwood to be the hub of the westside. M. Gweyn reported that Westwood was mentioned that at a community building session as a place to watch. I. McNulty commented on Westwood has a lot to offer.

Buildings

N. D'Angelo asked about the process for demolishing buildings and for attracting good development.. J. Kimmet referenced good relationships with buildings and inspections department. J. McNulty reminds us to be attentive to the city's comprehensive plan as well as opportunities for development.

Gardens

Community Priority Request

J. McNulty commented on the Community Priority Request process. Deadline for submission is April 6. Would need to pull from the strategic plan and worst properties. Focus on improvements to neighborhoods, K. Strasser volunteered. V. Baumann is working identifying needs associated with on the low lighting throughout Westwood. More signage at Westwood Town Hall. Gardens and beautification.

Gardens

M. Jenkins reported that all plots are rented, with a short wait list. Short-term plans Kiwanis \$2,500 retaining wall. \$2130.96 quote from Reading Rock. Fence to be built. Arbor gate.

Form-based Codes

WestCURC committed \$10,000 to the charrette - our role as recognized civic organization - WCA should find out sooner. M. Kuhl requests a regular report from WestCURC about its representation of Westwood. J. McNulty said we should be paying attention to Neighborhood Business District funds. We are supportive of the concept and the exploration, interested in learning about it. We should remain interested and informed. Invite a speaker on form-based codes,
[SEND OUT ARTICLES ON THIS]

Student of the Year

K. Strasser by April 1 will have something out. This will be awarded at the May meeting.

Citizens Advisory Board Meeting

At Chief Craig's plan. Becky Weber will be attending a meeting

Westwood School

M. Gweyn has now been contacted twice by DAAP. Can we run with this and talk with them about it. J. Minor will make the contact. We need to get input from Westwood parents of young children. We don't need to drop the discussion with DAAP etc; just do it in tandem with the exploration. This will take time ,

MK Motion to adjourn

JH 2nd

9 pm