

November 19, 2013 Westwood Civic General Meeting
submitted by Karen Strasser, Recording Secretary
President, Joel Kimmet, called the meeting to order.

Present:

J. Kimmet, T. Hodges, J. Minor, T. Minor, V. Baumann, I. McNulty, J. McNulty, K. Strasser, J. Corso, M. Jenkins, M. Kuhl, B. Weber, M. Gweyn, M. Conda, L. Rich

Police Department Report

Officer Rich Minella –

Copies of the October crime stats were distributed. Four juveniles were arrested for recent breakins around Hildreth, Manning and Pickbury. The four ranged in age from 14 – 17. On 10/14 two officers stopped a car and retrieved 10 pounds of marijuana. Lots of info being emailed out to communicate information with the public. Cincinnati Police Department (CPD) has been doing truancy sweeps several times per week to keep kids who are supposed to be in school off of the streets.

Captain Russ Neville – Captain Neville spoke highly regarding NextDoor, the social media website for residents to communicate information, concerns, etc. Officer Christy Brimm has been designated at the NextDoor representative for the Police Department. Captain Neville wants to make sure that the police department is not seeking out police involvement in a problem on its own via NextDoor. I want this used for suspects and id geographically. District 3 (D3) is working to improve the police department website. D3 will have online reporting most probably starting in January. A citation is issued at an accident if the police officer can prove fault. A resident complimented Officer Minella's fine job of late, in helping with a neighborhood problem.

A gang of 6-8 boys are breaking into houses in Westwood.

An inquiry was made that if at 4:30 or 5a.m. in the morning, the police see a bunch of young kids out roving, why aren't they stopping the kids?

(Captain Neville) The police would prefer to drive a neighborhood and see things that are out of place and be proactive regarding crime prevention. We operate at code zero (no police cars available) from 10a.m. – 3a.m. every day. There is no real simple answer to your question.

Fire Department Report – no report

Support the Troops Event –Becky Weber

D3 Officer Jennifer Dawson's son is going to be deployed to Afghanistan. The WCA Board is being asked to participate in mailing items to the soldiers. Weber will send an email to all WCA members on Constant Contact requesting the items needed with instructions. CPD wants to collect 500 packages of items.

Please remember to bring a packet to our next meeting. Contact Ms. Weber if you need her to pickup your packet. Packets may be dropped off at Town Hall.

Joel Kimmet encouraged compromise and consensus with regard to how Board members handle themselves in our meetings

**Motion by M. Conda, seconded by Mary Jenkins that the October General Meeting Minutes be approved.
All in favor, minutes approved.**

Mr. Timothy Heyl – Cincinnati Recreation Commission, Western Region Supervisor.

Some exciting changes are planned for Ryan Park.
Changes we would like approval on –
Removal of the playground at Ryan Park.

Dan Jones, Head Engineer also present.

Reinstall a relocated playground at Ryan Park closer to the street. The playground will be more easily accessed and more visible.

The fields will be realigned and better use made of other space making them safer and more useful. The result will be a full size football field, soccer field and baseball field. Practicing will be possible concurrently with more kids on the fields at the same time. The move will also eliminate the mud problem.

Some remarks followed with questions from WCA Board members –

(Conda) The playground moved near the street makes it so that parents can't send their kids up to the playground while other siblings are playing ball on the fields.

(Lilly) How many people use the fields at this time? If you don't get the grant how will you pay?

(Jones) The grant will only pay for the walking path.

(corso) Any considerations for bathrooms?

(Heyl) It is more affordable for us to do the port a lets.

(Baumann) COPPS patrols in this area. The outlets in the shelter don't have covers on them.

(Kimmet) Bracken Woods will border the new Ryan Park.

(Gweyn) Will there be any fencing going around at the end of the park?

(Jones) No perimeter fencing.

**Motion by Gweyn that we approve that the Ryan project moving forward, seconded by M. Conda.
All in favor, motion approved.**

Sandy Lemons is our CRC point of contact here at Westwood Town Hall.

(Lemons) Delighted to be here at town Hall.

Williamsburg Square condo Association at the corner of Westwood Northern Blvd and Montana Avenues – David Niehaus

Mr. Niehaus reported that the City never came to him and informed him that the property was being taken through eminent domain. He feels Cincinnati is taking the property by eminent domain without going through the proper process.

(Sess) What is it that you want WCA to do?

(Kimmet) The Building and Properties Committee would like to meet with you and see if there are any remedies to your situation.

(J. McNulty) How many units are in the building closest to Montana? 10
How many are occupied? 5

Building and Properties will meet with Mr. Niehaus and report back.

501 C4 situation – Joel Kimmet

By next week we will be ready to file our C4 application with the IRS.

Nominating Committee – Joel Kimmet

Every year we go through an election process for 1/3 of our Board members.

Things that happen at the November General meeting –

President appoints a nominating committee

General membership appoints a nominating committee

This information is in our WCA Constitution which is on our website.

**President's nominating Committee–Jim McNulty, Tom Hodges and Leslie Rich
All appointees accepted.**

General Members appoint a nominating committee -

The five members who's terms will expire in March are Becky Weber, Mary Jenkins, Joel Kimmet, Karen Strasser and Mary Jenkins

One must be a member to vote and to nominate a member to the nominating committee.

Joe Corso nominated by Tom Hodges, seconded by Leslie Rich.

John Eby nominated by Rick Boyd, seconded by Tom Hodges.

Rick Boyd nominated by Leslie Rich, seconded Tom Hodges

Trinette Zawadzki nominated by Dacia Schneider, seconded by Leslie Rich

Nomination of Mary Kuhl by Sharon Lewis, seconded by Valerie Baumann

Motion by T.Hodges to close nominations seconded by Joy Pierson. All in favor.

Voting commenced with instructions by Joel Kimmet that each member may vote for up to three nominees to serve on the nominating committee.

Blighted Buildings report – Jim McNulty

The permit to tear down 2680 Schaeffer is presently in the applications process.

Jim McNulty had a report on all of the properties where there are problems reported to the City.

We would not want to see this building torn down at 2883 Harrison, also know as the Paramount Building. We need ideas on how to save this building.

Call 591-6000 or go to 5916000.com to report code violations. The City makes it really easy for us. Many of us report things weekly.

A question regarding blight – One of the houses on Montana, near Wunder, had garbage just thrown out off the porch and this is an eyesore.

(Kimmet) We will look into this property now that it is on our radar screen.

Coalition Report – Mary Jenkins

A community meeting will be held on Monday, December 2nd. Watch the website at revitalizewestwood.com for the location to be announced.

Tom Hodges and Mary Jenkins are Coalition representatives for WCA.

Mary distributed a flyer called form based code Myths and Realities.

(Baumann) Is there talk about the Square anymore?

(Jenkins) The Square needs a feasibility study done. That study has not moved forward yet. We will be talking about the Square in the context of other things that need to happen in the Business District.

City's Chronic Nuisance –Becky Weber

Wendall Young has proposed a change to the Chronic Nuisance Ordinance. Young wants the criminal charges and fines element removed. There is a proposal. Becky Weber will attend Council's Public Safety committee meeting on 11/20.

3132 Mozart Ave – City on the Hill

Large trailer parked in the parking lot.

One of the City inspectors wrote a violation for this.

Joel Kimmet attended the hearing and the request was denied by the Hearing Examiner.

5836 – Glenway Avenue

Across the street from Our Lady of Lourdes School.

Liquor license applied for. Whether it is a store or a restaurant is trying to be determined. The school was never notified and this is required per State law. The school can oppose and request a hearing. Proper procedure needs to be followed.

U.S. Flag Removal along Harrison Avenue –

Removal of flags along Harrison Avenue will be on Saturday, 11/23. Corso, Strasser, Gweyn, Kimmet, Conda, Sess and Jenkins volunteered. The team will meet at 7a.m.

We need to move some of the flower pots that are up at McHenry down to the Business District. The fire department will get 3 of the 6 flower pots. Three others need to be re-homed into the Business District.

WCA Holiday Party -

Friday, 12/13 annual WCA Holiday party beginning at Palominos Downtown – 5 p.m. We will meet for appetizers.

Holiday Yard of the Week – Becky Weber

Ten signs go out per week and nominees can be turned into Becky Weber.

Deck the Halls 12/1 – Leslie Rich

Volunteers needed to setup the event on 11/23 from 9 – 11a.m.

The event will take place 2-4p.m. inside Town Hall

From 4-6p.m. everything moves outside.

Two food trucks will be present and two craft activities.

Broadhope and YMCA will run two kids craft booths.

CRC donated a 30' live tree.

Election Results - Members Nominating Committee

Town Hall coordinator Ms. Sandy Lemons and her assistant were asked by President Joel Kimmet to count the votes. Our members nominating committee

will be comprised of the three WCA members who received the highest number of votes. The results are as follows:

Joe Corso

John Eby

Rick Boyd

Good of the order

At 3225 Werk Road, the Public Safety Committee held a cleanup. Gweyn, Corso, Jenkins, Bauman and the residents filled a 20' long super can. This cleanup was in a City owned public right away.

Joel Kimmet thanked everyone who attended the Firehouse event with a special thank you to Michelle Conda. This was a great event and possibly an annual event.

**Motion to adjourn by Jenkins, seconded by Corso
Meeting adjourned.**