

Westwood Civic Association
July 14, Steering Meeting

Roll Call

In attendance: Valerie Baumann, Joe Corso, Larry Eiser, Melva Gweyn, Mary Jenkins, Irene McNulty, Emily Miller Reynolds, Steve Schramm, Shawntee Stallworth Schramm.

Excused: Steve Beckman, Henry Frondorf, Joel Kimmet, Sara Overstake, Karen Strasser, Trinetta Zawadzki

1. Meeting called to order by Mary Jenkins
2. Guest speaker Wayne Coates, Hamilton County Recorder, introduced. Mr. Coates discusses updates to the Recorder's website and records available there. Volunteers from the Hamilton County Genealogical Society have been scanning paper records. Records from 1988, and 1797 through 1938 (when social security numbers came into existence) are available online. Additional records will become available after personal information is redacted. Also included in the records are any Clerk of Courts records related to properties. Mary Jenkins suggests the Westwood branch library as a potential partner, and WCA will also be sharing information. [The website is: <http://recordersoffice.hamilton-co.org>]
3. Two traffic concerns are brought up: Highpoint at Wardall (an increase in high speed cut through traffic) and the bend in Werk at McKinley. DOT is revisiting both previous traffic studies, WCA will wait to determine a position until the studies are completed.

4. Minutes for steering and general, both May and June presented for approval. Irene McNulty requested they be voted on separately rather than as a batch because she wished to abstain from one meeting.

Steering meeting, May 12: Shawntee Stallworth Schramm motioned to approve, Larry Eiser seconded.
Unanimously approved

General meeting, May 19: Steve Schramm motioned to approve, Valerie Baumann seconded.
Unanimously approved

Steering meeting, June 9: Valerie Baumann motioned to approve, Melva Gweyn seconded.
Irene McNulty abstained (was not in attendance at that meeting); Valerie Baumann, Joe Corso, Larry Eiser, Melva Gweyn, Emily Miller Reynolds, Steve Schramm, Shawntee Stallworth Schramm vote in favor.
Motion passes

General meeting, June 16: Melva Gweyn motioned to approve, Shawntee Stallworth Schramm seconded.
Irene McNulty abstained (was not in attendance at that meeting); Valerie Baumann, Joe Corso, Larry Eiser, Melva Gweyn, Emily Miller Reynolds, Steve Schramm, Shawntee Stallworth Schramm vote in favor.
Motion passes

5. A letter was mailed to the owner of 3032 Glenmore, and the owner was invited to come talk at a WCA meeting. Valerie Baumann stated that the tenants of the apartment targeted by the raid were evicted immediately. The landlord also owns property on either Goebel or Bracken Woods.

6. WCA Membership survey: an ad hoc group will be summarizing the results for an upcoming full report. Of 47 respondents, 6 were by mail. Many noted that they preferred receiving the newsletter electronically. A brief, general, summarization: top priorities include safety, building and properties, zoning, and infrastructure/beautification.

57% thought the meetings were somewhat effective, 77% thought WCA overall was somewhat effective, 79% thought WCA communications are somewhat effective.

16 respondents offered to help.

Will discuss further at next steering meeting.

7. Shawntee Stallworth Schramm discussed the Giant Yard Sale and details of the day. Mary Jenkins will obtain change, Joe Corso will bring his truck to help take down, Karen Strasser will bring tables, COPP will be selling water.

8. WCA has 3 Westwood flags left. Mary Jenkins will research options for re-ordering.

9. The study of Westwood Town Hall's foundation by Jeremiah Cole occurred on July 8th. Mr Jones with CRC accompanied him on the walkthrough. The report is due to WCA by July 31st. The results will determine WCA's next steps.

10. [see attachment] Mary Jenkins reported on the meeting with Cpt Gerard that she, Valerie Baumann, and Ron Rothhaas attended as a follow up to the February meeting with Chief Blackwell. Larry Eiser asked how WestCURC can help. The Captain wants to see more businesses actively involved in the neighborhood. Melva asked if M. Wegman could come and speak at a WCA meeting. There is a need for newer police vehicles, most are beyond their scheduled replacement date and do not serve the police's needs. Shawntee suggests businesses could help clean up their properties, wonders how to engage. Mary J suggests the infrastructure committee could work on this, and Larry offered that WestCURC's business organization could contribute. Valerie mentioned that CPD will lose 50 officers. Shawntee said that WCA should collaborate with the media on positive stories, the Captain encourages Westwood to get into the news for positive stories.

Irene McNulty talked to a Walmart staff person about some of the rumors about the store. The staff member said they do not have the statistics that say they are the most shoplifted, and countered that there are some stores in which crime is such a problem that they close at 9. According to both Mary J and Irene, Walmart has no plans to move. Mary also said that Walmart is willing to engage to improve the crime issues in their store. The rumor that Walmart allows shoplifting up to \$500 is not true. Mary will invite Walmart staff to a WCA meeting and Shawntee suggests engaging with other D3 communities on the issue.

11. Mary Jenkins is planning a Public Safety Summit to plan strategies for addressing concerns, confirmed Board's support for her moving ahead with planning.

Melva mentioned the need for someone on Court Watch. Said that it worked well because one got to know the judges, and by a neighborhood representative being present, felt the judges were less likely to be lenient. Also gives the opportunity to express how the offense impacts the neighborhood.

12. Mercy Healthplex will be renovated, the hospital building will be demolished, outpatient testing (imaging, etc), and the Emergency Room will remain.

Other Business: Jim McNulty mentioned that 3057 Bracken Woods and 3167 Goebel have been approved for demolition.