

Westwood Civic Association  
April 18, 2017 General Meeting Minutes  
Submitted by Sara Overstake

Present: Shawntee Stallworth Schramm, Joe Corso, April Stephens, Emily Miller Reynolds, Sara Overstake, Anne Murphy, Larry Eiser, Steve Beckman, John Bowen, Stephen Schramm, Karen Strasser, Trinette Zawadzki, Henry Frondorf

Absences: Joel Kimmet, Thomas Sauter

**1. Call to Order – Shawntee Stallworth Schramm, Shawntee would like to add an NEP update to the agenda**

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Fire** – 431 responses in March – 15 fire, 33 non-fire, 383 EMS, Narcan report – 24 in 45211, 386 total uses in March. Reminder to check smoke detectors and keep good batteries in them. Have smoke detectors in all bedrooms and on each floor level. Keep dryer vents clean. Stay near cooking food. Do not use extension cords as permanent wiring. Keeping the house clean is the best. Have an emergency plan for the family. Go to [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov) to find resources.

**4. Police – Officer Minella** – April 14, Huntington Bank robbed, arrest was made on April 17. Today human remains were found where Harrison meets State – investigation ongoing. May 17 District 3 Open House 9:00-1:00, all are welcome. Clean Up in Westwood Earlier in April. Captain Aaron Jones addressed concern about relaxed laws. Trends show that longer incarcerations for juveniles does not lead to decreased crime rates. For the heroin epidemic, the police have an outreach plan for getting treatment for individuals. Another initiative - the robbery prevention cars placed around the community. With warmer weather, crime tends to increase. Shawntee reminded about the importance of block watches and having more neighbors' eyes on the street. Westwood Citizens on Patrol use data from Police to know what areas to patrol.

**5. CRC announcements – Katie, Center Director** – This Saturday is Westwood Moves – 30 minute spin before, 5K around Westwood, with registration will receive t-shirt. June 17 - Giant Yard Sale, 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month – Family friendly movies, free with membership. Teen Nights on Friday nights.

**6. New Board Transition and Officers** – Abe Brandyberry joins the board. Geneva Clark will join us in the near future. Karen Strasser started with the board in 2008 and steps down today. Officer Nominations: **Emily nominated Shawntee as President, Henry seconded. Shawntee accepts. Motion passes, with Shawntee abstaining. Shawntee nominated Henry as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Larry seconded, Henry accepts nomination. Motion passes with Henry abstaining. Shawntee nominated Thomas as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Larry seconded. Thomas is not present, but accepted before the meeting. Motion passes with Shawntee abstaining. Emily nominated Sara as recording secretary, Larry seconded, Sara accepts. Motion**

**passes with Sara and Shawntee abstaining. Steve Schramm nominated Steve Beckman for treasurer, Anne seconded, Steve accepts. Motion passes with Steve and Shawntee abstaining. Henry nominates Stephen Schramm for Membership Secretary, Emily seconded, Stephen accepts. Motion passes with Stephen and Shawntee abstaining.**

**7. Payton Lynch – Eagle Scout** Gazebo project for Community Gardens, freshman at Oak Hills High School, part of Troop 107 in Westwood. Only 4% of Boy Scouts become Eagle Scouts. He is looking for monetary donations to raise \$9,000. There is a GoFundMe website for raising money. Dimensions of the gazebo are 12'x16'.

**8. Elizabeth Bartley – NBDIP presentation** – Funds projects in the Business Districts specifically. Two projects – major and minor. Major project – branding project in Westwood Business District, Gateway/Park sign at Montana/Harrison, Digital “Town Crier” at Gaines Triangle, Banners from Cheviot to Kling, Totems, corridors at Harrison, Montana, Boudinot. Minor project – More visible parking sign on Harrison, fix fence, more visible Parking sign on Montana. WestCURC works with DOTE on these projects. Looking for a letter of support. Question about Madcap Theater - merged with Landmark Productions to create a theater and education center. Question about firehouse – is cleaned out and fixed up. Now it is ready to show it to get someone to set up a restaurant there. They are trying to get all of the businesses in the area to complement each other. **Henry motioned for WCA to write a letter of support for the NBDIP project requests by WestCURC. Steve Beckman seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

**9. Greg Landsman** – Running for Council, former teacher, lives in Mt. Washington, has a passion for neighborhood, children, and families. He is on his community council and is the NSP manager. He did the foundation work for Preschool Promise.

**10. Thomas Hargis** – Not able to attend, Shawntee shared that Thomas Hargis is a Westwood Resident working with the Jubilee Project. There are some vacant properties on McHenry that his project would like to acquire for a possible orchard or garden.

**11. WCA Summer Socials – Henry** – We would like to try to bring more people to the Civic meetings by having grill outs before the meetings in May and June, 6:00pm. He is working with CRC regarding permits. Abe will help cover the food. Joe Corso will be grilling at the first meeting.

**12. Coalition Update – Henry** – Groundbreaking at Westwood Town Hall Grounds will begin in June. There will be a public meeting in June. The Brewery should open in June or July, Muse Café will open in the near future. In July, the Coalition will hold an input session regarding the closing of Mercy High School and plans for the future. Historic is working on 150 year anniversary planning. Saturday April 29, Cincinnati Historic and Cincinnati Museum Center will do a historic walk of the old railroad. Westwood Works won a \$55,000 grant to put on 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays in June, July, August, and September. The street will close on Harrison Avenue from Montana to Epworth. They are trying for a USA

Today \$100,000 grant for Westwood Town Hall grounds programming. People are encouraged to vote online each day.

**13. Youth Council Update – Emily** – Regular meetings on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month. They youth came up with their mission statement, which she read to the group. They will be involved in the projects in Westwood.

**14. Student Awards Update – Sara** – All 9 schools in Westwood have been contacted requesting a student nominee for the Civic Leadership Awards. All nominations are due at the beginning of May, and some have already been received. Awards will be presented at the May General Meeting in the auditorium.

**15. NEP – Cleanup Update – Shawntee** – 220 students in addition to community members present, largest cleanup for Keep Cincinnati Beautiful. Follow up is on April 22, 9-12. DOTE is working on a street repair for McHenry. People Working Cooperatively, Building Department, and Fire Department are working with NEP on inspections and repairs. PIVOT violence score in Westwood in 2015 was 125, but is down to 62. Jubilee Market will have an Open House in May.

**Addition to the Agenda- Mother’s Day March**– Westwood United to Stop the Violence is organizing a march to honor mothers who have lost a child to violence. Saturday, May 13 at 10:00am at CUP. Registration form is online. There will be a luncheon and memorial art project at the end. Chris Henry’s mom will be the speaker. Sponsors are needed.

**16. Other Business**

- Adopt a Pots are reserved, but a few are still available. Contact Emily.
- Concern about Triends parking cars on the streets causing dangerous situations.
- Cincinnati Urban Promise is building a playground as part of NEP through the KaBOOM grant. Build Day is May 20, starting at 9:00am. Volunteers are needed. There will be activities for kids, fences painted with kids’ handprints, picnic tables, etc. in addition to the playground.
- Westwood Works Pop Up Beer Garden April 29 at 4:00 with Cupcake Wars to benefit the Y. People are invited to bring cupcakes to be judged. All are welcome, including kids.
- Katherine Ingram State Representative of district 32 introduced herself.

**17. Shawntee motioned to adjourn, Emily Miller Reynolds seconded.**