

Westwood Civic Association
February 21, 2017 General Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Sara Overstake

Present: Shawntee Stallworth Schramm, Joe Corso, April Stevens, Emily Miller Reynolds, Sara Overstake, Joel Kimmet, Anne Murphy, Larry Eiser, Thomas Sauter, Trinette Zawadzki, Henry Frondorf; Excused absences – Steve Beckman, John Bowen, Karen Strasser, Stephen Schramm

1. Call to Order – Shawntee Stallworth Schramm

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approve Agenda – Thomas motioned to approve the agenda, Emily seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

4. Approval of January Minutes – Tommy motions to approve January minutes. Henry seconds. Motion passes, Emily abstains.

5. Police – Officer Rich Minella – January crime stats are available, flyers available – Cincinnati summer cadet program, ages 16-18 can work for the Cincinnati Police Department, includes phys. fitness, on the job training; City Camp for children of trauma - to instill discipline and respect for troubled youth. Search warrant at Friendly's market is ongoing investigation. CPD is trying to get the store closed and the liquor license removed. No particulars are available. A couple of burglaries in Westwood are being investigated and they are close to arrests with detective work. Burglaries seem related. Captain Jones reported they are continuing work with robbery response plan with police presence in parking areas with lights on. Other districts had a violent weekend. Bike officers will increase starting Sunday in District 1, 3, and 4. Lieutenant Joe Williams spoke, said he is here to hear our concerns. Question about homelessness. Laws are defined in city ordinance. No aggression, no lying, etc. First amendment rights must be protected.

6. Fire – Truck 21 from South Fairmount is relocated to our location, which means faster response times. For January- 351 EMS runs. The focus for this month is fire safety in public places because of the anniversary of a fire in a night club in Rhode Island. Be aware of exits and have a plan for where to meet up. Narcan report – in January overall for 45211, Narcan given 12 times.

7. CRC announcement – Jincy, service area coordinator – working with WCA to put together the Youth Council. This Friday evening there is a grill and game night and Saturday there will be a leadership session for the participants. More participants are welcome. Mayor's Job Fair – Price Hill Center, May 4, 8-12, youth employment ages 14-18. River Track program – end of July, ages 12-18 (50 total), week-long camping program, applications available on the website, \$10 registration. Westwood Town Hall – preschool programs March 10 – luck of the Irish preschool, 10am-12pm. Spinning classes – Mon/Wed evenings. Senior Olympics, ages 50 and older, a variety of programs.

Summer and After School Day Camp Programs. Westwood Moves April 22, walk/run event. Friday Night Family Flicks – first Friday in of every month in the auditorium. Membership is \$25 for adult, ages 25-49, Ages 17 and under \$2, ages 18-24 and over 49 is \$10.

8. Councilwoman Amy Murray – Handed out frequently called numbers. She serves on the panhandling task force, and says the number one way to stop panhandling is to not give them money. Amy has cards she gives out that has names of places they can get food, help, etc. She is chair of transportation committee, and her main focus is the Western Hills Viaduct. She will keep us updated on times for people to voice their concern regarding the viaduct. Budget season is coming soon, where the city manager will put together a 2 year budget and there will be opportunity to give input. Neighborhood Summit is on March 11. Question about Montana sewer work and the closures causing problems during rush hour. Amy will check into this. She suggests using the CincyFixIt app for issues or concerns.

9. Running for Council - Henry Frondorf – Henry is on Westwood Civic Association board, serves on Westwood Coalition, founder of Cincinnati Neighborhood Games, is running for City Council, hoping to get neighborhoods more involved in planning. He wants to take the Westwood Uniting to Stop the Violence model to other neighborhoods. The west side (14 neighborhoods) has not had anyone on City Council in over 20 years.

10. African Restaurant - Harrison @ Temple – There are issues with how the Form Based Code was written. Categorized as a T4.NMF-O and should be a T5.MS. Changing the zoning can take 6 months, but the variance process takes 2-3 months. No liquor license is needed. This will be carryout only unless H&R Block moves out. **Larry motions that WCA provide a letter of support for a variance to put a restaurant in this building between Montclair and Temple. Emily seconded. Motions passes unanimously.** Another motion is made. **Larry motions that the WCA provide a letter of support in order to have the zoning for the location at Harrison between Montclair and Temple changed from T4.NMF-O to T5.MS. Joel seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

11. Youth Council – Update – Emily Miller Reynolds – Event 2 weeks ago had 50-60 youth attend. This is a youth led movement that empowers teens to have a voice and make a difference in their community. Whoever recruits the most friends to attend Friday and Saturday will receive a prize. Friday is game night and there is an event Saturday as well. Ages are 12-18. CRC is a great partner, and CPD is sending support as well. Thanks to Emily and April for leading this effort!

12. Two properties in Westwood for the DBL (Demolition) Hearing on 02/24/17 – Joel Kimmet – This happens when a building is in dire need of demolition, last resort. Both buildings are condemned. Hearings last about 10 minutes. Community members can attend and testify for demolition. **Joel motions that WCA reps attend the hearing in support of demotion of these buildings. Henry seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**

- **3061 Bracken Woods** – on top 20 list of problem buildings for years. It's been boarded up for years, some people were living in it while it's been condemned, but they have been removed.
- **2922 De Breck Avenue** – 2 family house, part of the roof is caving in, patio deck is collapsing, appears very unsafe, is condemned. This is an indication that the owner has not done anything to keep up the buildings when the city has offered to help them.

13. Young Citizen Award – Larry – CWCA sponsors this banquet and award. **Larry motions that WCA sets aside \$60 to support the CWCA banquet. Emily seconded. More information about the award will be gathered. Motion passes unanimously.**

14. Candidates Night - Ad hoc committee – Shawntee is starting an ad hoc committee for Candidates Night in order to gather the candidates to city council to the west side to have them share with us their plans for the city, especially the west side. John Eby is encouraging us to reach out to East Westwood and Westwood Works, and others to help put this together. It will be important to get many attendees to the event.

15. NEP Update

- **NEP area Cleanup April 8th we need volunteers!!**
- **Blitz Week for Westwood April 3-7th spring cleaning.** – Dumpsters available, street sweeping, and more.
- **Cleanup Cincy (UC kids) annual cleanup of Harrison/Fairmont April 1st!! Need two hosts.** Joe Corso and John Raines are willing to be hosts.

16. Other business

- **Jeff Pastor** – running for Cincinnati City Council, Central State University, Withrow High School graduate. Currently a teacher, in the past taught at Cheviot as a long-term sub. He is from Carthage. He believes jobs plus education plus affordable housing equals reduced poverty and reduced poverty reduces crime.
- **Joel motions that since there are 5 officers nominated for the open board spots and no need for an election, that the following will fill the slots of the new term: Geneva Clark, Abe Brandyberry, John Bowen, Henry Frondorf, and Stephen Schramm. Larry seconded. Motion passes. Henry abstains.**
- Emily announced that Adopt-A-Pot has some pots available for people to claim. Go to website to sign up. Question about new potting soil, but that will need to be provided by those who adopt them, unless someone wants to ask Home Depot for a donation. Adopt a garden on Town Hall grounds this Spring will be available, but construction on the grounds begins in June.
- Liz Kissell announces that plans are beginning for the sesquicentennial in 2018. Organizations can sign up to be partners.

17. Shawntee motioned to adjourn, Emily seconded.

Announcements -- NEP kickoff –Wed. March 1st, 11am location TBA.