

Westwood Civic Association
May 16, 2017 General Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Sara Overstake

Present: Shawntee Stallworth Schramm, Joe Corso, Sara Overstake, Larry Eiser, Steve Beckman, John Bowen, Stephen Schramm, Abe Brandyberry, Trinetta Zawadzki, Henry Frondorf, Thomas Sauter

Absences: Emily Miller Reynolds, Anne Murphy, Geneva Clark, April Stephens

1. Call to Order – Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll call
4. Approval of Agenda – Henry motioned to approve the agenda as written, Steve Beckman seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
5. Town hall grounds announcement - Shawntee' – Ken Mattie contributes significantly to Westwood. Today we are presenting to Ken an award for 60 years of being a positive part of the community. He received a proclamation from the City of Cincinnati proclaiming May 16, 2017 Ken Mattie Day.
6. Coalition Update – Larry – Westwood Hero Award for 2017 is awarded to Tom Bonhaus. He has contributed to Westwood his entire life. His mechanic business is an asset to the neighborhood. Karen Strasser gave a riveting speech about his kindness to her when her flowers were pillaged. Mary Jenkins shared some words (via Larry) about Tom's positivity, respect, generosity, encouragement, and willingness to help.
7. Fire – Troy Davenport reported for April, 401 runs – 348 were EMS, 86% is EMS/Medical related, 19 were fire responses. There was a car accident/entrapment. Regarding heroin use, this area had 14 heroin uses documented, and of those, 13 narcotics used, 9 were transported. Safety this month is about grill safety. Inspect grills before you use them. Check the grill for leaks. Do not use near the house or in a garage. Do not move grill while it is in use. Do not use grill on a balcony of a multi-unit building. On May 16, Kids Safety Fair at Yateman's Cove.
8. Police – Officer Minella, neighborhood officer, reported this week is police memorial week. May 17, District 3 Open House 9-1, 400-600 kids will come through from the schools. All are welcome. This Friday is Police Memorial Parade, 11:00am Fountain Square, buses are going from WCET garage (District 1) to Fountain Square. Cincinnati Police looking for full-time police recruits. Individuals receive \$15/hour as a recruit, must be 21. Crime stats are available, property crime is down 15.2%, overall crime is down for the last 28 days. NEP project – Kaboom project being built this weekend. Volunteers are needed. Captain Aaron Jones added that recently there was a study done about traffic accidents and violent crime. There has been a reduction in traffic

stops, but traffic accidents are increasing. One location identified in District 3 – 2200-2800 block of Montana Avenue. This week additional officers will be covering this area.

9. CRC – Jincey – Day camp is already full for the summer. Preschool camp is open – 9:30-12:30, Art camp, youth explorers, June 3-August 3, kids are welcome to come to the drop in program 1:00-4:00, includes lunch. Yard sale is coming up and booths are available. Fitness schedule is available. Speaker system is repaired in the auditorium. Memberships are \$2 for youth (17 and under). Young adults and seniors \$10, Rentals are available for parties as well. River track program has some openings, cost is \$10, a week on the river for ages 12-17.

10. Thomas Hargis with Jubilee Project -- Acquisition of property on McHenry – 5 lots already acquired. There are 14 acres that are open and fairly undevelopable. Talks are in place with other churches/faiths to work together to create an interfaith urban farm. This will include about 10 "airable" acres to create this farm. The hillsides surrounding those will be reinforced with plants and the area will be enclosed with a fence. The project is going through approval process with the city, and they are waiting to hear. US Market will have a ribbon cutting next month. It required many repairs. It will provide fresh fruits and vegetables. 80% of the building will be second hand clothing for sale. Neighbors from the community will be employed to run it and learn skills. **Sara motioned that WCA provide a letter of support for this project to create an interfaith urban farm, seconded by Larry.** Discussion about whether there has been communication to the neighbors. They are waiting to get the approval, and they will communicate to the neighbors about the produce. This property is in Westwood. This land has been vacant for at least 15 years. This will be a long (5 year) process, but will be secured and fenced early. Comment that food deserts are a problem, and this is a great plan for people to get wholesome food in their neighborhood. **Motion passes unanimously.**

11. **Student Awards with guest presenter -- Mayor, John Cranley – Awards presented to (all receive a plaque and gift card to Putz's ice cream):**
 - a. Hannah Hall – Midway Elementary
 - b. Lainey Ryan – St. Catharine of Sienna
 - c. Boston Slack – Our Lady of Lourdes
 - d. Deja Hudson – Westwood Elementary School
 - e. Hannah Oliver – Gamble Montessori
 - f. Adjia Mbaye – Gilbert Dater High School
 - g. Anna Eby – Mother of Mercy High School
 - h. Ra'Niece Taylor-Benton – Western Hills High School (unable to attend)
 - i. Natalie Roell – Dater Montessori (unable to attend)

12. Letter of support for "Westwood/Madcap Education Center Project." Landmark – Larry – They are looking for letters of support from the neighborhood in support of their goal to become an education center as well as a theater. The original plans for a theater required renovations that cost much more than the original estimate. Landmark has experience in new market tax credits, and they will be looking to use

that funding to convert the building to meet their needs. The project is \$4.5 million project, but they have about 90% of it. The change in focus drastically increases the traffic to the building. **Stephen Schramm motioned to support the Westwood Madcap Education Center Project. Henry seconded.** Is there a plan for the education programs? Madcap currently offers a variety of education programs onsite (Glenmore) and remotely – workshops, residencies, etc. The focus of Madcap had been on very young children and older audiences (senior citizen programs). Landmark Productions brings other age groups into this scope. The building is a great space for this type of project. **Motion passes unanimously.**

13. WCA Workman's Comp – Larry – Westwood Works has the Art Show each year, and WCA has covered their workers comp. Westwood Works needs this support for the Second Saturday events in the summer (4 total). There is no additional cost to WCA. **Larry motioned that WCA covers the Workers Comp insurance for these Westwood Works events (police detail). Motion passes. Joe and Larry abstain.**
14. Volunteers for WCA booth -- Giant Yard Sale – June 17, Larry is willing to work, but we need more volunteers. Possibly youth council could help? Jubilee Project will take leftover clothing or shoes as a donation.
15. Other Business
 - a. Meeting tomorrow night – info session for the ongoing problems with storm water after strong rains. MSD will address concerns at Westwood School, 6-8pm. Questions call 513-557-7092.
 - b. Steve Beckman received a receipt from Valarie Baumann for flowers and mulch for \$29.26 for the memorial mulch bed on town hall grounds. In the future, we need approval for these payments before the purchase. **Steve motioned to reimburse the receipt. Seconded by Larry. Motion passes unanimously.**
 - c. Henry updated about the Westwood Town Hall grounds. The parks have not given any information about the project, so it seems they are not on track.
 - d. John Eby is asking WCA to partner with Westwood Works to partner on scholarships to CRC for the 6-12 year olds eligible for club memberships. Jubilee Project is willing to give \$200. Henry motions to give \$200 to support Club CRC. Larry seconded. Catherine Ross volunteered to give \$200 instead of WCA. Motion is withdrawn.
 - e. John Eby is asking if anyone is interested from WCA in supporting a campaign event.
 - f. DBL hearing takes place each month for areas that need to be demolished. 3070 Percy Avenue is on the list this month. The city is recommending it get torn down. They own a lot of money on the property. Joe Corso drove past the house and said it looks like it is in horrible shape. He recommends that we support the demolition of the building. **Sara motioned that WCA provide a letter of support to demolish 3070 Percy Avenue. Larry seconded. Joe will attend the meeting. Motion passes unanimously.**

Announcements:

NEP Update -- Kaboom build out of two sites this Sat. May 20th, 8am - 3pm!! Hawkins field in East Westwood.

Adopt-a-Pot is back in the spring of things!

Thanks to all of our pot adopters! Don't forget to plant and tend your pots. Currently, all pots have been adopted, but we have a waitlist in case anyone has to hand off their planter.

Next Youth Council Meetings: May 19th, and June 16th. This is for youth 12-18. For more information go to cincyunityouth.org

Henry motioned to adjourn, Joe seconded. Meeting adjourned.