

WESTWOOD CIVIC ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting

03/18/08

Meeting opened at 7:30 PM. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present were Jim Huhn, Trent Lewis, Melva Gweyn, Sr. Ann Rene McConn, Randy Hammann, Jim McNulty, John Sess, Kathy Bach, Rick Boyd, and Dick Finn. Excused: Joel Kimmet.

Jim Huhn gave the Treasurer's report.

P.O. Steven Alexander, replacing the newly promoted P.O. Torry King of District Three, gave the police report. Officer Alexander's email address is steven.alexander@cincinnati-oh.gov.

Firefighter Sparks gave the Fire report.

Randy Hammann moved to accept the 2/19/08 minutes, seconded by Trent Lewis. Motion passed.

President McNulty praised the police department for their efforts in addressing problem apartment buildings.

President McNulty requested comments from the audience in the open forum segment of the meeting.

- 1) Four Towers Apartments update requested by Marcel.
- 2) Clean-up at Dater Montessori on Boudinot by Collette Thompson.
- 3) Money has been approved for quilt patch by Irene McNulty.
- 4) Kathy Bach reported the used book sale netted \$3,100.00.
- 5) New board members were introduced- Kathy Bach, Rick Boyd, and Jen Gehring (absent).

Committee reports:

Trent Lewis reported the D-3 Resource Committee will meet on March 26th, 2008 at the historic Westwood Town Hall at 7:00 PM.

President McNulty announced \$250,000.00 for blighted building acquisition and demolition was approved by Cincinnati City Council to compliment \$750,000.00 TIF money. Much discussion followed.

President McNulty reported the tentative developer, Ron Morris, of 3100 McHenry backed out at the last minute. Another court case on 3100 McHenry is scheduled for tomorrow, 3/19/08 at 10:30 AM in Room 300.

President McNulty passed out questionnaires to attendees re: the Westwood Strategic Plan. If you are interested in participating, please contact Jim Huhn at (513) 481-6545.

President McNulty spoke on the Montana Avenue project. A presentation by the Traffic & Engineering department will hopefully be ready for the April meeting.

John Sess spoke on the "I LOVE WESTWOOD '08" litter patrol program.

President McNulty introduced Police Lt. Col. Cindy Coombs who spoke on the Neighborhood Enhancement Program. This code enforcement initiative will commence May 15th in the Harrison/McHenry Avenue area of Westwood. The program runs through August 15th, utilizing several city departments in a coordinated effort to enforce codes and encourage residents to upgrade their properties to meet code standards. If you are interested in participating, please contact Jim McNulty at mrmcnulty@fuse.net.

Sean Minnihan of the Building Department/Community Development spoke on the enforcement of building codes during the NEP initiative.

Robin Henderson of Keep Cincinnati Beautiful talked about previous projects in other neighborhoods, grant information and other KCB programs.

John Sess moved for an additional \$450.00 for an additional "WELCOME TO WESTWOOD" sign, 2nd by Melva Gweyn. Motion passed.

President McNulty requested attention to the early spring criminal activity on Harrison Avenue. Captain Frey said walking patrols, bike patrol and Segway patrol will start soon in Westwood to address this issue.

Robin Henderson spoke about “lawn chair patrols”, which moves loitering out of the way. Neighbors can meet on corners where loitering is a problem and thereby discourage loitering. This approach has been very successful in Price Hill and Northside.

President McNulty announced Election of Officers at next month’s meeting.

Sr. Ann Rene McConn spoke on the makeshift Harrison & Faber parking lot. She was authorized by the Board to write letters to owners of the property to remove cars, beautify the lot, and possibly get the land donated to a Westwood organization. Motion to authorize by Randy Hammann and seconded by Trent Lewis. Motion passed.

President McNulty requested help for Peg Rhein in her gardening effort at Westwood Town Hall. Motion by Randy Hammann and seconded by Sr. Ann Rene McConn to give Peg Rhein money, not to exceed \$500.00 for her efforts.

New Business

John Eby reported on the Student Awards for Westwood schools to be awarded at the April meeting.

Captain Frey said she would have an officer investigate the Midway School traffic problem on Glenmore Avenue weekdays, from 2:15 to 2:45 PM. Melva Gweyn will write an email to Principal Lutts about the bus/car congestion and monitoring the playground (basketball) area after school hours. Neighbors are experiencing frustration from the noise coming from this location. Ms. Gweyn will give an update at the April meeting.

President McNulty updated the group on the Fay Apartments rehab situation.

Sharon Lewis will contact Sallie Hilvers (Metro) about attending the April meeting to give an update on the change in Westwood’s bus routes.

Wish List for projects Community Priority Requests (CPR)

- 1) Walking path at Ryan Park.
- 2) Bike trail from Dater Montessori to Dunham.
- 3) Sidewalk on Westwood Northern Boulevard from Montana to Boudinot.

Dominic Camarca, owner of Babes Tap Room requested consideration for the upcoming variance request for outdoor seating at his establishment. Much discussion followed. The issue will be discussed at the Westwood Civic Association Steering Committee meeting when the variance comes through City channels to Westwood Civic.

The next Westwood Civic Steering Committee meeting will be April 8, 2008 at 7:30 at the Historic Westwood Town Hall.

The next general meeting of the Westwood Civic Association will be April 15, 2008 at 7:30 at the Historic Westwood Town Hall.

All are welcome to attend these meetings.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jim Huhn and seconded by Trent Lewis at 9:15 PM.