

**WCA Steering Meeting
June 8, 2010
6:30 P.M.
Westwood Town Hall**

Attendance

Present: Bach, Baumann, Boyd, Gweyn, Henke, Hollan, Kimmet, Kuhl, Lewis, Lee, McConn, McNulty, Neeld, Sess, Weber

Absent: none

Committees

Building and Properties Committee

McNulty and Kimmet are current Co-Chairs. Current members are: Finn, Gweyn, Hammann, Kimmet, McNulty, Catherine Ross, and Weber. McNulty and Kimmet will remain Co-Chairs. New members will be: Gweyn, Kimmet, McNulty, Catherine Ross, and Weber. Note: need to provide notification of activity to all members on committee.

Infrastructure Committee

Gweyn is current Chair. Current members are: Bach, Baumann, Gweyn, and Kuhl. A discussion took place about a possible name change. McNulty suggested "Infrastructure and Public Services Committee." Purpose includes road improvements, streetscape improvements, flags, signage, street sweeping, speed bumps, flower pots. Weber stated that terminology for committee names came from the Strategic Plan. Gweyn will continue to Chair. New members will be: Bach, Baumann, Gweyn, Sess.

Business District Committee

Hammann is current Chair. Current members are: Bach, Boyd, Finn, Hammann, McConn. This committee is concerned with business enhancement and attracting business. Lewis asked whether that was WestCURC's job. A suggestion was made that maybe we could do away with this committee. Kuhl suggested that the BDC could welcome new businesses. Sess suggested that we disban this committee and defer to WestCURC. Lee made the case that WCA should develop relationships with Westwood businesses and offered to Chair. The committee previously attempted to compile a list of businesses including owner's names and what they do, etc. Sess suggested dividing the area into zones and canvassing. Lee suggested Internet research (i.e. Google). Lee will be the new Chair. New members will be: Bach, Boyd, Henke, Lee, McConn, McNulty, and Neeld.

Public Safety Committee

Sess is current Chair. Current members are: Gweyn, Rick Ketterer, Kuhl, Lee, Lewis, Sharon Lewis, McNulty, Sess, and Weber. This committee's

responsibilities include: liquor violations, police reports, National Night Out, District 3 liaison, police and fire, block watches, Good Guy Loitering and COP liaison. Sess is trying to find co-captain (Chair?) within COP. Sess will remain Chair. New members are: Gweyn, Kuhl, Lee, Lewis, Sharon Lewis, McNulty, Weber, and Sess.

Promotion and Membership Committee

Kuhl and Weber are Co-Chairs. Current Members are: Boyd, Kuhl, McNulty and Weber. Purpose includes: growing membership, yard sale, art show, WestFest, flags, events, grill-outs at existing (eg. block watch) events. Sess mentioned the success of the Renfro block watch and that people are hungry for opportunity to participate. Kuhl and Weber will remain Co-Chairs. New members will be: Baumann, Boyd, Kuhl, Lee, McNulty, Neeld and Weber.

Preservation Committee

Bach is current Chair. Current members are: Bach, Baumann, Boyd, Hammann, Hollan, Kimmet, Liz Kissel, Lewis. Purpose includes preservation of the housing stock (eg. Gamble House) and education for home owners. Bach will continue to Chair. New members: Bach, Baumann, Boyd, Hammann?, Hollan, Kimmet, Kuhl, Liz Kissel, and Lewis.

School Enhancement Committee

Hollan is current Chair. Current members are: Bach, Hollan, and Kuhl. Purpose includes: school awards and LSDMC. Sess asked whether we should combine with Cheviot Civic. A discussion took place regarding renaming (Wayne Brinkmann?) due to an anonymous donor. Hollan will continue to Chair. New members will be: Bach, Hollan, Lewis, Sharon Lewis, McNulty.

Finance Committee

Baumann is current Chair. Current members are: Baumann, Hollan, Kimmet, Lewis, and McConn. Baumann will remain Chair. New members will be: Baumann, Hollan, Kimmet, Lewis and McConn. Baumann stated that she would like to have an audit soon.

Outreach Committee

Lee is current Chair. Current members are: Bach, Hollan, Lee, McConn, McNulty, and John Raines. A discussion about the purpose of this committee was held. McNulty express it as "spread the word about what we are doing – let's work together." Lee stated that it was to recognize the different organizations and institutions in Westwood and coordinate and share information between and not to re-invent the wheel. Hollan mentioned interacting with other community councils. Kuhl thought it was about reaching out to the churches. McNulty will be the new Chair. New members will be: Bach, Boyd, Hollan, Lee, McConn, McNulty and Weber. Sess would like to see a west-side summit with all of the executive boards of each of the west-side councils. Lewis suggested utilizing Invest In

Neighborhoods. Someone suggested that this not be like the City Neighborhood Summit – scripted, slanted questions, etc.

Donnie White

Mr. White made a case for having WCA sponsor the entry fees for two soapbox derby cars that he owns into the 2010 Cincinnati Soapbox Derby. He has two nephews: Antwoine and Kareem White that live in Westwood – one of which is an experienced soapbox derby driver. Neeld reported on the status of WCA's current entry in the soapbox derby and his finding from Brenden Reagan at the Mayor's office that multiple entries are allowed.

MOTION by McNulty to pay the entry fee for both of Donnie White's cars

SECOND by Kimmet

DISCUSSION – can we still get decals made for Mr. White's cars. Neeld will call. Decals will read Westwood Civic Association. Colors were suggested.

PASSED

MOTION by Neeld to allocate up to \$250.00 additional for soapbox derby parts overage

SECOND by Lee

DISCUSSION – none

PASSED

Further discussion included a suggestion that we provide Westwood flags or "I Love Westwood" t-shirts to our three drivers. It was agreed to provide the t-shirts.

MOTION by Lee to buy more "I Love Westwood" t-shirts.

SECOND by Kimmet

DISCUSSION – Weber concerned with giving away and the expense. Sharon Lewis suggested new t-shirts with the Westwood flag artwork. Someone suggest that the t-shirt expense could be funded by NSP. It was decided that the flag artwork shirts could be for fall and the art show. We currently have (10) large, (5) medium, and (8) small "I Love Westwood" shirts.

PASSED

NSP

Kimmet requested that we keep track of shirt and banner sales at WestFest. COPs email – would like equipment including: rechargeable flashlights and reflective vests. NSP could pay. Estimate of \$450 for flashlights. Lewis stated that WCA would own the equipment. Kuhl suggested to let them have their fund raiser (City Barbeque next Wednesday) first and maybe fund the difference. Sess suggested that we fully support COP, but funding equipment could be a slippery slope. Sharon Lewis suggested inexpensive reflective tape in lieu of expensive vests. Kuhl stated that she though June was early to give \$400 in NSP funds away and that COP did not ask for money, just support for their fund raiser. Sess should be getting notification to sign contract any day now

Dominos

Sandy Gordon, GM of Dominos on Glenmore and Heather Glass, Supervisor of Dominos on Glenmore spoke about issues at Mr. Brinker's property. They are

having to deliver pizzas directly to their customer's cars because they are reluctant to enter the store. They were robbed at gunpoint at 10:30 PM on Sunday. They are concerned about reporting – in particular about retaliation. There are drug deals, threats, solicitation. Someone reiterated the necessity of reporting incidents so that there is a record. Weber reported that contacts at Gary's Westsider across the street report less activity. Ms. Gordon reported that the business has been hurt by regulations limiting window signage (eg. window "clings"). Scott Ryan stated that all signage is regulated by code which depends on zoning district and limits to one ground, one wall and one temporary (30 days or less twice per year) and one window sign covering 20% or less of the window. Scott stated that Dominos would need a certificated of compliance from the Planning Department to supercede the code. Kuhl suggested that we should help and not hinder a good business like Dominos and suggested that we work the Planning Department issues for Dominos. Dominos has been at that location for 14 years. Weber will take the lead and contact the Permit Center. Sess requested an assurance of no signage between the sidewalk and curb. Dominos provided pizza for the meeting and gift certificates for the soapbox derby drivers.

Karen Strasser

Ms. Strasser organized the Hildreth and Dartmouth Block Watches. She spoke about the cookout on Renfro. She suggested that people simply need to be shown what to do, that we need connect people and use technology. Lee stated that he started the Daytona Block Watch and approximately one-third of the people showed and reiterated that people are hungry to get "plugged in" to know what they can do. There is momentum. The Block Watches are functioning under the Public Safety Committee. It was decided to add Karen Strasser to the PSC. Kuhl suggested that the PSC could co-ordinate the Block Watches with the Promotions and Membership Committee for cook-outs, etc. It was suggested to hold the Block Watches on non Good Guy Loitering weeks. Lee will work with Strasser on a planning calendar. Ms. Strasser's email is strasser@fuse.net – she will send a block watch packet. Sharon Lewis mentioned the problems at Mayridge Apartments. Weber will call police and get the mentioned problems on record.

Patricia Gunn Flag

Sess reported that a memorial? flag was provided by Ms. Gunn to be flown on the town hall flag pole. The flag is not conducive to hanging on the flag pole due to it's size and orientation? Sess will attempt to have it hung inside town hall over the stage.

Flags on Harrison Ave

Fourty American flags wer placed along Harrison Ave. by Kuhl, McNulty, and Sess. \$1063.93 in expenses were incurred for new brackets, flag poles and the flags.

MOTION by Gweyn to pay the \$1063.93 invoice for the flag expense
SECOND by Weber

DISCUSSION - Lewis asked whether we could wait for NSP funds. Kimmet questioned the authorization of the expense.
PASSED

Harlan Graphics

An invoice for 24 Good Guy Loitering yard signs was received. Lee stated that the signs were paid for in advance and that there should be no invoice. Lee will investigate.

Kuhl

Kuhl reported that she needs a check for \$30 for the yard sale booth fee. Baumann will issue the check. Also needs a check for \$6.95 for bracket reimbursement.

MOTION by Lewis to reimburse Kuhl \$6.95 for the bracket cost

SECOND by McNulty

PASSED

Lee

Lee reported that the next Good Guy Loitering will be at Dautile and Faber from 8:00 to 10:30 on Friday. The website is GGL.org/Westwood.

Weber

Weber reported on an email going around regarding a man in the Target parking lot. She called the manager of the plaza containing Target – Mr. Lerner – who was unaware of any problems. She reported problems with Target shopping carts in neighborhood areas. She will be on vacation 7/5 through 7/10. Deadline for the newsletter is 7/1. Please be proactive regarding articles for the newsletter. She has advertising revenue of \$100 from Henke Winery and \$60 from Gary's Westsider.

Melva Birthday Cake on Alien Landing Pad

McNulty

McNulty reported that he and Irene will be purging the membership after the next newsletter.

Kimmet

Kimmet reported that the pipeline company is moving off lot at Harrison and Talbot and that the equipment but not the mess is gone. Kuhl will call.

Bach

Bach reminded everyone of the upcoming WestFest. She asked whether we should provide a cooler of refreshments for volunteers. Sess offered to sponsor a cooler of water. Tom Bonhaus wants a Westwood flag. Becky will stop by with flag.

Boyd

Thanked Lee for taking over the WestFest booth. Boyd will locate the stein slide and Sess will pick it up.

Hollan

Hollan reported that the Artworks Mural will begin this month and that subject has not yet been decided upon. It is being decided by 12-20 members of Westwood Works.

Lewis

Lewis reported that Sr. Merkle did not receive the scholarship check. He also reported that at the NSP meeting last Thu he learned that we could endanger our non-profit status by any political contact.

Meeting abruptly adjourned due to time and weather.