

**WCA Steering Meeting
May 11, 2010
7:00 P.M.
Westwood Town Hall**

Attendance

Present: Baumann, Gweyn, Henke, Hollan, Kuhl, Lewis, McConn, McNulty, Neeld, Sess, Weber

Excused: Bach, Boyd, Kimmet, Lee

Recording Secretary

Mitch Neeld

Montana Ave Reconfiguration

Mrs. Pat Mead who lives on Montana Ave five houses east of Westwood Northern reported that she received a letter from the city regarding the imminent appropriation of part of her property and that similar letters were being distributed to homes on Montana as far east as Mustang Drive. Concern was expressed that the reconfiguration plan may have changed from what had been previously proposed by the City. John Sess suggested that this might be an error and asked for a copy of the letter and agreed to contact the City regarding the matter and follow up with Mrs. Mead on Wednesday, May 12.

Sarvis and Harrison

Mrs. Juli Rigacci reported that while seven people have been arrested, nothing has changed. The drug dealers and other trouble makers are simply avoiding the cameras. The Rigacci's have been fighting this battle for seven years. Mr. Abe Messer has had the property for over two years. Mrs. Rigacci also reported that there was a policy of moving evicted tenants to another unit. Mr. Messer was invited to this meeting and did not respond. Mary Kuhl suggested to contact Kevin Rose and to write Mr. Messer and to involve the media. The man that threatened the Rigacci's is scheduled for court in Rm 124 at 09:00 A.M. on May, 20. Trent Lewis suggests repeated Good Guy Loitering. John Sess agreed to call the police Captain and get the "directed patrol" reinstated. A suggestion was made to stage a protest at Mr. Messer's home in Loveland.

MOTION by Gweyn to write Mr. Messer a letter to attend General Membership Meeting

SECOND by Kuhl

DISCUSSION – Lewis suggested inviting Mr. Messer to next Steering Meeting due to the Student Awards presentation scheduled for the next General Membership Meeting. Someone recommended that the letter be sent via registered mail.

PASSED

Student Awards

Nick Hollan offered to contact Laurie Quinlaven to present the awards at the General Membership Meeting. Nick's wife will get food gift cards to present as awards. Jim

McNulty is handling the plaques to be presented. The presentation will occur as the first order of business.

Dave Cook Fence

John Sess attended a meeting with Roger Foster regarding the disparity between the proposed fence and the fence that was actually built. There was not enough detail in the proposal to enforce compliance with the drawings of the proposed fence. Sr. Anne McConn suggested that form-based codes would have prevented this issue. Mr. Cook has two years to complete the fence (approximately April, 2011).

2910 Temple

Discussion about property on Temple – gutters missing, fascia boards missing.

Soapbox Derby

Mitch Neeld reported that things were underway with getting the WCA's car entered into the 2010 Cincinnati Soapbox Derby.

NSP Meeting

Trent Lewis reported that a meeting was held May 6 and that he was unable to attend.

Pre- Prosecution Hearing - 2280 Harrison

Being held on May 25

West Side Preservation Summit

Cincinnati Preservation Society will be hosting at the Westwood Library on June 6 from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Jim McNulty will present on the Strategic Use of Money for Demolition.

Beppos

Discussion regarding why the new business at the old Beppos location is not yet open. Sr. Anne McConn offered to find out. Someone suggested permit issues. Melva discussed the inordinate amount of time she spent cleaning the property in preparation for the Westwood Home Tour. A Mr. Carnivale is the owner of record per the Hamilton County Auditor's web site.

WestCURC

Mary Kuhl voiced concern regarding the Bell Building. Sr. Anne McConn reported that WestCURC was in the process of securing a tenant that would be an excellent addition to the neighborhood and would bring visitors to Westwood. Becky Weber voiced concern over Glenmore Ave – UDF, S&H and Dominos. Jim McNulty mentioned a private investment initiative in North College Hill and noted that private investment and optimism in Westwood is required.

Westwood Art Show

Amanda is submitting paperwork for liquor permit. Becky Weber reported that ads are in bulletin. Mary Kuhl was asked to send yard sign (a'la Westwood Civic Association) purchasing information to Amanda.

Westwood Flags

Becky Weber reported that she has sold eight. There is an ad in the newsletter.

Sr Nancy Merkle

John Sess reported that she is retiring this year and asked if there was something that WCA could do to recognize her. It was recommended that we invite her to the next meeting and present flowers and a food gift certificate. It was also recommended that a donation be made to a scholarship fund in her name.

MOTION by Kuhl to allocate \$100.00 for the scholarship and up to \$50 .00 for flowers from Lutz Florist

SECOND by Lewis

DISCUSSION preceded motion

PASSED

Unpaid Henke Tab

John Sess reported that he covered the \$13.00 bill for an “unsuspecting” diner at the last meeting.

MOTION by McNulty to reimburse John the amount of \$13.00

SECOND by McConn

DISCUSSION none

PASSED

Westwood Northern City Grass

The City policy regarding minority-owned business for vacant lawn cutting was discussed.

Home Ownership Made Equal

John Sess reported that Ms. Latoya Springs would like to attend our next meeting to discuss Home Ownership Made Equal. John asked whether we should extend an invitation.

MOTION by McConn to invite Ms. Springs but that we discuss both the pros and cons

SECOND by Lewis

DISCUSSION none

PASSED

Chronic Nuisance

Becky Weber reported that she is speaking at tomorrow's City Council meeting regarding Council Member Winburn's motion. John Sess asked Becky to request again about CMHA requirements regarding chronic nuisance.

Miscellaneous

Trent Lewis suggested that Mrs. Mead contact Curtis Hines regarding the Montana Avenue reconfiguration and the letters sent. John Sess reported that the current contact was Andrea Henderson.

Nick Hollan attended a magnet schools meeting and is looking into how to make Westwood School a magnet school.

Melva Gweyn reported on the Cincinnati Plan meetings. Melva stressed that they were in need of attendees who would provide “common sense input.”

Becky Weber reported the same for the Citizen’s Budget meeting. The next meeting at the Cintas Center is on June 5.

Trent Lewis reported that the City has placed a sign at the Pickbury Drive to Werk Road “catwalk”. The sign reads that the City is considering closing and that interested parties should contact the City.

Mary Kuhl reported that Brian Lee will be taking over the WestFest booth. It was recommended that an article for the newsletter be written and that there will be a worker schedule to be filled. Mary also reported that she will be meeting soon with Capt Neville of District 3.

Becky Weber reported that the Newsletter went out on Saturday and that she attended the Cintas meeting.

Jim McNulty reported on “downzoning.” This is the process of re-zoning properties from multi-family to single family and re-zoning multiple lots as single family lots. Jim reported that 2280 Harrison is going to a hearing which is good and that 2487 and 2495 Harrison were being re-zoned to single-family lots. Jim reported that the Fay Apartment owners are negotiating with the City.

Valerie Baumann reported that she received an invoice for Save the Gamble. Westwood Concern will pay the invoice.

John Sess mentioned the red brick “cat house” on Montana Ave west of Westwood Northern Blvd. Scott Ryan reported that the house is vacant and that it was virtually beyond repair. John suggested that the house be recommended for demolition.

MOTION by McNulty to adjourn the meeting

SECOND by Baumann

DISCUSSION none

PASSED