

Westwood Civic Association Steering Meeting

June 14, 2011

7:00 P.M.

Westwood Town Hall

Attendance

Present: J. McNulty, B. Weber, J. Hildebrand, J. Minor, J. Sess, V. Baumann, J. Kimmet, Sr. Anne Rene McConn, M. Jenkins

Excused: J. Henke, M. Kuhl, M. Gweyn

Absent: K. Strasser

Recording Secretary: Mary Jenkins

J. McNulty called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes

MOTION by J. Sess to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2011 WCA general meeting as written.

SECONDED by V. Baumann.

PASSED unanimously with no abstentions.

National Night Out

J. Sess showed a graphic presentation of a large District 3 National Night Out poster.

2861 Harrison Avenue

There was general discussion of chronic nuisance issues associated with 2861 Harrison Avenue. M. Kuhl recently talked with the owner about the issues and J. McNulty sent a letter to the owner. The chronic nuisance ordinance does not currently deal with fire safety issues. J. McNulty commented that WCA will remain vigilant on issues related to this property.

Glenmore and Broadwell Avenues

Several board members mentioned remaining issues with a building at the intersection of Glenmore and Broadwell Avenues, noting that some improvements have been made. J. McNulty noted that Mr. Thiemann owns the building and will be invited to a WCA meeting. Board members are encouraged to report complaints to Scott Ryan of City of Cincinnati Planning and Buildings.

3324 Hanna Avenue

Several complaints regarding possible code violations have been made to City of Cincinnati Planning and Buildings but no violations have been recorded. Complaints should be made in writing.

3089 Glenmore Avenue

Board members commented on apparent violations at 3089 Glenmore, including building code issues and excessive yard sales.

Bus Route 64

J. Sess reviewed photos and an email he sent recently to SORTA Metro regarding the Bus 64 stop on Ferguson. Board members discussed potential rerouting and concerns about the current route.

MOTION by J. Kimmet to express to SORTA WCA's opposition to the current routing of Bus 64 through Westwood and to propose rerouting out Westwood Northern Boulevard to the new medical facilities under construction.

SECONDED by J. Hildebrand.

PASSED unanimously with no abstentions.

MSD Lick Run Sewer Project

J. McNulty reviewed some key elements of the Lick Run sewer project, including the insertion of low income housing into the plans. Several board members expressed concern about the housing plans but generally agreed that the WCA needs more information about the intent and the project.

East Westwood

J. McNulty reported that he will discuss 3454 McHenry zoning and building plans, as well as general cooperation and common goals, with Joe Morgan of East Westwood Community Council.

2570 Harrison Avenue

J. McNulty suggested that WCA ask the city to rezone the former Imperial House property, along with adjacent properties.

MOTION by J. Sess to ask the city to rezone 2570 and 2600 Harrison Avenue as single family and, further, to ask the city to discuss with WCA the future potential use of that property or nearby properties for a fire station.

SECONDED by J. Kimmet

PASSED unanimously with no abstentions.

Westfest

B. Weber reported on plans for the WCA booth at Westfest June 25 and 26, 2011. I. McNulty is scheduling volunteers. Mike Cavanaugh Electric and Angelo's Automotive will each offer a sponsorship at the \$100 level with remaining WCA expenses expected to be minimal. Mug slide game pricing will be one try for \$1 and 3 tries for \$2. It was agreed that the chairperson shall have the leeway to reduce the rate if necessary to attract sufficient contestants.

Northside Boundary

J. Sess reported on his efforts to speak with residents along the contested West Fork Road area. He reported that he will attend the Northside Community Council meeting to present signatures and documentation in the interest of resolving the disputed boundary.

Public Safety

B. Weber reported on a Public Safety meeting she attended on June 14, 2011 related to the chronic nuisance issues and CMHA.

Newsletter

B. Weber reported that she is considering several other printers for the Westwords newsletter. She will report further after receiving quotes. Newsletter submissions for the July issue are due not later than June 29.

501(c)(3) Status

B. Weber reported on an Invest in Neighborhoods presentation that she attended with V. Baumann and M. Jenkins, which focused on civic associations and 501(c)(3) status. She reviewed several options that appear to be available to WCA in the interest of attracting tax-deductible donations and grant funding generally reserved for 501(c)(3) organizations, including seeking 501(c)(3) status, developing a subset organization, and partnering with a 501(c)(3) that would serve as fiscal agent for grant-funded projects. Invest in Neighborhoods Executive Director Rick Dieringer will be invited to an upcoming steering meeting to discuss the process and the perceived cost/benefit.

Intersections of Glenmore & Glenway and Glen Hills & Boudinot

J. Sess asked for volunteers to help with landscaping at the intersection of Glenmore and Glenway and at Glen Hills and Boudinot where the city is not maintaining the plots. Several people offered assistance. V. Baumann reported that Spring Grove Cemetery personnel offered WCA flowers which she and J. Kimmet will pick up. M. Jenkins will pursue mulch availability through Keep Cincinnati Beautiful and the Park Board.

Westwood Community Gardens

J. Kimmet reported that work at the Community Gardens has slowed, though the site is nearly ready, while awaiting the contract for the Keep Cincinnati Beautiful grant since the next steps involve grant-funded work and cannot take place until the contract is signed. He commented on estimates for fence materials and installation. Regulations and the fee schedule will be posted shortly.

Yard Sale

J. Sess reported that WCA has reserved two spots for the Westwood yard sale, with proceeds to go to the WCA. He asked board members to solicit donations of items and to coordinate donations with V. Baumann.

WestCURC

Sr. Anne Rene McConn reported on developments involving WestCURC and Madcap Puppets as they seek a neighborhood improvement grant to purchase the Bell building and an adjacent property. Additional grants would fund a traffic study and a destination study. Further, WestCURC is meeting with Cheviot's economic development director on shared interests.

Committees

The Board will review committee membership at an upcoming meeting.

Rezoning

J. McNulty will call a special meeting of the Board for the purpose of reviewing the zoning map and Westwood boundaries. WCA continues to be concerned with concentrations of multi-family and low income housing.

Adjournment

MOTION by J. Sess to adjourn

SECONDED by J. Kimmet

APPROVED unanimously. Adjourned at 8:57 p.m.