

Westwood Civic Association
January 19, 2016 General Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Karen Strasser, Recording Secretary

Present:

Mary Jenkins, Joel Kimmet, Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm, Karen Strasser, Joe Corso, Emily Miller-Reynolds, Valerie Baumann, Henry Frondorf, Sara Overstake, Larry Eiser, Irene McNulty, Trinette Zawadzki, Stephen Schramm, Steve Beckman

Excused:

Melva Gweyn

President Mary Jenkins called the meeting to order. Toneia Williams was added to the agenda with a motion by Joel Kimmet, seconded by Stephen Schramm for the modification of the agenda. The agenda was adopted as amended.

Police Report – Officer Rich Minella, Neighborhood Liaison Officer for Westwood and East Westwood.

In 2015, Westwood had the biggest increase in shooting of the 52 Cincinnati Neighborhoods. For the first six months of 2016, additional efforts will be made in Westwood, including the presence of a Violent Crimes Unit. Captain Aaron Jones is completely on board with this focus in Westwood. Captain Michael John, Special Services Section Commander, fielded gang related questions and further emphasized the police focus that will be on our community. Officer Minella left forms for members to communicate directly with him. This form can also be found on the WCA website.

Fire Report – Lieutenant Jeff McDonough

In 2015, Engine 35 was the busiest in the City and the 15th busiest in the country. Top three types of runs include general illness, trouble breathing and chest pain. One fourth to one third of the runs are non-transporting runs.

Nominating Committee Report –

Mary Jenkins thanked Mary Fichter, Larry Eiser, Emily Reynolds-Miller, Karen Strasser, Joel Kimmet and Joe Corso for their work on the Nominating Committee.

President's Nominating Committee Report – Joel Kimmet

Nominated are Trinette Zawadzki, Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm, April Stephens and Thomas Sauder.

Member's Nominating Committee Report – Mary Fichter

Nominated are be Thomas Sauder, April Stephens and Anne Murphy

Mary Jenkins asked for nominations from the floor and there were no floor nominations. Nominations were subsequently closed. There will not be an election because there are five seats and five nominees for the Board. Mary Jenkins thanked Irene McNulty, Valerie Baumann and Melva Gweyn for their years of service.

Bylaws Revision Vote

Motion by Joel Kimmet, seconded by Emily Miller-Reynolds to start the balloting process.

All in favor – motion approved.

Ballots will be a yes or no vote to replace the current WCA Constitution with the new Bylaws.

The vote for the new Bylaws was open as the meeting continued.

Town Hall Bells and Recreation Center – Sharon Montavon

Westwood Town Halls needs new bells. Current bells no longer operational and can't be repaired according to the City. There are many upcoming programs and classes at Town Hall. Priority summer day camp signup will begin February 1st.

Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth – Toneia Williams

The focus of this program is on bringing awareness to the foster care system. 970 kids need care with more than half of them being teens. This is a City wide problem with poor outcomes – two thirds will die, be jailed or be homeless at age eighteen.

Westwood Uniting to Stop the Violence – Mary Jenkins

This group is working in partnership with the City and CPD with a focus at Harrison and Boudinot, Harrison and Fischer and Harrison and McHenry. These location focused teams will be meeting next week for an orientation. Volunteers can expect data from police and to engage with other people to determine best practices for problem solving at one of the three locations listed above.

Public Listening Session – February 1, 2016, 6:30p.m. at Westwood Town Hall with Mayor John Cranley, the City Manager, the Police Chief and some City Council members. Community members will be given the opportunity to voice their concerns.

With everyone given the opportunity to vote on the new Bylaws, Mary Jenkins declared voting closed. Liz Kissel and Liliana Kimmet. volunteered to witness the counting of the ballots.

Westwood Coalition Report – Henry Frondorf

Henry Frondorf and Mary Jenkins are our WCA Coalition representatives. WestCURC asked the State of Ohio for 5.9 million dollars for capital improvements to the Westwood Historic Business District on behalf of the City, Coalition and WCA.

The Bylaws vote was announced:

41 yes

3 no

The new Bylaws are in effect immediately.

Infrastructure Committee Report – Joe Corso

The Adopt a Pot program is in full swing. The Town Hall grounds Adopt a Garden program will soon be unveiled. Plastic benches made from recycled plastic are an option for new park benches in and around Westwood. It takes 400 pounds of lids to make one bench. Lids must be transported to Evansville, Indiana and then picked up from the facility once a bench has been created from the plastic lids. The cost is \$135.00 per bench.

Westwood Community Gardens Report – Mary Jenkins

Located at the intersection of Harrison and Talbott, plots are available for the 2016 growing season for \$25.00 each plus twelve hours of volunteer service. Mary Jenkins is the Garden Coordinator and Joel Kimmet is the Site Manager.

Cincinnati Neighborhood Games – Joe Corso

Coming this summer to each of the 52 Cincinnati Neighborhoods.

Games for kids and adults to compete and have fun. This event will build community spirit. More information soon.

Westwood Banners-

\$30.00 each.

Buy one for a new neighbor or friend.

Westwood Historical Society – Liz Kissel

\$15.00 per household to join. Next meeting February 10th.

Westwood Home Tour coming up on April 24th

Dater High School Resource Co-Ordinator – Katherine O’Shea

March 24, Juniors will job shadow and people are needed to allow these students to shadow at work.

The February General meeting will invite perspectives on the issue of parking meters in the Historic Business District.

Motion by Emily Miller-Reynolds, seconded by Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm.

All in favor - meeting adjourned.