

Westwood Civic Association
March 15, 2016 General Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Karen Strasser, Recording Secretary

Present:

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

Excused:

Trinette Zawadzki

The meeting was called to order by President, Mary Jenkins. The proposed agenda was revised with the following additions:

- Request by Stephen Schramm to mail a reminder to the non renewed WCA members.
- Request to place an ad in the Westwood Home Show brochure.
- Discussion of a Glenway Crossing variance request.

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

Officer Minella provided crime stats, discussed the fact that in Westwood crime is down but arrests are up nearly 50% over the last year. A crime analyst review data from 2011 – 2015 and determined the focus for crime prevention. Areas indicated included Harrison and McHenry, Glenway by the Western Hills Plaza, Harrison and Boudinot, Harrison and Fischer and the apartments on Queen City Avenue.

District 3 will host an open house on May 11th from 9a.m. – 1p.m.

Please send an email reminder to Officer Minella if you have requested something from him and not yet heard a response. Officer Minella can be reached at 513-262-8385 and he also has a contact form on the WCA website. Additionally, residents addressed some issues of concern with him.

Fire Report –

381 responses by Engine 35 in February.

Change your smoke detector batteries twice a year when the time changes.

High water risk awareness was addressed – don't go into running water in your car.

Special Guest, City Council member Amy Murray –

Council member Murray passed out a frequently called phone numbers list to be used as a tool of convenience and informed us that the City of Cincinnati is working to improve customer service. She is the Transportation Chair on City Council. There is a great new app called Fixit Cincy used to report things to the City including pot holes. There is also a new app called Passport Parking used to add money to a parking meter. We were told that the streetcar is coming in September. With regard to the Western Hills Viaduct, we need to be talking about the bad condition now. The City owns and maintains the Viaduct. We will need to pursue help and support for this project. Council member Murray then fielded questions, comments and concerns from the floor.

Cincinnati Recycling Program – Jennifer Ballard

In April, ambassadors will be going door to door in the City promoting and encouraging recycling, answering questions and solving recycling problems. These workers will be wearing green caps and displaying City ID badges.

Clean the Green April 2nd - Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm

There will be three coordinated site cleanups:

- Queen City at the UDF at Sunset Avenue
- Bracken Woods and Goebel
- BP at Harrison

There will be a dumpster and volunteers coming to help. More volunteers are still needed. Additionally, tire amnesty is an issue that will be brought up with the City at some point soon.

Cincinnati Neighborhood Games – Henry Frondorf

- CNG has been awarded a \$10,000 grant by Engage Cincy.
- April 30th a Pop Up Beer Garden sponsored by Westwood Works will happen at St. James Church. Giant Jenga will be played at this event as part of CNG.
- May 7th there is an outdoor Movie Night at McFarland Woods. Balloon Toss, Limbo and Hula Hoop contests will be held prior to the movie.
- May 21st other games including cornhole, horse, soccer accuracy, golf and others will be held at the Gamble Nippert YMCA starting at 3p.m. More information to follow on the CNG website.

Adopt a Pot – Emily Miller-Reynolds

Almost all of our pots are adopted out – thank you everyone.

Westwood Community Gardens – Mary Jenkins

Plots are available. Farm rows are going in with a 16' length.

Westwood Coalition – Mary Jenkins

- Several task groups are working.
- In mid June, Westwood Works and WestCURC are partnering on a Pop Up Business District on the weekends.
- There is a letter of intent for a restaurant to go into the old Firehouse from the owners of the Incline Public House.
- Sontag building – There are plans for a restaurant here as well and the owners have passed a phase I study and are now working with the City on permits.

Werk Road/Pickbury Steps – Mary Jenkins

Two properties on either side are splitting this down the middle. On the Werk side, a fence is going up. On the Pickbury side, the City is vacating it to the property owners. By ordinance, it becomes the responsibility of the property owner to maintain. The steps and sidewalk are coming out.

Westwood Uniting to Stop the Violence – Mary Jenkins

We are working with Community Police Partnering and the CPD. This is place based and location focus to fight crime. The three areas of focus and the problem solving team leads are as follows:

Fischer and Harrison Avenues – Anne Murphy

Harrison and Boudinot Avenues – Mary Jenkins

Harrison and McHenry – Kyle Vath

Mary Jenkins has also been working with Cease Fire. 3358 McHenry will host a gun buy back on April 16th.

Reimbursement of Kimmet for Lights – Joel Kimmet

Joel Kimmet replaced the lights at Harrison and Boudinot.

Motion by Emily Miller-Reynolds, seconded by Steve Beckman to reimburse \$68.35 to Joel Kimmet for the light he replaced at Harrison and Boudinot at the Welcome to Westwood sign.

Motion passed unanimously.

Worker's Compensation Request for Pop Goes Westwood – Larry Eiser

WCA pays \$200.00 to the state for Worker's Compensation to cover special events. Pop Goes Westwood would like to use our insurance for this event.

Motion by Larry Eiser, seconded by Emily Miller-Reynolds allowing Westwood Works to use the WCA Worker's Compensation policy for the Pop Goes Westwood events.

Motion passed

14 – yes

Abstention – Larry Eiser

Demolition Hearing, 3053 Bracken Woods Lane –

This demolition hearing is set for 3/25/16.

Motion by Sara Overstake for WCA to speak in favor of the demolition of 3053 Bracken Woods Lane, seconded by Larry Eiser.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mailing to Non Renewed WCA Members – Stephen Schramm

Stephen Schramm would like to send a mailing reminding WCA members who have not yet done so to renew their WCA membership. He is asking for reimbursement of the postage for this mailing.

Motion by Emily Miller-Reynolds, seconded by Joel Kimmet to reimburse Stephen Schramm up to \$50.00 for renewal reminders to WCA members who have not yet paid their annual dues.

Motion passed.

14 – yes

Abstention – Stephen Schramm

Motion by Emily Miller-Reynolds, seconded by Joe Corso for Stephen Schramm to spend up to \$20.00 for the renewal post cards.

All in favor

Motion passed unanimously

Ollies Bargain Outlet – Sign Variance Request at 5131 Glencrossing Way

The Zoning Department has recommended against this variance request.

Motion by Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm, seconded by Larry Eiser to oppose the variance request for 5131 Glencrossing Way, Ollies Bargain Outlet for signage that is larger than the allowed limit.

Motion passed unanimously.

A special thank you to Valerie Baumann, Melva Gweyn and Irene McNulty for their many years of service to the WCA Board.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Emily Miller-Reynolds, seconded by Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm.

Meeting adjourned.