

Westwood Civic Association
June 21, 2016 General Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Sara Overstake

Present: Mary Jenkins, Joel Kimmet, Shawntee Stallworth Schramm, Karen Strasser, Joe Corso, Henry Frondorf, Anne Murphy, Thomas Sauter, April Stevens, Stephen Schramm, Sara Overstake, Larry Eiser. Excused absences – Emily Miller Reynolds, Trinetta Zawadzki, Steve Beckman

Welcome, call to order by Mary Jenkins.

Motion to approve agenda with some additions (no minutes to approve, report by Westwood Town Hall at the end), time permitting by Tom Sauter, seconded by Larry, motion passes unanimously.

Police report. Mary reported that some plants and flowers have been stolen from a few pots on Harrison and Tom Bonhaus kindly replaced them. Captain Jones reported they are working on investigations with the crime squad and drug squad in the Westwood area. Gang enforcement and PIVOT team moving from fender based to buildings. PIVOT team recovered 2 guns at a vacant property. Passing out info to the community to get some buy in. Shootings in Westwood, but not target areas – were relationship-based, not out in the street or random acts of violence. Officer Minella reported May crime stats and arrests available, August 2nd National Night Out, all are welcome. Reminder to not leave valuables in the car, thefts from autos are down. Sgt Chapman is new to her position. She reported Wed. 6/22 morning CIRV unit working in Westwood. Westwood Civic will have a booth at the National Night Out event and needs volunteers. Reminder that it is hot and kids are out and be careful with your belongings. Question – sounds in the community that are possibly fireworks, but difficult to determine. Questions about the shooting on Boudinot. Question – What is response time for reports of crime, break-ins. Police responded that there are different priorities for types of calls.

Payton Lynch, Eagle Scout project proposal, WCG – From Troop 107, Payton would like to build a 12x16 gazebo for the Westwood Community Gardens, Zoning and building permit needed, purpose is for teaching children and adults about growing, August 1, 2016-August 1, 2017 fundraising phase, August 1-Sept. 1 2017 building phase, costing a total of \$7,960. Payton will ask volunteers to help and bring tools. There were questions about funding, but Mary explained we are not at a point to be making decisions about funding. **Motion by Joel Kimmet for WCA to support the Eagle Scout project proposed by Payton Lynch, seconded by Tom Sauter. Motion passes unanimously.**

Presentation, Montana Ave DOTE rehabilitation project – Martha Kelly presented about this project, regarding the changes that have been made and their impact on traffic, accidents, etc. Crash data was presented with handouts for the area from Craig to Farrell. 2011-2012, 256 accidents; 2013-2014, 168 accidents. Severity of accidents has increased, but total number of accidents is down. Contributing factors are curves, speed, and wet weather. DOTE will possibly put in

high friction surface to prevent the wet weather accidents. Congestion problems on Mantana during AM/PM commutes. Questions and discussion followed. Accident data comes from State of Ohio records.

Harvest Home Fair, Randy Dunham – Weekend after Labor Day. Begins with Harvest Home Parade on Thursday, and the Fair is open until 10pm that evening with \$1 hot dogs, \$2 beers, discounted rides for \$12. All are invited. Friday 5:30-11:00, Sat. 12:00-11:00, Sun 12:00-10:00. Kiwanis financially supports many endeavors in the community, as well as 4 Key Clubs in the area. Volunteers are needed for the Fair. All are invited to join Kiwanis or the Harvest Home Fair Committee. Sign up to volunteer at www.harvesthomefair.com.

Former Mercy Western Hills property proposal, Craig Hilsinger, Real Estate developer in Cincinnati, is attempting to purchase property in Green Township, but it must be traded with city property because of the nature of the property. The mayor has asked him to trade with a nearby west side property. Proposal is to trade the Green Township property (Woodland Golf Course), which is city-owned but outside city limits with part of the Mercy Hospital property and old Midway school property and make it park space. The amount they pay for the property will determine how much site improvement would be included. The Mercy property and Midway property are both currently for sale. The community will have input for what is done with the space. Craig explained that Woodland Golf Course is currently losing money for CRC. More discussions will follow.

Aftab Pureval, candidate, Clerk of Courts was on the agenda but did not attend.

Westwood Uniting to Stop the Violence, report and July 23 community meeting – Mary reported about this initiative in place since mid-November 2015. Three teams in location-focused approach to address crime and conditions that support crime – Harrison/Fischer, Harrison/Boudinot, Harrison/McHenry. Meeting July 23 – report on team action steps and short term wins, crime data updates, community members will be asked to engage in specific action steps. Some strategies are citizen-led and help is needed. All are welcome and encouraged to attend the July 23 meeting.

Westwood Coalition report – Mary and Henry are Westwood Civic reps to Coalition. A couple of groups are working on Town Hall grounds and Epworth/Urweiler area. A group is focused on branding/promotion of business district, led by Larry Eiser. A group looking at infrastructures in business district – sidewalks, lighting, signage, led by Henry Frondorf. More information is to come.

NSP Funds - Informal amendment, \$25 remaining Neighborhood Games NSP funds to different category – Joel handed out report of NSP funds. **Motion by Joel Kimmet to do an informal amendment to move \$25 from Neighborhood games to project #2, Neighborhood Improvement. Tom seconded the motion. All residents in attendance are welcome to vote. Motion passes unanimously.**

Giant Yard Sale, July 16th, WCA booth – Shawntee presented. Westwood Civic Association has a booth and is taking donations to sell at the yard sale. Bring donations between 8am and 9am. Anything not sold is available for pickup by 2:00pm and then donated to Goodwill after that. Volunteers needed to work the booth. Shawntee, Larry, and Joe are volunteering.

Andrea gave a report about **Westwood Town Hall** – space is still available for the Giant Yard Sale, \$15 for 10x10 space. This is biggest fundraiser for the rec center, and helps supports staffing costs. WTH has free drop-in program for kids from the neighborhood, has a list of 75 kids from neighborhood. Summer camp and preschool camps are full. Quilting class for seniors is offered two days a week now. They accept fabric donations. Free boot camp Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Spinning classes are low on attendance.

Other business, time permitting:

Will Worthen – Resident on Nicholson Avenue, which is in bad shape, 3 contracts have been asked for bids to repair it. Part of the street is owned by the city and they need help and support to get the sidewalks and roads fixed. Mary already contacted Michael Moore with the city about the problem.

Mary Jenkins adjourned the meeting.