

Westwood Civic Association
July 11, 2017 Steering Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Sara Overstake

Present: Shawntee Stallworth Schramm, Sara Overstake, Anne Murphy, Steve Beckman, John Bowen, Stephen Schramm, Larry Eiser, Henry Frondorf, Joe Corso, Trinette Zawadzki, Emily Miller Reynolds

Absent - April Stephens, Geneva Clark, Thomas Sauter, Abe Brandyberry

1. **Welcome, call to order by Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm.**
2. **Agenda –Emily motioned to approve the agenda. Henry seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**
3. **Minutes from June General Meeting – Approved unanimously.**
4. **Addition of Cheviot Association member to join Coalition - Larry – Emily motions to add Cheviot Foundation, formerly CWCA, to the Coalition on a trial basis through the end of the year, and to become a permanent member if it proves valuable at that time. Stephen Schramm seconded.** Cheviot has annexed themselves from the City of Cincinnati, and there is concern that they are wanting to be added because of wanting access to funding. The Coalition is not an organization that gives out funding. This could be a bridge-building opportunity. **Motion passes unanimously.** What is the process to be added to the Coalition? Sara asked about the possibility of Kiwanis joining the Coalition. Kiwanis contributes a lot to the community, especially through funding. Sara is the WCA rep to Kiwanis and is interested in bringing this topic up to their Board. The Coalition is designed to give the community a unified voice to address major concerns or issues.
5. **National Night Out Volunteers for Booth – August 1st –** Volunteers are needed to staff the booth. We should make the booth more fun, instead of just having flyers and information. Henry could bring the Giant Jenga game. Shawntee has a tent we can use. We do not know exact times yet.
6. **NSP Categories Update/Closeout - Joel –** NSP Funding is designed to be used for projects planned ahead in advance. We still have some funding leftover that needs to be invoiced and allocated. Invoices must be submitted by the end of August. New contracts begin in October. There is damage on the Westwood Community Gardens, but there is not property damage insurance. The person who hit the fence with their car does not have insurance. We could consider money from a victim fund from the City. Some of the neighborhood

improvement funds should be used for the landscaping at the islands. Could the Youth Council members help with this landscaping in exchange for funding? Neighborhood improvement fund description is fairly general, but it may not include landscaping. We do need new signs for yard of the month and WCA meeting date/time. **Henry motions we move \$500 from West Wheels Car Show to Community Gardens for fence repairs. Emily seconded. No discussion. Motion passes unanimously.** Jess and Leslie will be sending an invoice for the Art Show. For neighborhood improvement, what else besides signs do we need to spend this funding on? The director of Tiny Tots has 3 American flags have been rolled up and dropped off to Tiny Tots, and she can return them to us. Currently there are about 20 flags, but if we come up with a plan to hang flags with brackets that hold them in place, and have less of them, it may last longer. The city may have certain requirements for the brackets. East Walnut Hills just did a flag project similar to this. We will wait on making any changes for now. Joel will share the estimate from Mills Fencing as soon as he has it.

7. **Reimbursement for Welcome to Westwood Signs – \$475 – Emily motions to use the NSP funds to pay the \$475 for the Welcome to Westwood Sign. Stephen Schramm seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**
8. **Community Garden – WCA Rep?** – There is a core team of volunteers that handle the projects. Joel was the WCA Board rep on the core team of volunteers for the community gardens. The suggestion is that someone from the WCA board becomes a rep to this Community Gardens. Another option could be to have another person from the core team be a liaison to WCA and bring information to the board. We do not need to make a decision at this time.
9. **Youth Council Update - Emily** – The council had a sleepover to begin some training and discuss their service project. They decided to do a Suicide Prevention Walk, possibly on the same day as the Multicultural Fest August 26. July 21st at 5:30 is the next planning meeting. Volunteers are needed. Youth Council had activities at the Second Saturday event. Meetings are the 3rd Friday of the month. 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month are teen nights. 1st Friday night is movie night at Westwood Town Hall. At the next meeting they will have elections and they will design t-shirts.
10. **Outreach – Press release for crime stats** – Meeting on July 19 to discuss, location to be determined. The idea is to take a different approach to reporting crime stats based on per capita. It is important to keep press about Westwood positive.

11. **WUTSTV – Discussion of what’s next** – In the coming months, we will be discussing where this group is headed. Are there any areas that need extra focus? We still have our initial focus of Harrison at Boudinot, Fischer, and McHenry. The next meeting in July, Lt. Hammer will present crime stats and their decline at McHenry and Harrison. Glenmore is seeing an increase in crime and may be an important location to target.
12. **NEP – Success story July General meeting – Shawntee** – Question about funding for clean up of Bracken Woods. There was a city blitz with a giant clean up in April around the NEP area, including Bracken Woods. Donated funds went to the projects such as the 2 playgrounds. Jubilee became involved in the project and helped with the acquisition of the empty lots in Bracken Woods and is planning to begin gardening those areas. WCA did not receive funding directly. There are city garbage cans in that area.
13. **Other Business –**
- Can WCA and Shepherd’s Heart recognize Save-A-Lot for their efforts in the community? They do a good job of keeping it clean and they keep that area from being a food desert. Recognition could be done at the Multicultural Fest. Mayor Cranley will be at the Multicultural Fest and will say a few words. **Steve motions that WCA provide a letter of support of a proclamation from the City support Save-A-Lot. Larry seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**
 - There have been multiple accidents in the business district, and there is concern of the business owners of possibility of damage to their companies and pedestrians. Can we reach out to DOTE to find out what our options are for traffic calming. Additionally, there is a crosswalk at Montana at the YMCA that is difficult. Also, there is a pedestrian crosswalk near Verdin on Boudinot that has signs but no paint on the ground. **Henry motions WCA send a letter to DOTE and David Mann’s office expressing that the corner of Harrison and Montana is a dangerous traffic area and asking them to accelerate their safety efforts in that area and increase the scope of their traffic safety focus up Montana to the business district. Anne seconded. Motion passes unanimously.**
 - Westwood Relay Race in Ryan Park is taking place on Saturday at 9:00am.
 - Max Smith is working toward Eagle Scout award and is looking for a project.

Shawntee motioned to adjourn, Henry seconded.