

Westwood Civic Association
October 11, 2016 Steering Meeting Minutes
Submitted by Sara Overstake

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

Welcome, call to order by Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm.

Agenda - Steve Schramm motioned to approve agenda with the following correction - postpone discussion about finance/promotion on the agenda and insert a report on youth council. Seconded by Thomas Sauter. Motion passed unanimously.

Westwood Civic going forward, Shawntee' Stallworth-Schramm – Shawntee stated we have been doing a lot of great work starting with Mary Jenkins' work around public safety with Westwood Uniting to Stop the Violence and NEP. We need to continue to build bridges with city departments and focus on membership and engagement.

Coalition report, Henry Frondorf – Steve Beckman motioned for Shawntee to be the official appointment of Coalition rep from WCA. Emily seconded. Motioned passed unanimously. Open public forum held last week with Cincinnati Parks to discuss the final draft of the plans for the area around Town Hall grounds. There was discussion about a dog park, but in a recent survey, out of 193 votes, 127 said no (65%). Maintenance is the #1 issue, but the play area would be small also. Henry wants the board member's thoughts. The surface would be a playground-type of surface. There is already a dog park nearby. A dog park is nice because it will always have people and dogs, and it is walkable. There is not a maintenance plan, but they would make sure there is a funding plan for site maintenance. The community would have to contribute to maintenance. Dog parks generally have dog poop that people do not clean up. Details for fencing have not been established yet. There is no rule that dogs cannot come onto Town Hall grounds currently. The playspace would be smaller in its new location. The WestCURC survey showed that more people are in favor. We need to have a maintenance plan before we vote as a group. **Thomas motioned to table the discussion for the general meeting. Steve Schramm seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**

Youth Council update, Emily Reynolds – First committee meeting was held at the end of September. Hannah is a Gamble Montessori student who

is working with the principal to get some feedback from students. Doreen reported to Emily that there is a grant application submitted to start the youth council for Westwood and East Westwood. City council will be voting on this soon. Next meeting is October 24.

NEP (Neighborhood Enhancement Program) update, Shawntee' – Shawntee and a group went on a tour of three sites per neighborhood for a possible Reds sponsored makeover, which would involve building or revitalizing a ball field. They visited sites in East Westwood, Ryan Park, and Cincinnati Urban Promise. On Saturday, there was a teambuilding event with East Westwood. Emily learned that East Westwood previously was part of Westwood about 20 years ago before WCA voted to separate from them.

Vice President appointments moving forward - Shawntee' is formally asking Karen to be the 1st VP and Thomas to be the 2nd VP. **Steve Schramm motioned that Karen Strasser is the 1st VP of WCA and Thomas is 2nd VP. Henry seconded. Motion passed. Karen abstained.**

Other business as time permits

Montana sewer project - Work for the Montana sewer project will begin November 14 by Mustang and Ferncroft Drive. Construction will last about 9 months.

Montana Avenue - A Westwood Civic member is interested in have a rep from DOTE come to a meeting and discuss the issue with Montana Avenue traffic and a survey that he conducted on Nextdoor. A good plan may be to have the infrastructure committee contact the city about the concerns before we bring the rep to a meeting again. A community forum could be arranged in the future.

Westwords, Trinette – Westwords needs more submissions, and they must be submitted by the deadline. All board members need to contribute to the newsletter. Submissions are due by the 25th of each month.

Vacancy – Mary's last meeting is October 18 and we have 60 days to fill the vacancy.

Findlay Park, OTR, Am I My Brother's Keeper Forum - Saturday 10/15 at 3:00pm at 117 West Elder Street. Mary has more information.

Emily motioned to adjourn, Steve Schramm seconded.

Meeting adjourned.