

Westwood Civic Association
General Membership Meeting April 17, 2018
Minutes

Present: Shawntee Stallworth Schramm, Sara Overstake, Steve Beckman, Emily Miller Reynolds, Larry Eiser, Anne Murphy, Thomas Sauter, Joe Corso, John Bowen, Abe Brandyberry, Geneva Clark, Stephen Schramm

Absences: April Stephens, Trinette Zawadzki, Henry Frondorf

1. Call to Order – Shawntee
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of January and February minutes – Minutes for March general meeting are approved.
6. **Police** – Sargent Chapman and Capt. Broxterman – for last 28 days, there is an increase in auto theft. Windows are broken out of cars, so they suggest people stop leaving their valuables in the cars. Burglaries are up – people breaking into windows – avoid having bushes near windows. Lock valuables up in your homes. Robberies in businesses in the neighborhood are up (pizza, delivery businesses). Are there particular areas where car break-ins are happening? It's scattered throughout the community, but Citizens On Patrol focused on the area about Mercy High School. Concerns about cars driving in the middle lane on Montana Avenue. Intersection at Harrison and Montana is dangerous for pedestrians.
Fire – Engine 35, Report – 394 runs, ladder truck 139 runs in March. This Thursday is an awards night to honor some members. New recruit class on April 30. They are filling spots from people retiring. For fire safety, the theme is spring cleaning. Be careful getting boxes out and keep them away from heat sources, keep the house tidy to avoid injuries. Check batteries in smoke detectors. If you have a child enrolled in CPS, you can have fire department come out and install smoke detectors in home. Severe weather – have an emergency plan and some supplies ready. FEMA recommends having enough food/water/medicines/supplies for being self-sufficient for 72 hours. Narcan report for month - 7 total for the month in 45211, 189 for entire city for March.
7. CRC – Jincey, Service Area Coordinator – Ms. Cheryl's quilt is hanging in the meeting room. Flyer for Westwood Moves! 5K Run/Walk and Spinning this Saturday 4/21 at 8:30am. Applications due for camps – teen camp is new this summer. Club CRC is only \$10 for the summer, but there are scholarships. River Track registrations are open for ages 12-17 in the summer – takes place July 23-27 (no cell phones allowed! – the kids learn to talk to each other and have a great experience). Applications are due next

week. Zumbini for ages 0-4 with caregiver on Saturday at 11:00. Teen nights on Friday nights – last Friday was an ice cream social. Jincey is looking for old televisions and carts, as well as a Playstation, Xbox, or other gaming system.

8. Youth Council Update – Emily – regular meeting is this Friday (dinner), service project will be related to homelessness. Open to teens 12-18, meet at WTH 3rd Friday of month.
9. Doug Feist – Cincinnati Zoo Levy – Asking for renewal on tax levy – gave us 10 reasons to keep the zoo in our community. 5th largest per capita membership at zoo in the United States. The levy only funds basic needs, existing structures, not payroll. They are an accredited botanical garden. The cost of the levy per \$100,000 property is \$0.84 per month. They are a private non-profit. Has saved over a billion gallons of water with water treatment plant. UC study came up with a figure of \$143M in economic value to the community. Costs at the zoo increase each year, but they spend the money wisely. Created a zoo access fund, with a goal to offer reduced admissions for kids from low income areas. They also have a program with Children's Hospital for families. Standards for zoos are higher than previous years, which is costly. The zoo is the 2nd oldest zoo in U.S. – opened in 1875 (before cars!) Three of the buildings are over 100 years old. Doug is asking for the community's support for the levy.
10. Caroline Duffy (transportation engineer) – Westwood Active Transportation Plan – 100% funded grant by Ohio Dept. of Transportation. ODOT picked 4 pilot projects to conduct a study about areas needing safety for pedestrians and bicyclists. This area is around Westwood Town Hall – around the southeast quadrant of Westwood. They would like to include trails that connect to others. Kickoff meeting is Monday, May 21, 7-9pm at Westwood Town Hall. All are welcome to come and share ideas. Hamilton County and City of Cincinnati has CAGIS online survey. cagisonline.hamilton-co.org/pedsafetysurvey. Complete it by April 30.
11. Jeff Stine, City of Cincinnati – Preliminary Streetscape Design – Will be at the May General meeting
12. Neighborhood Blitz – April 23-27 – Target Areas? Dumpsters will be available. All items are approved, except for paint, tires (put on side of dumpster), hazardous chemicals. Medications can be taken to the police station for disposal. Check Westwood Civic Facebook Page or website for more information. Communities are encouraged to have their own clean ups during that time.

Added to agenda – Hamilton County Commissioner Chris Monzel – There is a place to sign up online to get alerts to your phone. Flyer available. Smart911 is an option (not for the city of Cincinnati), but is helpful for putting your personal information if there is an emergency. Website is www.alerthc.org. The county owns Memorial Hall – built for veterans of Spanish American War. There will be a Veterans event on June 14 (flag day) with a Bob Hope impersonator and army quintet.

13. Paul Nerlinger – Issue with property – 3467 Stathem Avenue – unable to attend.
14. Joe Corso – Issue with property – 2922 Lischer Avenue – Vacant house (over 10 years), backyard is overgrown. Neighbors are complaining about the nature of the backyard. There is now some plywood type of covering on some of the glass. Issues can be reported on Fix It Cincy. Shawntee will contact Ed Cunningham about it.
15. Joel or Joe – 3325 Hanna Avenue – Slated to be demolished by the city – support? – Looking at the outside, you can tell the building is condemned, which means the building and inspections committee has been working on it for a while. Now there is a demolition hearing on April 27. There are holes in the roof. Joe or Joel will attend the hearing as a member of the community. If the owner shows up, they can get more information about it.
16. WCA – Board Officers – At the steering meeting, we decided to have Henry become President and Shawntee is now Vice President. Steve Beckman is Treasurer, Sara is Recording Secretary, Stephen Schramm is membership secretary, and Tom Sauter is 2nd Vice President.
17. Westwood Coalitions Update – Shawntee – Madcap is 92% funded, and their project is scheduled to open November 2018. RFP for Firehouse is out with a deadline of beginning of May for applications. On May 23, it will be awarded. There is an advisory board from the community for input. Town Hall grounds bids are submitted, and the lowest bidder was chosen (Universal Construction). Start date is unknown. West Side Brewing is canning (mobile canning) and plans to have a rooftop seating option in 2019. CWCA has Brews on the Block in the summer. May-September, Cheviot will have a West Side Market next to NYPD on the first Saturdays of the month. Westwood Home Tour – May 12, 1-5pm in a walkable area. \$20 pre-sale, \$25 day of the tour. Westwood Uniting is having a clean-up on June 2. There will be a meeting at District 3 on April 24 at 7pm. Qualifiers for Neighborhood Games will be held soon. Westwood Captains are Karen Strasser and Laura Dornkemper. Joe reported that the sisters that own Mercy High School are in talks with Cincinnati Public Schools. Nothing is official. We need to position ourselves as a community to have a strong seat at the table asking CPS what type of program we want in that building. The school board will make the decision about the school if it is purchased.
18. Western Hills Viaduct coalition meets on April 25 at 7pm at 2573 St. Leo Place in North Fairmount – Tom – The purpose is to bring together the community councils affected and form a coalition to speak to the issue.
19. Other Business
 - a) WCA Fundraiser Gala and Auction with wine and beer tastings, meat carving stations. We are working to gather baskets for the silent auction. More info in announcements below.
 - b) Westwood-opoly will hopefully be available on the day of the Home Tour.

- c) Keep Cincinnati Beautiful gets flowers donated from area nurseries, and community councils can have them for beautification. Flowers can be picked up on Friday of this week. Someone reported that John S. offered to pick some up and plant them near the Welcome to Westwood signs.
- d) Marilyn Tunnat – running for Ohio House of Representatives in district 32. www.tunnatforohiohouse.com
- e) Westwood Community Garden – Peg – many garden beds are still available for renting. Cost is \$25 and location is at the corner of Talbott and Harrison. The gazebo will be coming this summer.
- f) The grounds at Westwood Town Hall are in need of some weeding and fixing up. Peg is willing to help with that. She is encouraged to connect with Karen Strasser about getting it fixed up.
- g) Westwood Works is doing Second Saturday events in June through September, but the location may change if construction is happening on Westwood Town Hall.
- h) Renew memberships to WCA

Announcements:

- Westwood Civic meets every third Tuesday of the month 7p, @ Townhall. Tell your neighbor about our efforts in the community!
- [WCA Fundraiser – Saturday, May 19 – 4 pm to 9 pm – 2932 Montana Avenue – Tickets can be purchased online for \\$40 person / \\$60 couple or day of for \\$45/\\$65.](#)
- Reminder: Adopt-a-pot Spring is around the corner don't forget to renew your pot today! Previous adopters have first dibs.
- Youth Council: Is for youth 12-18. We meet @ Townhall every third Friday of the month. For more information go to cincyunitedyouth.org

Shawntee adjourned the meeting.