

Westwood Civic Association
Steering Meeting April 10, 2018
Minutes

Present: Shawntee Stallworth Schramm, Sara Overstake, Steve Beckman, Larry Eiser, Anne Murphy, Henry Frondorf, April Stephens, Thomas Sauter, Trinette Zawadzki, Joe Corso, John Bowen, Geneva Clark

Absences: Abe Brandyberry, Emily Miller Reynolds, Stephen Schramm

1. Call to Order – Shawntee
2. Approval of Agenda – Add a discussion about the Wayne Brinkman Youth Leadership Awards after the partnership with United Methodist discussion. Agenda is approved.
3. Approval of March General Minutes – pushed to April general meeting.
4. Partnership with United Methodist – Sarah Beech, Pastor Lee – Handout with information about the Community Workers Program. They are expanding this in 2018 to help participants have more opportunities in the workforce. They are trying to recruit more community volunteers. Tuesdays/Thursdays 10:30-1:30 they schedule interviews and have workers come and help at the church or My Neighbors Place, but they would like to add Westwood Town Hall or other locations. They need volunteers to supervise the workers during that time. Thomas will offer help to the church with their contract language. For Westwood Civic Association, the church would like a partnership where WCA helps come up with projects and provide volunteers to supervise and manage project. The whole purpose of this project came from the church having so many people come and ask for money, so they put together an opportunity to allow them to work and give back for money.
5. Wayne Brinkman Student Leader Awards – Sara Overstake – The letters have gone out to the principals of the schools and they are asked to. Sara motioned that WCA provide up to \$175 for awards, Geneva seconded. We will get more information about Wayne Brinkman and share that at a later time. Motion passes unanimously. We need a speaker to present the awards. Some people who have presented in the past include Mayor Cranley, Yvette Simpson, Amy Murray, etc. Henry will ask Tamaya Dennard first, then others if she is unavailable.
6. Discussion of roles/Officer appointments – Shawntee is stepping down from president. She motioned to nominate Henry as the new president of WCA. Larry seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Shawntee will share all information with Henry. Henry appointed Shawntee as the Vice President. Shawntee accepts. THANK YOU to Shawntee for her time and dedication as the president of WCA. We need to make changes to committees with updates. Outreach/Membership Committee can include promotions/outreach (chair – Emily Miller-Reynolds), possibly. The membership list needs to be current so if there is an important vote, the list is accurate. Other committees include: Buildings,

Properties, Beautification, and Infrastructure can be one committee (Joe Corso, Karen Strasser), Public Safety (Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm), School Enhancement (Sara Overstake), Finance (Steve Beckman, Larry Eiser). We may add Youth Council as a committee (Emily Miller-Reynolds and April Stephens). Community gardens may be considered a sub-committee under Beautification. Henry and Shawntee stay on Coalition. Yard of the Month is under Buildings and Beautification (John and Joe). NSP Funding falls under Finance (John Bowen). Sara will update the website. Anne will take over Westwood Block Watch Facebook page.

7. Fundraising discussion – Gala on May 19, 2018, 4:00-9:00pm. Tickets are available online at Eventbrite. Rick and Frank are planning food to pair with wine and beer. Shawntee has a donation letter. Tickets are \$40 per person, \$60 per couple, and on the day of the event are \$45 and \$65. There will be a silent auction, and WCA board members need to gather items for that. Parties such as lobster bake or backyard barbecue are options for the silent auction. We can have Split-the-pot at the event. We could set up a google doc for people to be assigned for gathering donations. Volunteers are needed the day of.
8. Support Letter for RFP – Bob Willis (WestCURC) is asking for a letter of support for the RFP to apply for the NBDIP for the Firehouse. Acquiring these funds is competitive with other communities. There may be some strings attached with the funding. Examples of funding opportunities could be a new roof, an elevator for accessibility, infrastructure, etc. Henry motions WCA write a letter of support for the NBDIP application for the Firehouse. Steve Beckman seconded. Motion passes, one abstention.
9. Westwood Uniting update – Good turnout at last meeting. UDF came to the table. The McHenry team is doing assessments of the neighborhood. There will be a cleanup on June 2. The hot spots of focus are Bracken Woods/Gobel, McHenry/Harrison, Boudinot/Harrison, Montana/Glenmore. UDF has taken some measures to provide a safer business.
10. Other business
 - a) (Email from Shawntee) Christopher Callahan contacted her about a blitz week that will be coming up with large dumpster and a clean up. Public Services will do extra maintenance. Dates have not been assigned yet.
 - b) CPS and the Sisters that own the Mercy building are in talks about CPS purchasing the building. We should think about next steps and position ourselves as a community to have a say in what goes in the building. If the purchase happens, the school board will most likely decide what program goes in the building. The Coalition could help with the discussion. Sara motions that Coalition is the representative in partnership with the school board. Larry seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

Announcements:

Announcements: Westwood Gala & Silent Auction! Tickets are on sale now.

~Please make all monetary donations for the purpose of fundraising to, Westwood Civic Association P.O. Box 11466.

~Get tickets on eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/westwood-gala-auction-benefiting-westwoodcivic-tickets-44581439285>

Youth Council meets every third Friday night @ Townhall. Youth Council serves youth 12-18.

REMINDER: Adopt-a-Pot renewal is coming! As spring approaches please renew your pot. Remember, individuals that had a pot last year have first dibs.