

Westwood Civic Association
General Meeting June 18, 2019, Cincinnati Urban Promise

Attendance: John Bowen, Abe Brandyberry, Geneva Clark, Larry Eiser, Henry Frondorf, Emily Miller Reynolds, Sara Overstake, Thomas Sauter, John Kerr, Alexa Justice

Absent: Steve Beckman, April Stephens, Shawntee Stallworth Schramm, Stephen Schramm, Anne Murphy

1. Call to order
2. Pledge
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda – Judge Dinkelacker added after Police/Fire
5. Approval of Minutes –May
6. Police & Fire Report – Officer Rich Minella, most crimes in Westwood are theft because of all the stores in Westwood. We are down 16% in crimes from the past four years. For rolling 28 days, we are up slightly due to theft. First Tuesday in August is National Night Out at Price Hill Rec Center. More details in July. We are losing more officers than we are gaining in the recruit class at the end of July. Question about loitering. There is no ordinance against loitering unless people are blocking the sidewalk. If it is private property, the owner must be responsible. There is a contract to sign with the police, and Save-A-Lot did sign the document and they are working with police on this. Captain Broxterman discussed this as well.
 1. Judge Pat Dinkelacker – not running for reelection. He has been a judge for a long time in Hamilton County. Because he has heard from people that they do not know who our judges are, he is working to meet people in the community. He is welcoming people to come to the courthouse, and he stresses that judge decisions are all transparent.
7. Public Safety (Shawntee)
 1. WUTSTV – Shawntee – usually meets the last Tuesday of the month at 7pm at District 3.
 2. Block Watch – Anne Murphy
 3. Citizens on Patrol – Mrs. Fichter
 4. Pedestrian Safety – Vision Zero – Derek Bauman – Gabby Rodriguez’s parents are present with Derek. Derek is a retired police officer from Mason. Effectiveness of streets is determined by how many cars get through, but not necessarily safety. Vision Zero is a strategy to eliminate traffic fatalities. This initiative is adopted by the city, but there is little information about it shared to date. Pedestrian involved traffic crashes are up 50% in the past 5 years. The model states that there are a multiple causes to be addressed for prevention. In Cincinnati, we need to engineer our streets differently. Derek is asking for everyone’s help as we move forward with support.
8. CRC Announcements – Jincey – Westwood Town Hall is still not open. Jincey talked to Joe, the lead on the project, and he thinks they may be open for the July second Saturday. The rain is not helping with progress. Activities continue at Westwood School and Dunham. Senior programming is at Millvale Rec Center. Teen program is doing well on Monday evenings. They earned Reds tickets for their work building bicycles. They took a bike ride at Miami Whitewater Park.
9. Youth Council (Emily Reynolds and April Stephens) – At the second Saturday in July, the kids will be selling drinks. Reggie is another helper for this program. Any teens interested are invited. See announcements below.
10. School Enhancements: Sara Overstake
11. Properties, Infrastructure, Beautification, Zoning (PIBZ) (John Bowen and Abe Brandyberry)
 1. Properties – Jubilee Market – sensitive topic – the property is for sale. The city closed down the old market, which was good. Jubilee Ministries acquired the building, but did not operate it the way they were expected to. The problem is that they acquired the property with taxpayer dollars, and now they are trying to sell it. The city has a mortgage on the property of about \$120,000, which Jubilee must pay back to the city. Henry met with an attorney regarding this

situation today. The city and Jubilee need to decide what to do at this point. Fish Express wanted to purchase the building for a restaurant, but he was rejected. Abe is aware of other offers that have been rejected as well, but they were willing to pay much less than what it is listed for. The property near Bracken Woods has been signed over to the Port Authority, and the plan is for CUP to acquire it. Thomas motions that WCA writes a letter to Jubilee Market to give the building back to the city so it can be put to better use. Larry seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

2. Question about the Tax building. The IRS has a \$1M lien on the building. The process will take a long time. The city is unable to do anything with the building while the lien is on it.
3. Infrastructure - John Kerr
4. Townhall grounds update - Jincey reported they do not have a definite date yet.
5. Zoning none
6. Beautification none
7. Yard of the Month - John Bowen and Sydney - new signs are out. Sydney just put out the July signs and posted pictures on the WCA facebook page, and they received more nominations through that. Twenty signs are available.
8. Pots - Mamma J - There is a pot on the triangle by White Castle that looks like it tipped over and the plants came out. All other pots are doing well.
9. Westwood Community Gardens - Update on Gazebo - Joel Kimmet - Project is slow, but rain may be a factor.
10. Overgrown Property- near 3225 Werk Road - This lot is overgrown, and WCA may want to write a couple of letters regarding the overgrown lawn. Alexa motions that WCA write a letter to the city regarding the overgrown lots on Werk Road and Westbrook. Emily Seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
12. One Westwood - John Eby - It's time for Westwood to get comfortable being uncomfortable. A conversation happened between John and Ty a couple years ago regarding bringing both Westwood together - black Westwood and white Westwood. The group of people have been meeting for a year to discuss bringing together the community and overcoming racism. Abe shared a mission statement for One Westwood as well as a covenant stating their beliefs. People involved are Abe, Mary, Sara, Reggie, Rodney, John, Ty, and Maxine. This group is asking for the black community to be included in the strategic plan restructure that is taking place. They would also like to see more people attending the Multicultural Event at the end of August. Some of the churches in the area will meet together for a service when there are 5th Sundays in a month and June 30 will be held at CUP at 10:00am. Emily motions that WCA supports this initiative. Alexa seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
13. Membership and Outreach (Emily Reynolds) - meeting June 24 at West Side Brewing. Membership forms are available to join.
 1. Westwords - Please send updates to Trinette
 2. Membership Update - Stephen Schramm and Thomas Sauter
14. Finance (Steve Beckman)
 1. NSP -John Bowen - Submittals for NSP will begin when Steve Beckman returns.
 2. Fundraising: Thomas Sauter - Working on ideas to raise funds since we had to cancel the event.
15. Westwood Coalition Update (Shawntee) - Larry shared that Nation is closing on the old firehouse property on July 31. Bill and Leslie Rich now own the Keidel building for an arcade. The last Second Saturday event was a huge success. The next one is on July 13, and the theme is PLAY. Ray Kroner said they are getting more volunteers willing to help with Harvest Home, which is good. Jammin' at the James will be on June 29, 5-8pm. There will be two bands with food and non-alcoholic beverages. Two other events will take place through the summer.
16. Other Business
 1. The Mayor wants us to come up with a plan for the property near Oskamp. There will be meetings to discuss this initiative. CRC has held some meetings, but the

community needs to discuss more. The Coalition could facilitate this process. Henry and Jincey will reach out to CRC leaders.

2. CUP has a new mural through an Eagle Scout program.
3. On July 11, 4-6pm, Gamble-Nippert YMCA will be having Channel 12 and a live broadcast. The theme is Celebrate the Community, and we will be inviting St. James, WCA, Westwood Works, One Westwood, and others. We also want to honor police, fire, and EMS, and we will highlight the mural by 4H on the garage.
4. Multicultural Fest sponsorships are still needed.
5. Youth Council is working on an initiative through Urban League and Community Police Partnership, and there will be an event at the end of July.

Announcements: Westwood Civic meets every 3rd Tues of the month 7p, @ various locations. **CRC Teen Night: youth 12-18** - every Fri 6:30-8:45pm at Westwood Town Hall with **Youth Council**. For more information about Youth Council, go to cincyunitedyouth.org. **Youth Council Leadership** meets the 1st and 3rd Mon at 7pm. 1st Mon meets at 3rd Presbyterian on McHenry and the 3rd Mon meets at Westwood Town Hall. Email Emily Miller Reynolds at emilylynwca@gmail.com for more info.