

Westwood Civic Association May General Membership Meeting
Tues. May 21, 2019 – 7 PM

Please Note - LOCATION CHANGE – Gamble Montessori High (future Elementary) - 2700 Felicity Place

Attendance: Alexa Johnson, John Bowen, Henry Frondorf, Sara Overstake, Larry Eiser, Emily Miller Reynolds, April Stephens, Abe Brandyberry, John Kerr

Excused: Geneva Clark, Shawntee Stallworth Schramm, Stephen Schramm, Steve Beckman, Thomas Sauter, Anne Murphy

Minutes

1. Call to order
2. Pledge
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes –April
6. Police & Fire Report - Fire – Kurt Baker, engine made 290 runs, 13 were for fire responses, 256 were medical responses. There is a new apparatus with the fire department. They are checking fire hydrants, which may cause discolored water in houses temporarily. All ladder trucks are converted to ALS company, which can take care of medical issues. There are 40 new recruits graduating in the beginning of July. Police – Capt. Paul Broxterman, 43 recruits graduating in August, but the department is losing more officers than they are gaining. Officer Minella – Rolling 28 day crime stats are available on the table. Most crimes are down from last year. Citizens on Patrol are looking for more participants.
7. Public Safety (Shawntee)
 - a. WUTSTV – Shawntee - no meeting this month
 - b. Block Watch – Anne Murphy – email WCA for more information.
 - c. Citizens on Patrol – Mrs. Fichter – email info@westwoodcivic.org
 - d. Pedestrian Safety – John Kerr
 - e. John Bowen – Meeting about bussing for the school, and conversation about safety on Epworth and traffic calming and pedestrian safety. Emily will share her DOTE contact with John for next steps. Henry will talk to DOTE as well.
8. CRC Announcements – Jincey – Recreation Business Plan presented with findings and recommendations. Youth Council made 13 bikes and gave them away to children who do not have bikes.
9. Youth Council (Emily Reynolds and April Stephens) – Pictures of the bike building program are available on the Facebook page. Some of the kids participating got to attend a Reds game. The Youth Council planned a neighborhood clean-up. Teen night is every Friday, leadership meets 1st and 3rd Mondays of month. They have grown in many ways, conducting meetings on their own and making decisions. They will be at Second Saturdays all summer selling beverages. Thank you to Emily and April for their time with this program.
10. School Enhancements: Sara Overstake
 - a. New Gamble Montessori Elementary Principal Melissa Ridley – from Toledo, OH and lived in Cheviot for 10 years. She taught at Parker Woods Montessori and become assistant principal at Gamble Montessori, then Pleasant Ridge. Now she will be the next principal here. Gamble Montessori High School will move to the old Mercy High School. Preschool at this building is full, and the elementary school is halfway full.

- b. Midway School food pantry – Corey Parker – Resource Coordinator at Midway school, his job is to reach out to the community to bring in resources for the school. He is working to raise \$5,000 for a project at Midway – a food pantry. Freestore Foodbank partners with CPS through a power pack program. He gives out about 80 meals each weekend. There are more needs in the community. They also partner with Vineyard Westside church. He is looking for support and volunteers to help as well.

11. Properties, Infrastructure, Beautification, Zoning (PIBZ) (John Bowen and Abe Brandyberry)

- a. Western Hills Plaza – Old Sears Building Redevelopment- Brixmor Property Group – owners of Western Hills Plaza. Sears has closed, and they are planning to remove that part of the building and replace it with single level stores – about 8 tenant spaces. The largest 2 are tentatively claimed. They need to request 2 conditional uses – the outdoor patio, and there would not be any speakers or outdoor entertainment at that patio; the location of the loading docks and service areas. Both of these are within 100 feet of residential property. They plan to construct a privacy fence between the residences and commercial use buildings. Questions from the community. A large part of the \$17M cost to build this includes water retaining efforts. Timing – begin construction in October with hopefully retailers open by November 2020. Requests for Trader Joes, bookstore, etc. On June 11 there is a court date for review. Have there been notifications to the residents on Roosevelt? They will receive notification before the zoning hearing. Larry motions that WCA write a letter of support for the two conditional uses for this project. April seconded. We would like to see some more outreach to the neighbors. Motion passes unanimously. The Brixmor Group will share information with the residents about the project.
- b. Properties – List of blighted – Joel – working with CURC to do this.
- c. Infrastructure - John Kerr – Western Hills Viaduct – city and county are working together to apply for funding. Completion date is approximately 2028 because of the cost and size.
- d. Townhall grounds update – Westwood Works will be doing a walk-through before Second Saturdays. They do not have a specific date.
- e. Zoning – Change request for City on a Hill on Mozart Ave. - Jonathan Price – They will be moving to the old Danbarry cinema building, and they want to sell the current location. He is looking for neighborhood small setback zoning. The community may want to know exactly who is interested in moving into the space. They are looking for this zoning for flexibility. This is outside Form Based Code. The board wants more information before having a vote.
- f. Beautification
- g. Yard of the Month - John Bowen and Sydney – June Yard of the month info will be in the newsletter.
- h. Pots – Mamma J – All pots are claimed.
- i. Westwood Community Gardens – Update on Gazebo - Joel Kimmet

12. WCA Officers – President, VP 1, VP 2, Recording & Membership Secretary, and Treasurer (Vote) Here are current and proposed officers: Treasurer – Steve Beckman, Membership Secretary – Stephen Schramm (postpone this vote until he is present), Recording Secretary - Sara Overstake, 1ST VP - Shawntee, 2nd VP - Tommy, President - Henry. Emily motions for the nominations to the appointed. Larry seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Vote for Membership Secretary will be held next month.

13. Membership and Outreach (Emily Reynolds) – Event was held here at the school with a booth this month.

- a. Westwords – Please send updates to Trinette
- b. Membership Update - Stephen Schramm and Thomas Sauter-no report

14. Finance (Steve Beckman)

- a. NSP – John Bowen – Question about \$400 for Girl Scouts – reach out to Karen Strasser, \$200 to Youth Council, \$300 Art Show, Multicultural Fest, \$200 backpack supplies, and others. All need to be spent by September.
- b. Fundraising and 2019 Auction: Thomas Sauter – Auction is June 21 at Mapleridge Lodge. We are looking for donations and people to attend. Tickets are \$30 each. Last year we made around \$4,000. Donations can include items, experiences, baskets, liquor, etc. Tickets are available on Eventbrite.

15. Westwood Coalition Update (Shawntee) –

- a. Greg Hand shared that they are looking for buy-in from community groups to look at redesigning the strategic plan. The intent is for Westwood Coalition to lead the process, and WCA would need to approve the final plan. There are two issues with the current plan. It is over 10 years old and says we will do things that have already taken place. Also, there are combined items that do not need to be in the plan. Emily motions that WCA supports Westwood Coalition revisiting the strategic plan. April seconded. Motion passes unanimously.
- b. Westwood Works – First Second Saturday event is June 8. There will be food, drinks, music, and fun. There will not be use of Town Hall grounds, but Harrison Avenue will be closed from Montana to Epworth. They are also looking at 3 murals in the neighborhood. They will be designed by the artists and “paint by number” so kids can participate for free and adults can participate for a small fee. Multi-cultural fest is August 31. Question about Harvest Home Fair. Westwood Historic still have Westwood-o-poly available. Cincitalia is coming up on May 31, June 1, and 2.

16. Other Business

- a. Drama Workshop is partnering with West Side Brewing June 7-9 for “Home Brew”. Located on Glenmore Rd.
- b. Question about Nation Restaurant – Nation has not yet acquired the property, but they are still planning to buy it. They are looking at opening it about a year after they get access to the building. The city voted yes to sell it, but they haven’t closed yet.

17. Meeting adjourned.

Announcements:

Westwood Civic meets every third Tuesday of the month 7p, @ various locations. Tell your neighbor about our efforts in the community! **CRC Teen Night: Is for youth 12-18** - Is every Friday from 6:30 pm to 8:45 pm at Westwood Town Hall with the **Youth Council** every Friday of the month. For more information about Youth Council please go to cincyunityouth.org **Youth Council Leadership** meets the first and third Mondays at 7 pm. 1st Monday meets at 3rd Presbyterian on McHenry and the 3rd Monday meets at Westwood Town Hall. Email Emily Miller Reynolds at emilylynwca@gmail.com for more info.