

Westwood Civic Association August General Membership Meeting

Tues. August 20, 2019 – 7 PM

Location: Westwood Town Hall

In Attendance: Steve Beckman, Larry Eiser, Anne Murphy, Thomas Sauter, April Stephens Stephen Schramm, Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm, Abe Brandyberry , Geneva Clark

Absent: Sara Overstake, Emily Miller Reynolds, Henry Frondorf Alexa Justice, John Kerr John Bowen

- 1) Call to order
- 2) Pledge
- 3) Roll Call
- 4) Approval of Agenda –no changes
- 5) Approval of Minutes –July minutes approved
- 6) Police & Fire Report –Police report: theft remains leading crime in Westwood. No major issues of note. CPD encourages residents to use FlixITCincy App and report crime. Pedestrian accidents are down significantly from prior year. Captain also cited increased safety measures in front of West High. Fire dept. not present.
- 7) Properties, Infrastructure, Beautification, Zoning (PIBZ) (John Bowen and Abe Brandyberry)
 - a) Properties – Jubilee Market-Tommy Sauter sent letter to inform city and regional Methodist church authorities about the former Jubilee property at corner of McHendy and Harrison recapping history of location which was given to Jubilee Ministries by city. Jubilee failed to uphold their plans for the property and now seek to sell building and profit from sale. WCA feels the property should be returned to the city ownership-encourages concerned residents to call city and Methodist church leaders to voice objection to Jubilee sale/profit from property. Property is currently empty, for sale listed for about \$200k though was acquired as gift from city/taxpayers at low cost on promise of plans for neighborhood enhancement at that location. WCA plans to discuss next steps.
 - b) Infrastructure – John Kerr and SORTA levy proposal –no update
 - c) Townhall grounds update-Park Board is now responsible for Town Hall grounds after landscapers complete work. Some concern about dying plants in new plantings- Landscape contractors are responsible to replace any plants

that die within year. Karen Strasser-new plantings are perennials, should be relatively low maintenance. Residents shouldn't be responsible for weeding and upkeep of grounds as in past. Jincey-contractors are still on site and responsible. Park Board isn't responsible for grounds upkeep yet.

d) Zoning –

- i) Pink Gun, 2300 Montana Ave., Federal firearms license and zoning variance – Representative in attendance to speak tonight (Anthony Couch)-Company is an e-commerce firearms retailer that applies decorative designs to exterior of firearms; they state their target market is female customers and smaller size handguns. Currently online sales only. Business is just starting up, new to Cincinnati. Building owner of potential site on Montana Ave. is also present to speak in support of Pink Gun as a tenant. Space is 400 sf for use as design lab. Building is currently zoned for mixed use. Business needs a federal firearms license in order to handle firearms. Zoning variance is also required to allow for the painting of firearms in that current building for this specific space. Zoning and federal firearms license would not allow firearm transactions on site/in person. Customers order firearm and design from Pink Gun and when complete the firearms are delivered to a licensed firearms dealer accessible to customer. Firearms on premise are stored in a safe. Representative stated that Pink Gun does not alter/modify weapons other than the superficial cosmetic appearance. FFL-01 they are seeking would not allow them to do that. FFL-01 only allows them to make sales. Customers must complete application-business plans to run ATF background checks and additional checks for better verification/background checks for online gun sales. Brick and mortar store that provides pickup must also run their own background check. No action by WCA board at this time.
 - ii) Westside Brewing-variance request. Request to have exterior door swing onto the easement. Door would be ADA compliant. WCA Motion to support variance approve unanimously. Tommy Sauter will write letter of support.
- e) Beautification-no updates
- f) Yard of the Month – positive feedback from residents about yard of the month signs and distribution. Kiwanis pays for landscaper to maintain triangle at Boudinot-there was a lapse but they are going to get back on track with maintenance
- g) Pots – Marie Jones—Most pots in good shape. One pot was not planted-Mamma J reached out to them. Plants were stolen from Abe Brandyberry's

pots. Other pots looking good. Westwood Community Gardens – Update on Gazebo - Joel Kimmet not present but he has been working with boy scouts to complete gazebo.

8) Public Safety (Shawntee)

- a) WUTSTV – Shawntee-Next meeting is 8/27 @ 7 at D3. Always welcome new participants; will be planning some fall community events.
- b) Block Watch – Anne Murphy-no update
- c) Citizens on Patrol – Mrs. Fichter-not present/no update
- d) Pedestrian Safety – Thanks Girl Scouts for installing safety flags around Town Hall intersections (15 crosswalks in total!). Flags are being used by pedestrians. The scouts have 100 extra flags. Let them know if any more are needed at any particular location. Tommy-City is seeking feedback on VisionZero pedestrian safety initiative via survey. WCA will post link again on facebook page.
- e) CRC Announcements – Jincey-Westwood Works Second Saturday and Art Show will be 9/14; Youth council will be selling non-alcoholic refreshments to earn money for their group outings. Pickle ball court is now marked on Town Hall auditorium floor for pickle ball games. Hiring municipal workers for Westwood CRC and also contract instructors for community classes/programs. Van driver needed for afterschool day-camp. There will be a grand opening for Town Hall interior and grounds this fall-date TBD.

9) Youth Council (Emily Reynolds and April Stephens)-Jincy addressed updates.

10) School Enhancements: Larry Eiser-Community groups coordinated welcome effort for Gamble Montessori at new location in former Mercy High School at Epworth and Werk. Crowd welcomed students as they arrived on first day of school and welcome signs were placed in neighboring yards.

11) Membership and Outreach-Larry Eiser

- a) Westwords – Please send updates to Trinette
- b) Membership Update – Larry Eiser-committee is giving consideration to eliminating WCA membership fees.
- c) Westwood Multicultural Fest – August 31 – We have a booth and hope to spread greater awareness and participation in WCA throughout Westwood; Volunteers needed to staff booth.

12) Finance--Steve Beckman

- a) NSP –Steve Beckman-working on spending final NSP funds before 8/31 deadline. All funds have been allocated but remaining purchases need to be made-banners and brackets, additional flower pots, etc.

- b) Fundraising: no update
- 13) Westwood Coalition Update –Larry Eiser. City wants resident ideas for area of land at former Mercy Hospital site adjacent to Oskamp field. Updates to come.
- 14) Other Business-
 - a) Harvest Home fair is looking for volunteers and organizations to host booths at fair.
 - b) Larry Eiser-St James/Westwood Works is hosting Jammin at the James 8/24- 5-8 pm. Free food and soda. BYOB
 - c) Volunteers needed for Westwood Art Fair and Second Saturday in September. Volunteers needed for setup and tear down at event. Nation Bar –new owner and future occupant of Firehouse will have a booth providing beer and food and renderings of plans for firehouse space.
 - d) Westwood Works- 10/18 party at MadCap to celebrate 10th anniversary of Westwood Works-theme /time tbd
- 15) 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 cincyunitedyouth.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.