

Westwood Civic Association

General Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2020

Attendance: Henry Frondorf, Sara Overstake, John Bowen, Larry Eiser, John Kerr, Emily Miller Reynolds, Alexa Justice, April Stephens, Steven Schramm, Shawntee Stallworth Schramm

Absent: Geneva Clark, Abe Brandyberry, Thomas Sauter, Steve Beckman, Anne Murphy

1. Call to order
2. Pledge
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes – January
6. Police & Fire Report - Officer Rich Minella – 28 day crime report is available. The biggest offense is theft and theft from autos. Small increase in robberies, specifically delivery drivers. Last Wednesday the US Bank on Harrison was robbed at 9:30am. Male and female entered bank demanding money and assaulted the teller. The suspects left on foot. The tracking device was found a couple blocks up disabled. They have not found them yet. Question about if this was a lockdown situation. Police arrested two individuals robbing a home during the day after a call from the neighbor. Shot spotter is coming to Westwood. The police caught the suspect breaking and entering in multiple locations, including the Ruehlman building. In November, we requested data from the city regarding police info. We have 168 officers in district 3, which is not proportional to other districts in the city. Henry will share the data with the city manager and city council.
7. Youth Council (Emily Reynolds and April Stephens) – They started a different structure with the kids this year with educational activities including presenters. This Friday they are doing an activity with Sergeant Hicks to talk about gun safety.
8. CRC Announcements – Jincey – Looking for a donated television and/or game system. Summer day camp goes on sale next week. Youth to Work will be up on the website for age 14 and older. Swish basketball program for teens starts in March. River Trek is up on the website next week. They have a senior program and preschool program, starting a new voice program, and dance program.
9. Public Safety (Shawntee)
  1. WUTSTV – Shawntee – Meeting next Tuesday, 2/25 at Westwood Town Hall, starting a Business Owners Association. Karen Strasser passed around an invitation to the Business Owners meeting.
  2. Block Watch – Anne Murphy
  3. Citizens on Patrol – Mrs. Fichter – need more members to have at least three people to walk the patrol. The next training is March 12, 19, and 26 at District 1.
  4. Pedestrian Safety - Boudinot Avenue – Resident Leah Slicer – Lives on Daytona near Boudinot. She is concerned about kids sprinting across Boudinot. She looked into the situation in Wyoming (met with Officer Herzog) where Springdale Pike is a very busy area. They are adding parking, bump outs, and crosswalks. She would like to see them add crosswalks and make it safer to cross. Police officers visit schools to discuss pedestrian safety. Henry said we did submit requests to have crosswalks at each intersection on Boudinot. Leah could research a grant option to add pedestrian safety options to Boudinot.
10. Issue 7 – Bus and Infrastructure Levy – Move Forward Campaign – Craig Kacee – County-wide opportunity to vote for much-needed improvements for roads and buses. .8% sales tax –  $\frac{3}{4}$  of which will go to infrastructure, where buses run currently. There will be 8 new routes, and 24 hour service to many of the routes. This has already been endorsed by over 45 agencies and many other individuals. Question about why the .8% number. What is the process to have the funding go toward a particular project like the Western Hills Viaduct. There will be an application process. SORTA put the tax issue on the ballot. This will not go toward the streetcar. If this passes, the tax from Issue 22 will go away. This

is a 25 year tax. **John B. motions to take a vote on whether or not we vote on supporting the issue. Larry seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Shawntee motions that WCA supports Issue 7. Steven seconded. Motion passes, one opposed.**

11. Candidates (WCA does not support candidates)

1. Candidate for HC Common Pleas Court Judge – Wende Cross– Has two sisters raising children in Westwood. She is friends with Ty and Maxine from Shepherd’s Heart. She has been a lawyer for 27 years, serving as federal prosecutor, defense lawyer, family law. Currently serves as juvenile magistrate judge in Hamilton County. Judges matter and are important. She was raised in the church, and walks out her values of justice in her work.
2. Judge Pat Dinkelacker – grew up on the west side. He has been a judge for 28 years. Voting for a judge is voting for someone who will affect the community. Prosecutor for 11 years. Common pleas, court of appeals. He believes people will say he works hard, treats everyone with dignity and respect, follows the law, and seeks justice.

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

1. Lick Run District – Urban Design Workshop upcoming – Queen City and Westwood Avenue, they want to make sure it is used to the best potential, Sat 2/22 9am-3pm, Dunhum Recreation
2. Nation Bar and Grill announced they are moving forward and hoping to open by the summer (but that is not set in stone)

13. School Enhancements: Sara Overstake – Student awards will be given in April again this year. We will add Gamble Montessori Elementary to the list this year. We will need someone to present the awards.

14. Membership and Outreach (Emily Reynolds)

1. Westwords – Email going out soon about online Westwords and limited print copies.
2. Membership Update - Stephen Schramm and Thomas Sauter – renew Westwood Civic Memberships for 2020
3. WCA Elections – Nominations- The board is made up of 15 members. There are two people stepping down this year. There is a members committee and presidents nominating committee. Abe and Steven Schramm are willing to run again this year. Presidents committee nominated Karen Strasser, Andrea Boettcher. John Bowen leads the members committee with Alexa Justice and Peggy Frondorf. They are also nominating Scott LeCates. He is a neighbor. There are no nominations from the floor. Elections will be in March if there are any more nominees.

15. Finance (Steve Beckman)

1. NSP –John Bowen – no update. Neighborhood Support Program dollars for the community.
2. Fundraising: Thomas Sauter – no update

16. Westwood Coalition Update (Shawntee) – Have not met for a couple of months. Westwood Works had a great Brews and Stews event. Second Saturdays begin in June. Greg Hand – CURC – they are working on traffic calming on Harrison Avenue. They need to do some engineering studies to proceed and apply for state funding. TIF money is needed for these studies. NBDIP – 2 applications for Westwood – sidewalk repairs and acquiring property on Harrison. Westwood Historic Society – 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed. of each month at 7 pm at Westwood First Presbyterian Church. Westwood Community Gardens – new coordinator – Peg – inviting everyone to become members of the garden. They just received a \$900 grant from the city to add soil to the beds. Meeting coming up Spring Kickoff March 26 at WTH 7-8pm. Info on WCA website. \$25 for 4x8 garden bed, payment available through paypal.

17. Other Business

1. Westwood flags for sale \$35
2. Westwood Blitz week of April 6 – City and Public Services do clean ups in each neighborhood, dumpster, info will be in Westwords.
3. Question about getting a crosswalk at Bracken Woods with multiple pedestrians struck in that area.

**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 12-17** - Is every Friday from 6:00 pm to 9:00 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](http://cincyunitedyouth.org) **Youth Council Leadership** meets the first and third Mondays at 7 pm. 1st Monday meets at Town Hall and 3rd Monday meets at 3rd Presbyterian on McHenry. Email Emily Miller Reynolds at [emilylynwca@gmail.com](mailto:emilylynwca@gmail.com) for more info.