

Westwood Civic Association May General Membership Meeting
Tues. May 19, 2020 – 7 PM

Location: Zoom Conference Call

Attendance: Thomas Sauter, Larry Eiser, Alexa Justice, Sara Overstake, Steve Beckman, Emily Miller-Reynolds, Anne Murphy, Abe Brandyberry, Karen Strasser, Scott LeCates, John Kerr, Andrea Boettcher

Excused Absences: Shawntee Stallworth-Schramm, Stephen Schramm, April Stephens

1. Call to order
2. Pledge
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda – Emily motioned to approve agenda. Larry seconded. Approved.
5. Approval of Minutes – February Minutes, Steve Beckman motioned to approve, Larry seconded. Approved.
6. Vote to make officer positions official – Emily nominated Tomas Sauter to be president. Alexa seconded. Motion passes unanimously. Larry nominated Abe Brandyberry as VP 1, Karen Strasser as VP 2, Steve Beckman as Treasurer, Sara Overstake as Recording Secretary, Stephen Schramm as Membership Secretary. Emily motioned to install these officers. Sara seconded. Steve Beckman is planning to work with Alexa to train her on the Treasurer role. Anne is interested in taking on the role of recording secretary next year. Motion passes, appointments take effect immediately.
7. Police and Fire Report – No representatives. Karen will reach out to the fire department to check in and see if they want to attend next month.
8. Membership and Outreach
 - a. Reaching Westwoodians in the time of COVID – What is the best way to get more people info for these calls? We could use the same zoom number each time. Outreach can work with Larry and Alexa to put together instructions for people for a postcard mailing. Abe has a list of community organizations, and he will share that with the board (from Sarah Beach).
 - b. Westwords – Digital only, and we are no longer sending anything in print.
 - c. Membership Update - Thomas would like to delegate to someone to reach out to new members. Alexa is willing to do this. We could work with realtors

selling in Westwood to share info about WCA. Karen Strasser will reach out to someone about this. Andrea Boettcher is a realtor and will work with her on that as well.

9. CRC Announcements? – Karen Strasser said she has been at Town Hall frequently being 2:00 and 5:00 to get CRC snack bags for kids in the neighborhood, and it is going really well. Emily will reach out to Jincey to make sure she is aware of these WCA meetings.

10. Youth council – Emily said they are currently on hiatus because of the pandemic. There was an opportunity for a remote job with the Urban League, and Jincey reached out to some of the kids about that job. Jincey reached out to as many participants as possible. They are hoping to have a meeting soon.

11. School Enhancements – We have only received nominations from St. Catharines, Dater Montessori, Dater High School. John Kerr motioned to give awards to the three nominations received. Emily seconded. Motion passes. We could do an award in the mail and give a Putz's gift certificate to them (\$10 instead of \$5). Question about in the future when we have a meeting in person, we could livestream the meeting. Emily motioned and John seconded for the amount to be increased to \$10 now and in the future. Motion passes unanimously.

12. Nominating committee

13. Properties, Infrastructure, Beautification, Zoning, - John Bowen, John Kerr. Committee chairs do not need to be board members. We need to figure out what the role of this committee is moving forward while we are operating in this isolated situation. We may want to figure this out for all of the committees. Joel Kimmert may be able to help give direction on this committee. The next steering committee meeting is in July. We can explore this more, as well as by-laws, at that meeting. There is a cost with having a vote, we may want to have more options for having elections at a general meeting, and we need to consider how to get more diverse representation.

a. Townhall upkeep. Karen Strasser – Maintenance is up to the community. The park board is only cutting the grass. Henry and Larry investigated and made a public records request for the budget for all the parks. We all need to be aware that the leaves raked and weeding has been done by Karen and her Hildreth neighbors. Karen needs help and support. There are large pots as part of the Adopt A Pot program. Emily suggested reaching out to the agriculture group at local high schools. Karen would like to approach Steve Shuckman because she is not getting through to Larry Parker. Thomas is willing to reach out to the city asking about this. Larry is also willing to reach out to Mayor Cranley's office. We could begin with Thomas reaching out to the parks employees first.

14. Public Safety – no meeting for WUTSTV. Emily gave an update on CIRV initiatives being furloughed at this time. Karen also spoke about the Business District Association opportunity. There was a meeting on Feb. 1 for WUTSTV, and businesses were invited to that meeting, with most showing up to have conversations. Bill Rich agreed to be the chair of that association. Thank you to Karen for getting this initiative started, and if we can do anything to support it, we should do it.

15. Finance

a. NSP Reallocation – NSP funding was cut by 25%, and we need to tell them what our allocation is by Friday. Should we just reduce everything by 25%? The money must be spent by the end of August. There may be events we were planning to support that do not happen. Someone could follow up with each of the nine allocations planned to find out if they will need the funding. We should consider having someone in line to take over NSP from John Bowen in the future. Sara motioned to cut the funding in each category by 25% across the board. Abe seconded. Motion passes. There is funding listed for Deck the Hall, but that was already decided to reallocate to other areas because the event did not need the additional funding.

16. Westwood Coalition – no report

17. Recognize departing board members – Larry made comments about our gratitude to everyone who is stepping down from the board. To Geneva, for being will to speak up and not always agree with everyone. To John, who offered to volunteer for roles more than anyone else, possibly. To Henry, for his time and leadership as president.

18. Other Business

a. Westwood Library – Thomas' wife is the new children's librarian and will be working on initiatives with the library and community.

b. Share by-laws and list of board members out to the board members. We could circulate a google doc with board members and contact info. Sara will begin a google doc and send out the link for people to update. Committee lists will need to be updated.

c. Should we record meetings in the future?

d. Larry and some others were working with the business owners through the RSP program to get more quickly approved for outdoor dining in the city. Exploring the option to have a food court area with spread out seating in the park. There has to be a designated area of the park for each restaurant for a liquor license. If a business asks for a letter of support, we could take a vote to

approve that. Larry motioned to support writing a letter of support to any restaurant or bar interested in this option, John K seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

e. The grass at the library is long. This is not city property.

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 12-17** - 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 **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 for more info.