

**WCA Steering Meeting
July 13, 2010
7:00 P.M.
Westwood Town Hall**

Attendance

Present: Baumann, Gweyn, Hollan, Kimmet, Kuhl, Lee, Lewis, McConn, McNulty, Neeld, Sess, Weber

Excused: Bach, Boyd, Henke

Recording Secretary

Mitch Neeld

Child Care Center

A child care center has recently opened in a house at the corner Montana Ave. and Epworth Ave. The question was raised as to whether that house is zoned for that use. It was mentioned that a large yellow sign advertising the child care center was in the yard. Gweyn asked why it would be necessary to advertise with a sign if only a small number of children are permissible by zoning. It was suggested to send an email to Kevin Rhodes(sp?) regarding the issues regarding zoning.

Ask A Lawyer

James Herbe(sp?) may be here – should we allow five minutes at end of meeting? Lee mentioned that he had heard him in the past. Sess will send an email and invite him to the next meeting.

Soapbox Derby

Sess mentioned that a presentation ceremony to be held within upcoming weeks in Madisonville. Neeld passed the Mayor's Cup trophy around the room.

Yard Signs

Amanda Hogan Carlisle is ordering 40 yard signs for the Westwood Art Show being held on September 18

CIRV List

Chris Kearney addressed the Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV) list which has the identities of 1500 adults and juveniles that are the most violent individuals who are: convicted felons still actively engaged; under probation; members of violent gangs and groups. Sess and Kearney requested CPD to release a portion of that list which includes Westwood and surrounding areas. CPD is reluctant to release information due to possible negative impact to on-going investigations. City legal opinion states that the CIRV list is exempt from the public records act. Kearney is asking WCA to petition CPD to make the requested information available (discretionary). Kimmet feels that we could get a list of those on probation or parole because it is public record. Sess asked how

the list would be used if we had it. Kearney stated that we would be able to connect individuals on the list with public housing (CMHA), it is harder to deal drugs when you've been "outed", and that the information was not wanted for publishing. Sess suggested that perhaps a committee of two could receive the information. McConn noted that we should be careful not to reveal the names of the individuals on the committee. It was noted that the list changes regularly. Kimmet suggested filtering the "informant" individuals from the list.

MOTION by McConn to pursue obtaining the CIRV list

SECOND by Kuhl

DISCUSSION – sensitive names (eg. on-going investigation-related) should be redacted. We need to know what information they are keeping. The taxpayers have paid for the list. Kuhl suggested that as WCA we ask for the list and let them tell us what information we can't have. Sess will put a request on WCA letterhead and send to Chief Streicher. Chris wants name and control number provided. Chris will send John email with precise information he wants to have included. Weber suggested sending a copy to City Council. McConn stated "it will make CPD more effective".

PASSED

Lewis

Westwood school emergency meeting in two weeks. It has been delayed due to minority contract issue – they had to meet 20% minority contracts. Meeting is at 4 pm at Mayerson Academy. John will email the school board. Dominos Pizza – is a win for us. The card table merchant is gone. Weber said John Glass of Dominos said that things have quieted down. WCA should send an email to thank the landlord. Invest In Neighborhoods – Hollan was elected to board. IIN is getting NSP back.

McConn

Sr. Anne Rene is having knee surgery a week from Monday. Westwood is not eligible for block grant funds from City for the purpose of buying the Bell Building due to higher income in census tract containing Bell Building. We need to persuade the library to donate the building in exchange for free services by MadCap to Library.

Kimmet

Joel asked if Sess had signed the NSP contract and stated that it needed to be completed ASAP. Sess stated that it hasn't been mailed to him yet and will call. Regarding the 2163 Harrison Ave. Community Garden site, the pipeline company is cleaning up site. Civic Garden Center sent lease paperwork to use other side of street.

MOTION by Kimmet to enter into a lease for \$1 for 2163 Harrison Ave.

SECOND by McConn

DISCUSSION none

PASSED

Kimmet and McNulty are working on a new Top-10 list of problem buildings.

Neeld

Neeld mentioned the state of the entry doors to GGz market at the corner of Montana Ave. and Harrison Ave. One door has been boarded for a couple months and the other recently boarded. A discussion about it being a health code or fire code violation ensued. It was recommended that we discuss the issue with Scott Ryan at the General Meeting. Also recommended was reporting it to the City by calling 591-6000.

Sess

John mentioned that he cut the “tall” grass at the house on Renfro. He also mentioned that Karen Strasser – who is on the Board at the Gamble-Nippert YMCA has engaged a company who is building a huge play area on the YMCA grounds and needs community input and volunteers. She wants to come to the next meeting to give presentation. John will add her to the agenda.

McNulty

Jim reported that he has been trying to contact Margaret Wuerstle with the City regarding down-zoning for Westwood and has gotten no response. We are asking them to do a study. Jim will elevate his requests. Jim reported that the WCA membership is being purged and that we are down to about 150 households out of 30,000 residents. Jim wants to do a door-to-door campaign in the fall. This will require remittance envelopes with Jim will develop. Jim also suggested a flyer to tout WCA accomplishments. He also suggested a WCA booth at the Art Show. Jim mentioned a presentation tomorrow at 7:00 at the Presbyterian Church held by the Westwood Historical Society regarding the Gamble House. Jim asked: since the City is not doing anything about the Fay Apartments, show we address it with our House of Representatives member – Steve Driehaus? Sess will invite Mr. Driehaus to our next meeting. Jim stated that there is some momentum regarding the pit bull issue.

Baumann

Valerie noted that we received \$780 from Invest In Neighborhoods. At WestFest, we made \$204 - \$60 for flags, \$90 for t-shirts, there was a \$50 electric cost for the booth. Kimmie mentioned that we had a bad location – behind the WGRR radio booth. Someone mentioned that perhaps we should change the game – Big Daddy Dice? Sess noted that we don't want this to be viewed as a big money maker for WCA.

Weber

Becky received an email from Roxanne Qualls regarding Harrison and Sarvis. They are going to “monitor” the situation. We need to continue calling in code violations, etc. Cincinnati Police regarding 2400 Harrison Ave. – they are going to “monitor” the calls for service and will stop billing if calls go down. MOTION by Weber to email Capt Neville to recommend CPD hold 2400 responsible for chronic nuisance standards and pay the bill.

SECOND by Kimmet
DISCUSSION none
PASSED

Some mentioned that we should ask Congressman Driehaus about the CMHA list as well.

MOTION by Weber to allocate \$200 for the Sept 21 General Meeting cookout

SECOND by Kimmet
DISCUSSION none
PASSED

Someone mentioned that Dominos Pizza is going to subsidize pizzas for GGL.

MOTION by Weber to allocate \$50 for Sept GGL event at Hannah and Glemore

SECOND by Kimmet
DISCUSSION none
PASSED

Gweyn

Kiwanis gave \$600 to Westwood Concern for pot planting

Kuhl

Yard Sale is this Saturday. There is not a lot of participation. It starts at 9:00.

Mary will send mass email to membership reminding them of event.

(Meeting moved outside)

Mary started a discussion about general meeting structure. There is often not enough time for the board members to report on committee business, etc. It was suggested that committees should go first and guests should go last. There is no problem with police and fire reports going first. Someone suggested an egg timer. Mary? Would like to start up welcome baskets. We need donations for welcome baskets.

Lee

Brian reported that the Stein Slide at WestFest was a tremendous success.

MOTION by Lee to be reimbursed \$12.24 for the Neighborhood in Neighborhood flyer expenditure

SECOND by Kimmet
DISCUSSION none
PASSED

MOTION by Lee to be reimbursed \$40.57 for the Neighborhood in Neighborhood pizza expenditure

SECOND by Baumann
DISCUSSION none
PASSED

MOTION by Lee to be reimbursed \$33.00 for website renewal

SECOND by Baumann
DISCUSSION none

PASSED

Sharon Lewis suggested that we should start capturing the vote counts for motion voted upon. A discussion regarding general membership voting and whether it mattered what the vote count was as long as it passed ensued. It was agreed that we would capture the vote count along with the motion in the minutes.

MOTION by Kuhl to adjourn

SECOND by Baumann

DISCUSSION – we need a roll call vote count.

PASSED