

KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
**Kennedy Heights Community Council**  
**Minutes of Council Meeting**  
**June 17, 2003**

Minutes taken by Noel Morgan, vice president, in the secretary's absence

Date: April 17, 2003 Opened: 07:30 PM. Adjourned: (not noted) Attendance count was 60.

Joshua Swain, president, called the meeting to order.

**Minutes:** Sheral Foster, secretary, was on vacation; minutes of the previous meeting were not read.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Bob Kamp reported an account balance of \$15,000 (\$14,225 in Provident, \$775 with McDonald Gradison); May expenses \$3,753; May Income: \$1,466.

**Guests Addressing Council**

**Ms. Jimmie Walker**, Diversity Team Leader for the American Cancer Society.

- This is a new position with the Cancer Society, which wants to become more inclusive and expand its services better to serve minority communities.
- They are now targeting African Americans and Hispanics for information about cancer
- Cancer incidence and death are higher among African Americans than any other racial group; the cancer rate for whites is 480/100,000; 520/100,000 for African Americans
- They are building a new facility for cancer survivors on Reading Road
- Seeking volunteers—both individuals and church groups interested in participating in the Body & Soul program

**Barbara Trauth**, Candidate for City Council

- Former resident of Orchard Lane
- Very concerned about safety

**Glen Gibbon**, Candidate for City Council

- Former General President of American Postal Workers Union
- Active with the Rainbow Coalition
- Supports the anti-loitering ordinance

**Kitora Charles** (may be misspelled)

- Shroder student
- Works at the Caring Place
- She is one of several students who will be going to all Cincinnati neighborhoods to find out what resources are available for youth.
- Under the supervision of Carol Chamberlain (Caring Place Director) they will compile a directory of this information

**Election**

President Swain turned the gavel over to Ernest Barbeau, member of the nominating committee, who then presided over the election. Ernie presented the nominating committee's slate; there were no nominees from the floor; and the slate was accepted as the only candidates for office.

**President**

KENNEDY HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Joshua Swain

Noel Morgan

**Vice President**

Charles Clingman

**Vice President for Community Planning**

Mimi Gingold

**Treasurer**

Bob Kamp

**Secretary**

Sheral Foster

Ernie explained that the nominees had been offered the opportunity to post brief bio's on the KHCC website, and most had done so. Each nominee was asked to tell Council about himself/herself. Kathy Spoon read information prepared by Mimi Gingold and Sheral Foster, who were not present.

Ballots were distributed, with the admonition that only residents were permitted to vote. Fire Captain Long counted the ballots. The results (announced later in the meeting):

Total Voting: 60

President: Noel Morgan, 35; Joshua Swain, 23

Vice President: Charles Clingman, 53; Noel Morgan, 1

Vice President for Community Planning: Mimi Gingold, 48

Secretary: Sheral Foster, 57

Treasurer: Bob Kamp, 57

**Fire Report (Captain Long)**

5 fires in May; 2 carbon monoxide alarms (false)

The Fire Department will be distributing smoke detectors this summer; concentrating on apartment buildings

To contact Capt. Long: [bill.long@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:bill.long@cincinnati-oh.gov)

**Police Report (Capt. Curetan)**

Operation Street Corner: 352-3715

Michael.curetan@cincinnati-oh.gov

Police have been using "decoy cars"; these are patrol cars that are parked in a conspicuous location; Capt. Curetan said the cars are sometimes occupied (at least one unoccupied decoy car has been vandalized—not in KH).

Police have focused particularly on Northdale, Kennedy/Montgomery, and Solar Vista

Several residents had questions and concerns

Homeowner at corner of Kennedy & Northdale said that the guys loitering there have become so bold and comfortable that they use her driveway and even the water tap on her house as if they owned them. "They're so comfortable that they make you feel like **you're** invading **their** space!"

- Two nights ago a guy urinated on the wall of her house as she and her son were walking up to the house
- She wants increased police presence

**A Rogers Park resident** asked whether police have seen an increase in prostitution in KH. She said there is a woman who has been openly soliciting on Rogers Park and Montgomery down to the corner of Orchard. She said that a workman for one of her neighbors had been solicited during the day.

Capt. Curetan said they have had lots of calls and that prostitution has been particularly bad in KH. The prostitutes tend to be young teens, some **very** young; tied to drug dependence and drug dealers. Josh reported seeing one woman in particular when doing his COP walks.

Capt. Curetan said that vice arrests are very difficult; need undercover officers; he urged anyone solicited to call and support an arrest.

Capt. Curetan praised the “courageous” work of the Citizens on Patrol (COP). He said there had been a report from Millvale that the bad guys had actually tried to intimidate the COP walkers by surrounding them—in the presence of uniformed police! No one was hurt. He said that’s a sign that the drug dealers are seeing the COP as so effective that they feel the need to confront them.

**A member of KH COP** said she would like the police to be more visible at times when COP is patrolling and to have police officers attend the COP meetings. Capt. Curetan said that he is working on improving that relationship.

**Jim Cebula** asked about the availability of crime statistics. Capt. Curetan said that they have reports that break down the service calls by address; there are a lot of false alarms, and this helps identify the problem spots.

**Missy Alexander** reported seeing drug boys on both sides of Kennedy actually stopping the traffic. She also said that the shoes had reappeared on power wires (Curetan asked Capt. Long to see that they are removed).

In response to concerns about lighting, Capt. Curetan suggested Council apply for street light improvements

**Resident of Glen (or Bantry?)** said the drug pushers are showing up there; has had four calls to the police to report activity at the corner of Glen & Bantry; there was a report that a known dealer is buying a house on Bantry.

**Hilda Coaston** suggested that we need to have a Council meeting that is dedicated solely to discussions of crime problems.

### Committee Reports

**Recreation** (Information from Melissa, Recreation employee for KH & PR)

- Playground equipment is being installed at Lang Field (corner of Robison & Woodford)
- Reds Rookie Success League
  - 8-9 year olds
  - Non-competitive baseball experience
  - Starts July 8            9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
  - Schmidt Field
  - Free Transportation
  - 352-4020
- National Junior Tennis League
  - Mon-Thurs practice
  - Games on Wednesdays
  - Will include trip to the ATP for a full day
  - 352-4020 to sign up or get more information

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- Swimming lessons: Still have openings at the PR pool
  - 531-2707
- Ridge Day July 12
  - PR is trying to get all communities involved
  - Kids' Section
  - Show wagon with entertainment
  - VW car show
  - Krogers Family Fun Day at the PR pool (2-6:00 p.m.)
- Before-and-After School programs at PR Recreation Center
  - Register now for next call

### **Business & Office Development**

Chairman Van Foster is on vacation. Ernie Barbeau reported on two grant proposals being submitted to the City for development along Montgomery Road. The grants would be through the City of Cincinnati Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program. A major grant would support acquisition and demolition of the space from the former Mr. Kelley's to the corner of Kennedy, with the aim of development of mixed-use neighborhood businesses. The minor grant would fund a market study for the Montgomery Road corridor.

Both Ernie and Josh Swain explained that there is a very slim chance of grant approval, because the grants are targeted for neighborhoods with lower income than Kennedy Heights. However, it is important to let the City know of our interest, increasing the likelihood of succession future requests. These developments would be consistent with the Community Plan.

Council endorsed the grant applications by a voice vote, with no dissent. Van's written summary of the proposals is attached to the minutes.

### **Kennedy Heights Art Center**

Kathy Spoon and Jim Zarnowiecki reported on progress of plans for establishing an art center in the building formerly known as Douglas Funeral home.

The Kennedy Heights Arts Center is a non-profit corporation that has a contract to buy the Douglas property. The contract expires on July 4, and they are close—but not yet there—to raising the needed funds. Two possibilities for resident participation: 1) Contribute money 2) Buy a certificate of deposit at the Columbia Savings Bank in Clifton, which will hold the Arts Center mortgage. Your CD would help secure the mortgage.

### **Beverage Store**

At the direction of the KHCC executive committee Kathy Spoon had prepared two petitions for residents to sign in opposition to the beverage store proposed for the corner of Kennedy & Montgomery. One petition states opposition to the intended use. The second petition states that if the store is built, the signer will not shop there. Each of the petitions will be sent to the man who intends to buy the Richie's property and build the store. The second petition will also be sent to the bank where he has applied for purchase money.

The meeting was adjourned (time not noted)

## **City of Cincinnati Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program - 2004**

The Department of Community Development and Planning (DCDP) is requesting applications for projects from communities for the 2004 Neighborhood Business District (NBD) Improvement Program. DCDP seeks to work with communities to develop large scale projects intended to have significant impact throughout the entire business community. The funding will be distributed in the form of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds. Each community may submit two funding requests consisting of one major and one minor request.

The KH Commercial and Office Development Committee would like to apply for funding for both a major and a minor project. The minor project, not to exceed \$30,000, will be to provide funding for a market study for the Montgomery Road Corridor to determine viable businesses to include in community development projects. The major project will be the acquisition and demolition of the Mr. Kelly's, Nu-Vue, and the Richie's property to make way for the development of mixed-use neighborhood businesses. The proposed development will include businesses as identified in our Comprehensive Community Plan such as an ice cream/bakery shop, bookstore, coffee shop, restaurant, office space, the Nu-Vue Window Store, etc.

The community funding requests will be evaluated on merit bases including job creation, how closely it follows the Community Plan, approval by the Community Council, impact to the community and Neighborhood Business District, and other factors.

The pre-application form was submitted on June 13<sup>th</sup>, the deadline was June 16<sup>th</sup>. The actual funding request form is due July 21, 2003 and has to include a complete budget, cost estimates, contractor's bid, preliminary plans, and private investments. The C & OD Committee will continue to push for funding for the community and will present this project and the outcome to the Community Council at the next meeting.

Thank you for your support.

Van Foster, Chairman  
Commercial and Office Development Committee