

Kennedy Heights Community Council
Board of Directors

Minutes of Meeting held on September 14, 2004

Present: Noel Morgan (President), Bob Kamp (Treasurer), Ernie Barbeau (Secretary), Van Foster (Chair of Commercial and Office Development Committee), NeCe Bassett. Other persons present: Bruce Long (Chair of Housing Committee), Karen Thomas (Chair of Recreation Committee), Richard Cooke, Ce Holm.

Minutes of the Board's Special Meeting of August 31 were approved as distributed.

There was extensive discussion of increasingly disruptive prostitution activities on Rogers Park, with one of the prostitutes being a resident of a rental unit at 6466 Montgomery, and of the inadequate maintenance of that rental property. The activities are placing residents at risk. Residents have observed aggressive accosting and soliciting (such as stopping cars) at all hours of the day, and slapping by one of the pimps of a prostitute. Residents have taken photos of two of the prostitutes and of one pimp and of his automobile. At least one of the pimps and prostitutes has a police record. Residents are concerned that the prostitution has already led to drug activities. Residents have initiated many contacts with the Police Department, and some arrests have recently been made.

Residents have expressed ~~much~~ frustration with the landlord, Mr. Matt Gawne of Indian Hill, of the property at 6466 Montgomery (who also owns the adjoining rental property), and of the number of police calls to that rental property. Over the past 29 months there have been at least 33 police calls to 6466! Residents have taken photos of the property, which served to highlight neglect and disrepair.

As a result of the above discussion, the Board made the following decision:

1. To send a letter to the landlord expressing the Community Council's concerns, and ~~of~~ inviting the landlord to attend the Council's meeting on Tuesday, September 21, at which time these concerns will be discussed
2. To invite Captain Cureton, District 2 Commander, Cincinnati Police Department, to attend the above meeting

Noel also noted that he has received some correspondence about loitering on Bantry.

It was reported that our CPOP effort ~~will be to~~ **is focusing on drug-related activities on the lower end of Kennedy Avenue, from Northdale to Woodford.** ~~at Northdale and at the bridge near Kennedy and Woodford. Several options are being explored with the Park Board.~~

Bob distributed and discussed the Treasurer's Report. We currently have a balance of \$17,108. During the discussion it was noted that

- Invest dollars cannot be utilized for physical improvement of the Kennedy Heights Art Center's property. The **beautification** moneys ~~from I~~ will therefore be utilized for other beautification projects, such as the entrance to Kennedy Park. The projects will be coordinated by the recently appointed chair of the Beautification Committee, Joyce Hibbard.
- Donna Faulk has nearly completed the audit. A copy of the audit will be presented at the next meeting of the Board.
- A Budget Committee will soon be appointed.

- A separate account has been established for processing of the contract with the City for the feasibility study
- Ticket selling for the Progressive Dinner will be on target; many items have been secured for the Silent Auction that will be held at the Art Center

The Progressive Dinner will begin with a reception at the Geier Apartment, followed by the dinner at various residences, and from 9:00-10:30, with three activities at the Art Center: dessert, Silent Auction, and presentation of the Landscape Awards by Joyce Hibbard, chair of the Awards Committee. More than 20 residents have volunteered to produce desserts. This year's Dinner will be significant in two ways: it is the first time in many years that residents have been asked to provide desserts, and it is the first time that the post-Dinner activities have been held at the Art Center.

Van reported on several important activities related to the Commercial and Office Development Committee.

- The City Planning Commission recently approved our Board's August 31 recommendation that the Kennedy Heights-Montgomery Road Commercial Corridor covering properties on Montgomery Road between Coleridge Avenue and Tyne Avenue (the entire Interim Development Control District No. 57) be changed from CC-A, Commercial Community-Auto, to CC-P, Commercial Community-Pedestrian. The Planning Commission informed relevant businesses of the September 10 meeting. (The KHCC has a copy of the notification.)
- There will be a public hearing on October 2 by City Council's Neighborhood and Public Services Committee, for the purpose of taking action on the Planning Commission's decision. Following action by the Committee the motion will be referred to City Council. The 11:00a.m. hearing will be held in Council Chambers, Room 300.
- **Noel has signed a** ~~A contract was recently signed between~~ **with** the City and KHCC for the feasibility study, **but we do not yet have the City's signature.-**
- **At** next week's meeting of the Community Council, a substantial amount of time will be set aside for a presentation and discussion of the preliminary goals and schematic designs for the Montgomery Road Corridor. Representatives from the consulting firm of Kinzelman Kline & Grossman (KKG) will actively be involved in that presentation.
- Van expects the Council's October meeting to be the time for final action on the feasibility study.

Ernie reviewed the August 11 meeting that he and Charles Clingman had ~~a meeting~~ with eight or so volunteers and staff of the United Way of Greater Cincinnati (UWGC). Several weeks ago the UWGC had invited community councils previously affiliated with the Coalition of Neighborhood, to submit program proposals for consideration by the UWGC. The intent of the meeting was to review the three proposals from the Council that the UWGC assist us with the following:

- Facilitating a meeting of the Board for the purpose of developing priorities and assignments
- Developing and implementing a community survey
- Developing a market strategy

After considerable discussion the UWGC expressed particular interest in the market strategy proposal. The proposal will be discussed by the UWGC with representatives from Xavier University's Community Building Institute, and we expect to have a followup conference during the latter part of September.

There was substantial discussion of various issues related to our neighborhood and Cincinnati Public Schools, especially school sites. We discussed several avenues for addressing our concerns. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that the Board will *recommend to the Community Council that we support the upcoming school levy.*

Bruce reported that the Housing Committee has been of substantial assistance to a homeowner at the northern end of Kennedy Avenue. For the next phase of assistance, painting of the home's exterior, Bruce hopes to gain assistance from neighborhood churches.

Karen reported that the Recreation Committee is rather active:

- Barry Larkin Appreciation Day at the Great American Baseball Park, October 2. We will have \$4.00 tickets for the Park.
- In October there will be a special program for neighborhood youth at the Art Center.
- In November there will be a party and dance program.
- In December there will be a special holiday program at the Art Center.
- Missy Alexander is organizing basketball teams for youth.
- The Committee has assisted in developing four baseball teams.

A suggestion was made that we should find ways to recognize the volunteer coaches.

By consensus the Board agreed that the Council will develop a Adopt-a-Family Program for the upcoming holidays. NeCe and Karen will take lead responsibility with this service.

By consensus the Board agreed that the Council should not release its data bases of residential addresses.

We discussed the idea of the Community Council having a store-front location.

Ernie reported that the Constitution Committee hopes to present its final report at the October meeting of the Council, and for action to be taken at the Council's November meeting.

Noel noted that Jeff Weidner has agreed to manage our website, which now has about 1,500 hits per month. Noel also noted that we need to recruit some one to replace him as Editor of the newsletter.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45p.m.

Ernie Barbeau
Secretary
September 20, 2004