

**Kennedy Heights Community Council**  
General Membership Meeting  
November 16, 2004

The meeting, held at Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church, began at 7:35p.m. In attendance were approximately 45 persons (see sign-in sheets). The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Noel Morgan (President).

Noel introduced Police Officer Engelman, and two non-uniformed officers from the Violence Crime Squad. They provided extensive information and observations about arrests and *street crime* (especially drug related) in our neighborhood. The officers also sought advice and support from residents, with particular focus on the development of four- and five-person gangs of youths who are randomly assaulting individuals. Residents identified new areas of street crime. Activity on Northdale and the bridge has significantly decreased, but we are left with the impression that drug activity has dispersed to several new locations. Officer Engleman reported that residents on Iris recently established a Block Watch. Officer Engleman encouraged residents to contact him or the Health Department about abandoned buildings/residences. At the end of the conversation, residents roundly applauded the officers for their level of interest, concern, and activity.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept as distributed the minutes of the General Membership of October 19.

Bob Kamp presented the *Treasurer's report*. He noted that 2004 income will be around \$43,920.00. For this calendar year he expects a surplus of approximately \$10,000.

As required by our Constitution, Noel presented two motions from the Board of Directors meeting of November 9 (see below).

After an overview by Bob Kamp, a motion was made, seconded, and passed that the Council endorses the Board's recommendation that we donate to the Geier Apartments \$600.00 and the Council's unused computer.

After an overview by Noel, a motion was made, seconded, and passed that the Council endorses the Board's recommendation that we donate \$600.00 to the Shroder School's Community Service Program.

The following four items were discussed by the Board, and were presented to the Council as suggestions.

After an extensive overview by Noel, with comments from the floor, a motion was made, seconded, and passed that the Council authorizes amending the Beautification budget for the purpose of upgrading the northeast corner of Kennedy and Aikenside, for up to \$2,400.00. Mr. Charles Johnson has been contracted to provide landscaping services.

After an overview by Noel, the Council agreed, by consensus, to *cancel the Council's December meeting.*

After an overview by Noel of the 25 Cities Initiative Program, the Council agreed, by consensus, to hold a combined *Council/Town Meeting on Saturday, January 22*. The Council meeting would be less than 45 minutes, so to provide four or so hours to the Town Meeting on Safety. We will be inviting representatives from agencies affiliated with the Program (such as Talbert House, Cincinnati Police Department), CPOP, City Council, and residents to participate in the Town Meeting. The Meeting will probably be from 9:00-2:00p.m., with lunch provided. Noel noted that Program and KHCC representatives will be collaborating in planning for the Town Meeting. We expect Program representatives to assist in recruiting (and if needed, underwrite) a facilitator.

Noel reported that some *residents of Brandonburg Lane* have approached the Board for assistance in their wish to be a City of Cincinnati dedicated street. By consensus, the Council agreed to participate in advocating that proposal and to invite Brandonburg residents to advance their interests through participation in KHCC.

Karen Thomas (Chair of the Recreation Committee) and Richard Cooke (member of the Board of the Kennedy Heights Arts Center), reported on *Winterfest's* festivities. The December 3-5 festivities are being planned by a number of organizations in Pleasant Ridge and Kennedy Heights. Details about the festivities are available in the Council's newsletter and online.

Ernie Barbeau, Chair of the Constitution Review Committee, presented proposal for a *comprehensive amending of the Constitution*. He distributed two sets of documents: the current Constitution, and the proposed amendments. Members of the Committee are Jodie Barkley, Charles Bronson (who subsequently had to resign), Rev. Duane Holm, and Bobbie Mystrom. The proposal for amending the Constitution is now available online. Ernie gave an overview of the proposal, and noted that final action will be taken at the Council's February meeting. During the Council meeting, some inquiries were made about the proposal.

Van Foster, Chair of the *Commercial and Office Development Committee*, gave an extensive update about several matters related to the Montgomery Road Business Corridor, such as the feasibility study and the Beverage Cave. Van noted, for instance, the November 19 public hearing before the Cincinnati Planning Commission, on a petition by Skyy Properties for a drive thru liquor/grocery store within IDC #75.

John Nolan of the First Masonic District made some comments about their interest in converting the *Shroder School property* in a multi-use District Building. The building would include senior housing, rooms for community activities and meeting, and a charter school. We expect to have further discussions with District officials.

Kate Kern and Michelle Dragga reported on the role of the Kennedy Park Advisory Council, a council for the Cincinnati Park Board. They invited residents to attend the Advisory Council's November 20 meeting which will be held at the Arts Center.

Ce Holm reported on several items related to public schools and our neighborhood. She noted that only 30% of the voters in our precinct were opposed to the recent school levy.

Josh Swain reported that new radios are now available for purchase for use by out Citizens on Patrol, and that we are exploring the utilization of Safety Funds from the City for such purchase.

Donna Faulk noted that she now works for the Vice-Mayor, so if we have any concerns to feel free to bring them to her attention.

B. J. Gardner of the Kennedy Heights Arts Center noted the various activities that are being planned for the next two months.

Lawrence and Daneka Marshall, and Greg Simpson expressed their interest in establishing a Kennedy Heights football team for youths. (They can be reached at 731-3472, 531-7467.) Noel urged them to discuss this matter with Karen Thomas, Chair of KHCC's Recreation Committee.

Karen Williams of the Pleasant Ridge/Kennedy Heights Recreation Center, noted the various activities that they are planning for the next two months.

A resident expressed concern and interest on a variety of environmental issues and programs.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35p.m.

Ernie Barbeau  
Secretary  
November 17, 2004