

Kennedy Heights Community Council

General Membership Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held on April 19, 2005

The meeting was held at Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church, called to order by Noel Morgan (President) at 7:45p.m., and followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Approximately 32 person were in attendance. (The incomplete Attendance Roster is attached to these minutes.)

Motions Adopted (Presented in more detail below)

1. Beautification contract to maintain gardens
2. Extensive revisions to the KHCC ByLaws
3. Reaffirm to the School Board KHCC's support for combining all KH elementary students into a single attendance area, building a new school at Kennedy & Montgomery
4. Ask the School Board to convene a joint meeting with KH & Silverton
5. Actively seek a slot for KHCC on the Woodford LSDMC

Ernie Barbeau (Secretary) noted that a few copies of the *March 8 meeting of the Board of Trustees* were available. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed that the *minutes of the March 15 meeting of the General Membership be approved as distributed.*

Bob Kamp (Treasurer) verbally presented the *Treasurer's Report.*

Beautification Budget Approved

Noel noted that there was only motion from the Board that needed to be discussed by the membership. Joyce Hibbard, Chair of the *Beautification Committee*, reported that the Board had approved the expenditure of \$750.00 for contracting the services of Charles Johnson, and for the purpose of spring maintenance of community garden areas near Woodford and Kennedy, Aikenside and Kennedy, and Kennedy Park. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to approve the Board's action.

Announcements

A number of informational announcements were made.

1. Jeffrey Weidner reminded us of *Litter Magic*, which will be held this Saturday, on the Great American Cleanup day. LM will begin at 8:30a.m., with refreshments being available at KH Presbyterian Church later in the morning. LM will also include the Athletic Shoe Drive, which is part of the National Recycling Coalition.
2. Bob Kamp reminder members of the 17th Annual *Sap Run*, Saturday, April 30, rain or shine. Tickets (\$15.00 for adults and \$7.50 for ages 12 and under)) are still available. The walk-bike event will be from 8:30a.m.-9:30a.m., starting and ending at KH Presbyterian Church, with breakfast at KHPC 9:30-10:30. Approximately \$3,900.00 has been raised.
3. Noel reported that *Mr. Kelly's property* has been purchased by Deer Park Auto for \$67,000, and that the new owners have been informed by the City that they have violated zoning codes by storing autos on that property.
4. Noel also reported that the appeal hearing for the *Beverage Cave* has yet to be scheduled.
5. On the 30th of April the KH Art Center will be sponsoring a Mad Hatter's Party, which will include Crowns and quilts.
6. The KH Presbyterian Church will hold a *rummage sale* on the 30th of April.

7. Donna Faulk reported that the *Caring Place* is having a fund-raising campaign, whose purpose is to replace some of the moneys they loss from cutback in City of Cincinnati funding.
8. Ben Pipkin, CPOP Team Leader, reported that
 - The Council was recently awarded a \$9,000.00 grant from the *City Business Neighborhood District*.
 - *CPOP's next meeting* will be held on Tuesday, April 26, at the Council's new office (6463 Kennedy). CPOP's main focus is reducing the sale of drugs, especially from Woodford and Northdale Place. When our CPOP team examined crime stats from Northdale they were surprised to find many police calls for service related to *domestic violence and family violence*. Our team has asked for assistance from the YWCA and the Rape Crisis and Abuse Center of Hamilton County.
 - Police Specialist Kelly Raker will give a free presentation to interested landlords about how they can protect their investments by screening tenants and *preventing (or removing) drug sales on their property*. The one-hour training will take place place at the Kennedy Heights Arts Center, Tuesday, April 26, 7:00p.m.
9. A local group would be willing to provide a 30 minute *program on Identify Theft Prevention*. The representative was invited to discuss the program at a meeting of the Board of Trustees.
10. Noel reminded members of the upcoming election, and of the *Nominating Committee* welcoming self-nominations or of identifying potential prospects.
11. Karen Williams, *Pleasant Ridge/Kennedy Heights Community Center*, reported on the following
 - enrollment for summer camp
 - an athletic shoe drive similar to Litter Magic's (noted above)
 - availability of a Tai Chi (Yang style) program, which began April 9, 9:00a.m.-11:00a.m.; the program is free with membership card and all ages are welcome
 - Games Day, which began April 9 through June 4, second and fourth Saturdays, 10:00a.m.-Noon, featuring tabletop, strategy games, collectable card games, and miniatures battle games; open for persons between the ages of 6-14.

Police Report

Neighborhood Police Officer George Engleman provided a detailed report on a variety of matters, and following his report additional concerns were raised by residents.

1. Officer Engleman noted that earlier in the day the Cincinnati City Council's Neighborhood and Business Committee held the *Annual Liquor Permit Public Hearing*, and that the Wilson liquor transfer permit request was part of the agenda. He attended that session and noted that the Canby's, representing Wilson, and opponents, including Kathy Tyler were present, but no one represented the Community Council, even though the Council has formally expressed to the Police Department and the City its opposition to the transfer of the permit. During the hearing Councilmember Laketa Cole recommended that it would be best if the parties involved could reach an agreement. Later during our meeting this matter was extensively revisited at the request of the Canbys (owner of the liquor permit). Mr. Canby noted that the license permit has been with the family for nearly 65 years, that the grocery store has been closed for four years, and even though the store has been closed it is still being blamed as the cause for police service runs. The Canbys plan after the transfer of the permit is for the service be an asset to the community, and to address any issue with the behavior of their customers. They are considering having a walkup type of business. Mr. Canby asked: What does KHCC want?

2. There have been several incidents of *breaking and entering of automobiles*, and theft of several items. Two adolescent boys have been identified.
3. The Police Department will assign a *Speedwagon* to our neighborhood (a mobile unit that displays speed on oncoming cars)
4. The *incidece of crime in our neighborhood* is one of the lowest in all 52 neighborhoods in the City of Cincinnati
5. Some residents are concerned about *aggressive dogs* and needed information about what policies and procedures govern assistance from the police and the SPCA.
6. A resident raised a number of concerns about *parked cars on Ravenal Court*.

Constitutional Revisions

Noel recognized Ernie, Chair of the *Constitution Review Committee*, for action on the proposed amendments that were initially submitted at the November meeting of the General Membership. As in previous meetings of the Membership, copies of two documents were distributed at the beginning of the meeting:

- *Proposed deletions, major substitutions and additions, substitutions for clarification, and minor substitutions and additional content*. Dated February 15, 2005, one page (yellow sheet)
- *Proposed Amendments*. Dated November 16, 2004, 5 pages (blue pages).

Following Ernie's comments the following proposed substitute amendments were presented by Nancy Schmidt:

1. Article I, Boundaries. Kennedy Heights is defined as bounded on the north, east and south by the City of Cincinnati incorporation limits; and on the west, by Orchard Lane, Robison Road (north of Woodford Road), Edgeview Drive and Glen Edge Lane.
2. Article II, Membership. Residents on both sides of boundary streets may participate as members.

A motion was made, and seconded to approve the substitute amendments.

Following more discussion of the Committee's proposal, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed to approve the Committee's proposal as previously amended.

Education / School Site

Noel recognized Ce for a report on Cincinnati Board of Education (BE) *matters related to Kennedy Heights children*. Copies of the following three documents were distributed.

1. *Silverton School Site Selection*. Powerpoint presentation of the Superintendent Rosa Blackwell's recommendation to the BE at their meeting of April 11; two pages.

The report (see below) was developed in response to KHCC's request that the BE instruct Administration to do a comparison of a school in Silverton versus a school in Kennedy Heights.

Background:

- Kennedy Heights neighborhood students predominantly attend four different schools-Silverton, Pleasant Ridge, Woodford, Parker
- Silverton neighborhood students currently attend two different "neighborhood" schools-Silverton, Parker
- Kennedy Heights and Silverton children have shared a school for many years
- Silverton School opened in September 1963

- Kennedy Heights closed in June 1980
- Silverton School scheduled as Segment 3 school in FMP with capacity of 350
- School to be built on current school site
- Current school is PK-6
- Stable enrollment of 350-400 in a Paideia neighborhood magnet program
- District purchased property at Kennedy and Montgomery for \$1.8M in July 2002 for potential site of Pleasant Ridge School
- Decision to build PR on existing site makes Kennedy Heights property available

Comparison:

Silverton

- Bigger site (5.8 vs. 4 acres)
- Off busy street
- Expectation of keeping with original plan
- Kennedy Heights property more marketable
- Support of Silverton City Council
- Support of Silverton School's LSDMC
- Architect recommended

Kennedy Heights

- More student centric
- Abuts City park
- Catalyst for revitalization of the immediate area
- No need for swing space
- Support of Community Council

School/Neighborhood Analysis:

	Schools				
	Silverton	Woodford	Pleasant Ridge	Parker	Eastwood
Kennedy Heights	56	101	66	72	14
Silverton	148	29	12	15	4
TOTAL	204	130	78	87	18

Administration's Recommendation:

- Rebuild Silverton on site
 - Reconsider size and program of Silverton and Woodford. Expand the engagement process to include Kennedy Heights/Woodford community in discussions.
Sell property at Kennedy and Montgomery and put proceeds in Fund 4
2. Copy of letter sent by Noel Morgan, President of KHCC, to members of the Board of Education, re. site selection for Silverton School, April 6, 2005, 3 pages.

The letter identified the following objections and concerns to an earlier version of the above report, which had been shared during a March 30 conference with representatives from KHCC and staff of Cincinnati Public Schools:

- Failure to consider the utility of the park adjacent to the Kennedy Heights site (of Kennedy and Montgomery)

- Failure to consider broad community support
- Unbalanced “levy expectations” and “City Council Support”
- Consistent with the KHCC Comprehensive Plan
- No Consideration of Potential “Partners” or Community Learning Center

3. *Resolutions.* The following three resolutions were presented by Ce.

Resolution A: That we will encourage the recruitment, and in November, the election of candidates for the Board of Education whom we believe will include Kennedy Heights and its children in their plans for the District.

Resolution B: That we will urge residents to withhold support for future levies, renewals and bond issues until the needs of our community are included in the use of those funds.

Resolution C: That we will listen to proposals from Charter Schools interested in providing an elementary program for the children of Kennedy Heights.

Ce presented a comprehensive report of activities and concerns before, during, and after the *BE’s meeting of April 11*. A dozen or so KH residents spoke during the BE’s portion of that meeting that was set aside for hearing from the public. The long discussion that ensued during our General Membership meeting was lively, engaged many perspectives, and involved many residents.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution A (see page 4). The motion **failed**, with 4 persons being in favor of the motion.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Resolution B (see page 4). The motion **failed**, with 3 for, 12 against, and 6 abstained.

Resolution C (see page 4) did not become a motion, but it was discussed.

Duane Hold made a motion, which was seconded and approved without opposition, that the Council

- Reaffirm to the Board of Education that the Community wants all Kennedy Heights students combined with Silverton into a single attendance area
- Reaffirm KHCC’s position that the appropriate location for the replacement of Silverton School is at Kennedy and Montgomery, and
- As that the Board of Education convene a meeting of representatives from Silverton and Kennedy Heights.

Van Foster, Chair of *Commercial Development and Office Committee*, reported on the process that the BE must utilize, as required by Ohio Revised Code 33136.41, in the disposal of real property (such as the Kennedy/Montgomery). Van reviewed the one-page document. He also noted that our consultants are looking at the possibility of developers being interested with the K/M property, and of the deep concerns that we have about who might offer a bid if and when the BE places that property at auction.

One consequence of the above discussion was a motion that was seconded, and unanimously approve that we initiate discussions with Woodford for the KHCCC to have a representative on the Local School Decision-Making Committee.

Following Van's report Mr. Canby, associated with the Wilson transfer of liquor permit situation, initiated a discussion of recent events and the next steps related to that situation. (For details, see page 2, and as part of Officer Engleman's report.)

The meeting adjourned at 9:10p.m., after meeting for two hours and twenty-minutes.

Ernie Barbeau
Secretary