

Kennedy Heights News

October, 2004

Kennedy Heights Community Council



Montgomery Road Developments

Court Says "No" to Cave

9/24/03 City Council gave temporary protection to the Montgomery corridor by putting it under an "Interim Development Control" (IDC). The IDC lasted until 9/24/04.

SKYY Properties, the company trying to build the Beverage Cave, sued the City when it was denied a building permit. SKYY claimed the IDC was illegal and not properly adopted.

9/28/04 Common Pleas Judge Cooper ruled against SKYY. She found that the KH Community Plan was in place before SKYY bought the lot, that the Plan listed a carry out liquor store as the most undesirable business. And that SKYY proceeded to buy the property after being informed that the community was opposed to that use.

Although the original IDC expired on 9/24/04, the City renewed it to allow time to put new zoning in place. However, SKYY has gone back to court, claiming that the City improperly blocked it from getting a permit as soon as the IDC expired.

The battle goes on.

Meanwhile, the State Liquor board has not yet set a date for hearing SKYY's appeal (in Columbus) of the denied beer & wine permit.

KHCC Endorses School Levy Vote "yes" on Issue 32

Kennedy Heights Community Council has officially endorsed the Cincinnati Public School levy on the November 2 ballot.

Supporters of the levy at the September Council meeting stressed two points:

- the levy is for the kids
- it is a renewal and not a tax increase

The September vote was not unanimous. And opponents voiced frustration with the Board and Administration--including their failure (so far) to include in their rebuilding plans the Board-owned lot at the corner of Kennedy and Montgomery.

www.kennedyheights.org

Montgomery Rd. Re-Zoned

10/6/04 City Council completed rezoning of the Montgomery Rd. "corridor", extending from Tyne to Coleridge. This was in response to recommendations by KHCC.

The old zone was "CC-A"; it has been rezoned to "CC-P".

Both zones are "commercial." The main difference is that CC-A is more auto (car) friendly, while CC-P is focused on pedestrians. The change proposal was developed with the help of the consulting firm that has been studying possibilities for commercial development in the corridor.

One major difference: CC-P does not permit drive-thru businesses.

The new zoning does not affect existing buildings and uses. However, any new developments would have to comply with the zoning.

More detailed information is on our website: www.kennedyheights.org

CPOP

Don't worry about what the acronym stands for. In Kennedy Heights CPOP means residents working with City officials to devise & implement creative solutions to drug-related crime.

Their present focus is on Kennedy Avenue, and monthly meetings are drawing as many as 15 residents, who are developing a variety of strategies to attack the problem.

Join 'em!

Kennedy Office Building

10/26 11/23 8:00p.m.

Report Crimes to
Officer Engleman: 979-4468

Report Drug Dealing
Sgt. Ibold: 979-4420

PWC Prepare Affair Needs You!

Nov. 13

Provide winter preparation and clean up for low-income elderly and disabled homeowners.

- Rake leaves ■ Gather yard debris
- Clean gutters ■ Install storms
- Store lawn furniture
- Install CO detectors

Meet at Caring Place
(in KH Presbyterian)

People Working Cooperatively

351-7921

www.pwchomerepairs.org

Ken-Sil Sharks Undefeated

They just keep winning! For two years KenSil's 8 and 9 year old girls' soccer team is still undefeated! Coaches are Vanessa Nichols and Angie Butler.

Congratulations!!

Barry Larkin Day

October 2 busload of KH kids & adults rode to the Stadium to honor one of KenSil's favorite sons, Barry Larkin.

Good time had by all, despite...no autographs ...no homers...& no win !

Inside

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- ✓ Holiday Celebration Plans
- ✓ Lend A Hand

KHCC Meets Tuesday

October 19 7:30 pm

KH Presbyterian Church

KH Selected for

**Natl. Drug Control Program
Child Care Provided**

Kennedy Heights Community Council

Minutes of KHCC General Meeting 9/21/04

(This is a summary of highlights; complete minutes are posted at www.kennedyheights.org) Ernie Barbeau, Secretary
Attendance: Approximately 56

Motions Passed

- √ Allocate up to \$1,000.00 to help an individual homeowner with very basic housing conditions. Unanimous.
- √ Develop Adopt-a-Family Program for the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday. Unanimous
- √ Endorse the November public school renewal levy. During the discussion that led to the vote, several residents passionately spoke both for and against the levy. Approved 28-5.
- √ Inform Board of Education members that our residents are very concerned about how money is being spent and that they expect the Board to exercise fiscal responsibility. Unanimous.
- √ Recommend to the City to rezone Montgomery Road between Coleridge Avenue and Tyne Avenue be from CC-A ("Commercial Community-Auto"), to CC-P ("Commercial Community-Pedestrian"). *Endorsed prior Board Action.*
- √ Approve the Urban Design Overlay Guideline document developed by the Council's Commercial and Office Development Committee. *Endorsed prior Board Action*

Treasurer's Report (Bob Kamp): September balance of \$17,108.00. Approximately \$2,400.00 was raised at the Progressive Dinner's Silent Auction.

Announcements

Litter Magic: Joanie Wiedner, Litter Magic Coordinator, reminded residents that the next clean up will be held on Saturday, October 23. Encourage your neighbor to join you in making a difference. Litter Magic volunteers have been improving our community for the past five years.

Recreation: City budget cuts may hit reaction centers very hard.

Beverage Cave Update: No hearing date for the owner's appeal of State's liquor permit denial. The hearing will be in Columbus, and KHCC will charter a bus. Decision on the Cave's lawsuit against the City for denial of a building permit is still pending.

Shroder Academy: The new principal, Juanita Harper, introduced herself. Each of the school's 640 students is expected to provide 50 hours of community service! Shroder is one of 8 CPS schools whose performance has 'gone up a notch': Shroder is now an "Effective School"!

Neighbor-to-Neighbor: Clyde Otis (Doon Ave.) invited others to join him at the neighbor to neighbor meetings monthly meeting at Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Church.

Political: Representative of Dr. O'Dell Owens Campaign asked for votes for position of County Coroner.

Feasibility Study

Representatives from Kinzelman Kline and Grossman (KHCC's consultant) presented their preliminary findings and recommendations for the development in the Montgomery Road business corridor. Two designs were also available for viewing.

Safety

Residents of **Rogers Park Place** spoke about problems with prostitution, operating out of an apartment building at the corner of Montgomery & Rogers Park. As many as three prostitutes and at least one pimp are involved. The police have made some arrests, and more are expected. The building owner has started eviction proceedings against one of the residents, and she may be gone by mid-October.

Residents reported drug activities on sections of **Kirkup and Iris**, and especially brazen activity along the wooded area of **Aikenside** and Kennedy.

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The **CPOP** initiative is focusing on drug problems on **Kennedy** between **Woodford** and **Northdale**.

Citizens on Patrol has 30 volunteers, but could use many more.

Valleyview residents are establishing a Block Club. Officer Engelman also commented about the community's prostitution and drug problems and encouraged the community to persist.

Town Meeting?

The KHCC president suggested that we schedule a Town Meeting for the primary purpose of discussing safety issues. Residents applauded the idea.

Web Reminder

Frequent News Updates at
www.kennedyheights.org

State of The Community

Noel Morgan President KHCC

Five months into my second (and last) term as president of KH Community Council, this seems as good a time as any to share some thoughts & observations.

KH has always been known as an active (and often activist) community, and we're definitely going through one of our active periods. The touchstone has become the comprehensive community plan, adopted two years ago and generally recognized as one of the city's finest. However, our activist impulses have also been stirred by outside forces as diverse as drug dealers, a pony keg wannabe, and the Board of Education.

So, here's my rambling list of developments, issues, & accomplishments. If you've regularly read the newsletter and attended council meetings, you'll find few surprises. Of course, my real aim is to encourage you to join the fray. To say, "yeah, that's something I'd like to get involved with." It's your community. Join in!

- Our strong, aggressive **development** committee, has focused on reviving the "Montgomery Road corridor." Van Foster's crew landed a City grant (\$35K) for a feasibility study which is almost complete plus City promises of considerable funds (\$1.8 M) for the actual development.
- The **KH Arts Center**. Credit goes not to KHCC but to an ever-expanding number of dedicated residents of KH & Pleasant Ridge who have had a vision and stuck with it. Free art classes for kids (and extension classes off-premises at Hilltop and in churches). Major art exhibits. A gift shop. Stop in & check it out!
- Most dramatic development has been the overwhelming opposition to the **Beverage Cave**. The fight (led by Richard Cooke) is not over, but so far the good guys have been winning. Liquor permit defeated. Building permit denied. And the corridor has now been rezoned.
- Bruce Long has revived the Housing Committee—and for his first project tackled the ambitious task of organizing volunteer work crews to help an elderly Kennedy resident avoid prosecution for Code violations. However, Bruce needs your helping hands on such projects. As an overwhelmingly residential community, we need to give more attention to housing issues, including those that affect tenants as well as homeowners.
- The **United Way** recently surprised us with an offer to help former member communities of Coalition of Neighborhoods. Because only KHCC took them up on the offer, it looks as if we'll be the sole beneficiaries of as much as \$10K in assistance with strategic planning and "marketing" our community.
- **Litter Magic** (inspired and led by Joanie Weidner) continues to win honors for its approach to cleaning up the streets. Joanie's most recent innovation was "litter zones," with persons taking responsibility for keeping their zones litter-free. Joanie needs you!
- Overhaul of the KHCC **constitution** continues (led by Ernie Barbeau), expanding the governing board and making numerous other adjustments to improve the community's "governing" body.
- How KH fits in the school system's "Master Plan" continues to be a hot issue. Ce Holm has been the most passionate and untiring champion of re-uniting the KH students into a single, new, **neighborhood school**—located in KH.
- Our **finances** are healthy (Sept. balance was near \$20K), boosted by two major fund raisers (Sap Run and Progressive Dinner) and individual contributions, under the direction of Bob Kamp.

- The KHCC **website** is gaining in popularity, as both a resource and a way of quick communication. Liz Hamilton gave us a state-of-the-art design. Though she's moved on, Jeff Weidner and I have pledged to keep the information flowing. On average the site now gets about 1,500 visits monthly. Log on & join in!

- We have a very active team of **Citizens on Patrol (COP)**. They walk the streets—and the drug guys scatter like roaches in the light. Josh Swain has been the stalwart, and the only one to patrol on a bike (and what a bike!). Alas, we need many more.

- Amy Krings helped organize our first "**CPOP**" meetings last spring. Turnout has been good, and residents have been coming up with good ideas. CPOP typically develops proposals for the City's "Safe & Clean Streets" grants. However, our first grant proposal was written by the Arts Center—which has been awarded \$35,000 for security measures along Montgomery Road.

- Karen Thomas has been pumping life into KH **recreation** activities—and expanded the concept to include a holiday celebration. KenSil baseball has made a comeback (thanks to Missy Alexander), but it's unclear where we are with basketball. Soccer has, of course, been thriving on its own for years.

- For the past year **beautification** has been floundering. But this fall Joyce Hibbard offered to take it on and has been working with Charles Johnson. Their first project: new plantings at the Kennedy entrance to Kennedy Park.

Natl. Drug Control Program in KH?

Drug-related crime continues to be at the top of many residents' agendas. And we've now got potential for federal help in attacking the problem.

KH is one of only 3 Cincinnati neighborhoods which the National Drug Control Office has chosen to work with residents on developing coordinated solutions to the drug problem.

Learn more--& decide whether to accept the offer--at the 10/19 Council meeting.

There's more happening...but no more space!

See you on 10/19 at 7:30

noel@kennedyheights.org



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- It's the landlord's job to make repairs, maintain the building and equipment & make sure the heat works.
- When it's below 50 degrees outside for 24 hours, the heat inside should be at least 68.
- No heat? Check it with a thermometer...then call the Health Department. **564-1751**
- Low income tenants with housing problems can call Legal Aid for free advice & help.
241-9400

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Party Person Needed

Schedule and run Children's Art Birthday Parties

- ◆ KH Arts Center
- ◆ Over 18 years of age
- ◆ 1-2 hours (scheduling) during the week
- ◆ 2 hours on Sunday (Party)
- ◆ Pay: \$25 per party
Richard: 631-4278

Free Art Classes for Kids

- Kennedy Heights Arts Center
- Elementary Children
- Monday through Thursday
- 3:30-5:00
631-4278
or just stop by the Arts Center

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531-4041

We use the phone for voice mail. Messages are collected and passed along to appropriate persons.

631-7289

President's home phone. Call if no answer to your messages!

@kennedyheights.org

Email any board member by adding his or her first name (name@kennedyheights.org)

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Lend A Hand

- Finish painting project on Kennedy (ladder work)
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Bruce: 531-4041

housing@kennedyheights.org

Edit KH News!

- Volunteer position
 - Decent writer
 - Good computer skills
 - Know you can improve KH News
 - 8-10 hours per month
 - Send writing sample
- khcc@kennedyheights.org



Litter Magic

Make a Difference Day

City-Wide Event of Keep Cincinnati Beautiful

10/23/04 9:00 am – 11:30 am

Meet at KH Presbyterian Church
9– 11:00

Rid the streets of litter
11-11:30

Celebrate & count bags at the church

Refreshments

Latex gloves and litter pick-up gadgets provided

FREE t-shirt to new volunteers

Questions? Call Joanie Weidner
631-0051

litter@kennedyheights.org

Community Calendar

- 10/19** KHCC Meets
- 10/23** Litter Magic
- 10/27** Holiday Planning
- 10/26** CPOP
- 10/27** Holiday Planning
- 11/2** Vote !!!
- 11/13** PWC Prepare Affair
- 12/5** Perfect Cut Tree Lighting

Holiday Celebration

Last year KHCC held its first holiday celebration / tree lighting...it was modest affair, but Karen Thomas (Recreation Chair) had her sights and dreams set higher.

This year we're teaming with the Arts Center and Pleasant Ridge to. Still in the planning stages, but the possibilities include joint tree lightings in both communities, luminaries (candles in bags) lining Montgomery from Ridge to Kennedy, carriage rides, entertainment....

Join the Holiday Planners
Wednesdays at 7:30; Arts Center

Advertisement

Redwood Carryout

3610 Woodford Cincinnati, Ohio 45213

HOURS: MON-THURS 10-11

FRI & SAT 10-12

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With Drive Thru Window

Kennedy Heights Community Council

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Vice – President Charles Clingman
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Treasurer Robert Kamp
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Health, Env & Safety Joshua Swain
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Recreation Karen Thomas
Park Advisory Councils

Kennedy: Katie Kern; Lisa Pickering
Daniel Drake: Michelle Dragga

Litter Magic: Joanie Weidner
Landscape Awards Joyce Hibbard
Neighborhood Networkers. Donna Faulk
Citizens On Patrol David Muldrow

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Community Council Meets: 10/19 7:30

Agenda Includes:

**National Drug Control Program
Targets Drugs in KH**