

Kennedy Heights Community Council
Meeting of the Community Council

Minutes of the meeting held on November 18, 2008

In attendance were at least 23 residents (see attached Attendance Sheet), a quorum. A number of guests were present (noted below).

During the meeting several documents were distributed, such as the agenda, minutes of the Council's October 21 minutes, two-page flyer about the collaboration between Cincinnati Ballet and Invest In Neighborhoods, and the Treasurer's financial reports.

The meeting was called to order at 7:40p.m. by Ernie Barbeau, President. After welcoming remarks, Ernie led the Pledge of Allegiance, and reviewed the agenda.

The meeting began with a special guest, Mr. Ed Cunningham (Division Manager, Property Main-tenance Code Enforcement Division, Department of Community Development). Ed discussed the why, how, and what of the City's housing code and the role that neighbors have in bringing quality of life concerns to the City's attention. Neighbors can call the City's Customer Service Center (591-6000) and provide the Center's staff with information about your concerns; you do not have to identify yourself. Ed also discussed the legal limits related to a Housing Inspector entering private property, and the various phases of the inspection and enforcement process.

A detailed report by District Two's Neighborhood Liaison Officer, Police Officer George Engleman was given. Also present from District Two were Sgt. Tucker and Lt. Williams. Officer Engleman encouraged neighbors to establish and participate in block watch groups.

Kathy Tyler, Chair of our Youth Committee, introduced two teenagers who are members of the Committee's recently established Youth Council---George Tyler and Dante Parker. George and Dante made comments about the need for after-school and weekend recreational services for youth. Following their comments, Ernie noted that comments by George and Dante serve to reaffirm our expectation that the New Woodford School-Community Learning Center will evolve into a facility that provides such services. That expectation has recently led us to initiate productive conversations with two officials from the Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC). Later during the Council meeting, CRC's Rick McCollum, Area Service Coordinator for Pleasant Ridge and Woodford-Kennedy Recreation centers made several comments about opportunities for our youngster to access their facilities.

The Treasurer's report included the distribution of a three-page document, and a review by Kevin Holt. Kevin's report led to the following four motions were separately made, seconded, and unanimously adopted:

1. To accept the Treasurer's Monthly Report of November 7. The Report was previously accepted by KHCC's Board of Trustees.
2. To approve the proposed 2009 Budget. The proposed budget was previously adopted by KHCC's Board of Trustees.
3. To approve the proposed 2009 Budget for our Neighborhood Support Program. The proposed budget was previously presented at the Council's October meeting and pre-viously adopted by KHCC's Board of Trustees.
4. To approve the proposed 2009 Budget for our Neighborhood Business District United project. The proposal was previously adopted by KHCC's Board of Trustees.

Ernie presented to the Council his final report as President:

- Since the Council's October 21 meeting he has participated in fifteen conferences and meetings; those conferences and meetings were listed on the agenda.
- Reminded neighbors of the need to identify and recruit neighbors to serve as volunteers for the neighborhood, such as Recreation, Citizens on Patrol, Litter Magic, accessing Girl and Boy Scout activities.
- KHCC recently received notice from the City's Zoning Board of appeals re a decision related to 3719 Kirkup in which there was an appeal for permit to build a multi-family dwelling in a zoned single-family area; the appeal was denied.
- KHCC recently received notice from the City's Department of Transportation & Engineering re petition from residents of the 3800 block of Aikenside for installation of street calming. (Details about street calming will be published in an upcoming newsletter.)

Ernie reported that with the Council not being successful in recruiting a neighbor to be elected as President, Natalie Boyer, VP for Administration, will serve as Acting President, as of January 1, and until such time as a nominee is elected. Ernie, after serving as President for three and a half years, will then serve as Immediate Past President and as a non-voting member of the Board. (Only one other resident has served as President for more than three consecutive years---Josh Swain.) Ernie expressed thanks to the Council for having the opportunity to serve as President, and urged neighbors to continue investing their time, energy, and creativity to our neighborhood.

By consensus the Council agreed with the Board's recommendation that the Council's December 16 meeting be anceled; the next meeting of the Council will be held January 20.

Maria Kreppel, Chair of the Board of the Montgomery Corridor Arts Collaborative's District A made several comments about the First Annual Community Conversation. The intent of the Conversation is to provide a venue for artists and neighbors to provide feedback on the 10-11 Street Festival, dialog about their ideas about District A, and have the chance to learn more about District A.

Natalie's report as VP for Administration focused on our recent 25th Progressive Dinner, and the Board's discussions about the need to contract staffing services. At the Council's January meeting, Natalie will provide a more detailed report about those discussions. Natalie also commented on her impending role as KHCC's Acting President.

Clete's report as VP for Planning involved the following.

- Discussions are continuing with the City's Transportation and Engineering office re allocation of \$30,000 for a gateway in our Montgomery Road Business Corridor (MRBC) and signage at five or six locations in KH; the allocation will cover the design, manufacturing, and installation of the gateway and signage.
- We have received official confirmation that Neighborhood Business District United has recommended to the City that we be allocated \$100,000 for our MRBC proposal that was submitted some months ago. The next phase will be for interested neighborhood businesses who are eligible to submit, in consultation with us, specific and detailed proposals for review and action by the City.
- We are in the initial phase of exploring the possibility of collaborating with Pleasant Ridge for a bicycle corridor to be established along Montgomery Road.
- A few days ago, Ernie and Clete had a conference with a landlord of two rental properties on Montgomery Road about ideas on redeveloping the Road and its rental properties

Jim Zarnowiecki, Co-chair of the Beautification Committee, reminded residents of the neighborhood's first plant and seed swap that was held immediately before the Council's meeting. The Committee is also exploring other initiatives.

Jim, Chair of the Education Committee, reported on three items:

- The Design Team for the New Woodford School-Community Learning Center will hold its final meeting in January. During the interim the Team's design has been submitted to appropriate CPS review committees, for final review and approval. After the Team has reviewed the final design, the design will be submitted to the Board of Education for their approval.
- Recently the Police Department informed us that we will be awarded \$5,000 from the Asset Forfeiture Account, as matching funds for employment of a part-time Resource Coordinator for Woodford's Community Learning Center. We hope to have that person on board by early next year. KHCC's Board recently agreed to serve as recipient of that award and to be the entity to contract that the part-time Coordinator.
- Recently Jim and Ernie had a very fruitful conference with two representatives from Cincinnati Recreation Commission---Rick McCollum (Service Area Coordinator for Pleasant Ridge and Woodford-Kennedy Recreation centers), and Mark Celsor (Regional Supervisor). The intent of the conference was to explore CRC programming possibilities during Woodford School's two swing-years at the Old Shroder School, and thereafter at Woodford's new school and Community Learning Center.

Rick McCollum provided an update of recreational services available at PR and Woodford centers, and the willingness of CRC to provide transportation services to their programs at PR.

Jeff Wiedner, a member of Citizens on Patrol (COP), reported on the training that he recently received from the Police Department. He also noted that Michele Dragga, Unit Coordinator of our COP Team, was given a plaque by the Department for her dedicated three one-year service as Coordinator; Michelle was recently reelected to a fourth term.

Ben Pipkin, Chair of our Community Problem Oriented Policing (CPOP), announced that CPOP will be meeting November 25 for the purpose of discussing possible 'hotspots' in our neighborhood. Residents are always encouraged to attend.

Lydia Morgan announced that the KH Presbyterian Church was hosting a Thanksgiving Dinner for individuals and families. The dinner will be held at the Church; it will be served "family style"; seating will be 12:30-1:00, with dinner served at 1:00; there is no charge, but children must be accompanied by at least one adult. Reservations are required; call 631-1114.

It was also announced that neighbors are invited to attend an AshaTea, to be held at the home of Ally Nurre (5851 Wyatt), on November 22, 3:30-5:30. "This is a wonderful opportunity to chit chat, enjoy tea and buy some beautiful embroidery to support Asha, School of Hope, in Dhaka, Bangladesh, as their graduates move from school to beginning independent businesses." Fee: \$5.00 at the door.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:05.

Ernie Barbeau
Acting Secretary
12-13-08