

Kennedy Heights Community Council Hybrid Meeting
June 20, 2023 7:30 PM

The meeting was called to order and everyone welcomed by President Sharifah Tafari.

I. Minutes: Correction was made regarding the spelling of Pat McVeigh's last name.

It was then motioned and 2nd to approve the minutes. Vote: Ayes – 100%, Nays – 0. Minutes approved.

II. A. Public Safety (Off. Rice): today is Officer Rice's last day. Our new neighborhood officer will begin in July.

Report given included a stolen car, menacing, rape, a shooting. Streets involved: Coleridge, Woodford, Ravenwood, Red Bank, and Northdale.

*Sgt. Sellars Tips: Look out for your neighbors during the summer.... If you see something, say something.

B. Fire: no report

III. Treasurer's Report/Budget/Grants (see report for full details)

*Income – Friends of Kennedy Heights: \$1,466.14. This will be Bob Kamp's last summer to do door-to-door his door-to-door fundraising campaign. Thank you for your years of service!

Expenses - \$829.26

Ending Balance - \$52,704.83

*We received the NBDIP grant of \$160,000 for the demolition of buildings at 6543-6549 Montgomery Rd. Awards to be announced in early July.

*KHCC Mini-Grants are available. Jane Patty inquired about a grant to maintain the small park at the corner of Woodford and Kennedy.

*Motion Steve Grieser, 2nd by Caitlin Siegel-Hartzler to approve the report. Vote: Ayes – 100%, Nays – 0%. Accepted.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Parks & Greenspace (Kate): No July meeting. The next meeting is September 12.

*August: visit to the Rockdale Learning Center

*Clean-Up Day was a success with over 25 volunteers including Cincinnati Parks, local businesses, KHAC, and KH Church of Christ.

*Tree Program – coming

* Corner of Robison and Kennedy – potential orchard site.

B. Youth Council (Brandon): No July meeting.

*Meetings are the 3rd Saturday, 11 am – 12 noon at Community Happens Here.

*Neighbors from all 4 neighborhoods (KH, PR, Silverton, Golf Manor) are asked to bring their youths. Focus is on building teen leaders and more.

*For more information or questions contact Brandon at brandon@kennedyheights.org.

C. Communications (Amber): The July/August newsletter just went to the printer. It will be coming soon.

*Highlights include changes in voting laws, Juneteenth recap, and new development for Montgomery Rd.

D. Events & Engagement (Samara): We are planning the KH 60th Anniversary Event.

*Vision and Planning meeting: Tuesday, 5:30pm - 6:30pm, at the KHAC Annex.

*Play in the Park is sponsored this week by KHCC, Wednesday, 6:30 pm – 8 pm, Blue Grass Band playing.

E. Hospitality/Welcome Committee: need a chair and volunteers.

F. Housing & Aging in Community (Steve): The first project with People Working Cooperatively (PWC), a new deck, was completed. There were 3 KH volunteers and 9 from PWC.

*The \$160,000 grant frees us up to use the space on Montgomery Rd. The fence is up. Thanks to Mary for her help with getting the grant.

G. Safety (Pat): need members for this committee.

V. Community Partners

A. KH Development Corporation (Steve): Open to new board members. For info email mary@kennedyheights.org. See the flyer.

B. CRC (Christian): The pool is open. We are still hiring for lifeguards... for questions about the aquatic programs and pool hours call (513) 531-1707.

C. Schools (Sharifah): Kaitlin Dauner - new principal at Woodford Academy... Ashley Davis - Resource Coordinator.

D. Library: Summer reading program is available for youths through age 18. There are prizes and fun activities.

*June 28 the Adult Book Club starts. It meets Wednesday nights. The book is novel Mexican Gothic.

*Check out the July calendar... there is still building work to be done soon.

E. KH Arts Center (Ellen): Play in the Park, Wednesdays, June and July, 6:30 – 8:00 pm except July 5.

*Gallery – 2 local artists' exhibits.

*Summer Camp is full.

*Jazz Concerts – 3 more, tickets available. See the flyer.

F. The Caring Place (Sharifah): Needed summer clothes (men, women, and children), shoes, belts, (new) socks, (new) underwear, grocery bags and reusable bags.

*Hours: Tuesday & Thursday, 9 am – 2 pm. For donation outside of regular hours please call (513) 841-1499.

*"Like" us on Facebook.

G. Other: Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church has space and Fellowship Hall available for rent. Call (513) 631-1114.

Other News

Rico Blackman from the Greater Cincinnati Housing Coalition was guest presenter.

*Discussed the Housing Crisis and homelessness in Cincinnati; deaths related to homelessness.

Not enough funding for housing. Their trust fund currently only has \$1300.

*Proposes to restore our earnings tax. There is a petition. He would like for KHCC to endorse this ballot issue.

*To sign the petition go to the office at 117 E. 12th Street, 45202 in Over-the-Rhine.

*Website: www.cincyhousingforall.com.

*Email: ricoblackman@cincihomeless.org

Motion by Mary Ray, 2nd by Brandon that the meeting be adjourned. Vote: Ayes – 100%, Nays – 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

No general meeting in July or August. The next meeting is September 19, 2023

Respectfully Submitted,
Peggy A. Brown, Secretary.