

**Kennedy Heights Community Council**

**Public Meeting**

**November 21, 2023**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Kennedy Heights Presbyterian Church and Online Google MEet**

**7:32 p.m. Meeting Called to Order**

- A. Time taken to review October Meeting Minutes

**7:39 p.m. Motion to Approve October Minutes**

- A. Motion made
- B. Motion seconded
- C. The ayes carry the vote. Minutes are approved.

**7:40 p.m. Safety Report - Police - Officer Martin**

- A. Crime Stats
  - a. Auto thefts are back up, especially with Kias and Hondas.
    - i. Check your vehicles and fix the mechanism.
    - ii. No matter your car or model, do not leave important items in your car.
  - b. No other major issues
- B. Open to Questions
  - a. Captain Pettis introduces Lieutenant Rob Wilson is newly assigned to District 2 as a monitor while the Districts are reorganized
  - b. Lieutenant Rob Wilson second relief Commander from District 5. He is helping with the absorption of Walnut Hills. His goal is to make sure that Walnut Hills acquisition does not interrupt call response times. He will be monitoring the Calls for Service, making sure that officers are being put where they need to be.
  - c. Open to Questions of concern about dissolving District 5
    - i. District 5 was on Ludlow, and there were environmental concerns about the old building. Moved to a temporary location on Hamilton Avenue.
    - ii. Temporary location did not meet FEMA standards, and there was no funding to fix that. Dissolving District 5 was the solution, and District 2 inherited Walnut Hills from District 4 as things were shuffled around and reformatted.
    - iii. Email questions to Officer Martin.
    - iv. Data is just now being collected. Reports will be distributed in the future. Currently in the process of drafting a community survey to get a sense of how neighborhoods are feeling about the transition.
  - d. Question about Pleasant Ridge assaults
    - i. The individual has been identified, and a warrant has been signed, but he has not been apprehended. No matter what police contact he comes into, he will traced to the crimes.

7:49 p.m. Treasurer's Report - Laura Weisbrod

- A. October Report
  - a. More expenses this month due to 60th Anniversary event
  - b. Some cash donations collected at the event that have not been deposited, so those will be reflected in the November report.
  - c. Typical communications expenses: email, newsletter, and a one-time Secretary of State renewal
- B. Open to questions. No questions.

**7:51 p.m. Motion to Approve October Statement**

- A. Amber makes a motion
- B. The motion is seconded

**7:52 p.m. The Ayes carry. Financial Statement for October is approved.**

**7:53 p.m. 2024 Budget - Laura Weisbrod, Treasurer**

- A. There is time left in the year, but we are nearly wrapped up for the year.
- B. Income has slightly decreased from past years
- C. Expenses are somewhat similar, but there is an increase here based on requests that have been received.
  - a. Please reach out to the Board if you have any other ideas, particularly for the mini-grant.
  - b. Funds for the Newsletter are being increased to \$10,000. We were over-budget in 2023, so the hope is that this will cover it.
  - c. NSP run will be the same.
  - d. We are increasing the amount given to Play in the Park.
  - e. Funds for a Fall Event are less than 2023 because it is no longer an anniversary celebration
  - f. Slightly increasing amount given to Winterfest
  - g. Allocating \$2,000 towards the Common Orchard Project
- D. Floor opened for questions or concerns. None raised.
  - a. Kate Kern is asking about the \$2,000 requested for Parks and Green Space
    - i. Kate Kern is clarifying that this request was not intended for Common Orchard. \$300 for Landscape Awards; increasing the amount for GreenUp Days (\$200); If the Committee doesn't don't have specific plans
    - ii. Not counting the Orchard Project, there is \$1000 allocated dedicate to generic Parks and Green Spaces. Kate Kern wants to confirm that if expenses arise beyond the \$1000, can they ask for more during the year?
      - 1. Yes, submit the request to the Board and additional funds can be granted during the year.
  - b. A community member asked if copies could be mailed out.
    - i. Budgets are intended for residents only, so they cannot be mailed out en masse.
    - ii. If someone wants a copy, please reach out to [board@kennedyheights.org](mailto:board@kennedyheights.org)

**8:00 p.m. Motion requested to Approve the 2024 Budget**

- A. Motion made
- B. Motion Seconded

**8:01 p.m. The Ayes carry it. 2024 Budget is Approved**

**8:01 p.m. Committee Updates - Parks and Green Space - Kate Kern**

- A. Intro to Bird Watching event at Drake Park on November 11 was well attended with good weather. Partnered with Pleasant Ridge Branch Library.
  - a. They would like to do more partner programming in Drake Park and Kennedy Heights Park.
- B. Common Orchard Project
  - a. November 18 was the first planting.
  - b. Kate yields to Pat to discuss the Orchard Project
  - c. The Community Plan indicated the desire for a neighborhood orchard
    - i. Jess and \*\* offered up their property, an extension of their lot, to be a public orchard.
    - ii. They are working with Common Orchard Project, a nonprofit that has planted nearly 40 urban orchards.
      - 1. Common Orchard Project is offering steward training and trees to purchase.
    - iii. Pat shared a visual showing the layout of the orchard. 23 trees, a combination of pears, apples, and peaches. In the spring they will plant pawpaws and jujube (Chinese Dates). In between there will be other plants, pollinators and herbs. The space near the road will be blackberries.
      - 1. Pat made a pun about the project coming to “fruitation”
    - iv. Common Orchard will run things through Jess. The aim is for the produce to be accessible to the community. Distribution has not been determined. Different orchards have different models.
    - v. Timeline
      - 1. Spring is when they will plant pollinators and extra trees.
      - 2. 2024-2025 will be maintenance; plucking off the flowers so that they don't fruit.
      - 3. Fall of 2026 is hopeful that it will be the first harvest: peaches.
      - 4. Two more years before apples and pears will fruit.
    - vi. The November volunteer day benefited from a lot of volunteers from Fifth Third. It was a very successful day, Common Orchard Project led it very efficiently.
    - vii. If you have questions, you can contact Pat MacVeigh ([pat@kennedyheights.org](mailto:pat@kennedyheights.org)); Jess Wiedel ([jwieman23@gmail.com](mailto:jwieman23@gmail.com))
  - d. Big thanks to Scrap It Up, which donated \$2,000 for the tree purchases.

**8:10 p.m. Committee Updates - No Youth Update**

(31:00 on recording)

**8:10 p.m. Committee Updates - Communications - Amber Ziegler**

- A. Always working on newsletters. Send announcements or news to [amber@kennedyheights.org](mailto:amber@kennedyheights.org)
- B. Next deadline is December 1, but the space is currently full.
- C. Next issue is Mar/Apr, with deadline of February 1

**8:11 p.m. Committee Updates - Events & Engagement - Sharifah**

- A. Thanks to Samara and all the volunteers who made the 60th Anniversary event come together.
- B. Volunteers who want to participate in future neighborhood events should email [board@kennedyheights.org](mailto:board@kennedyheights.org)

**8:12 p.m. Committee Updates - Hospitality - Jane Patty**

- A. Reminder that everyone can sign up to join a committee at any time. Email [board@kennedyheights.org](mailto:board@kennedyheights.org)

**8:13 p.m. Committee Updates - Housing & Aging in Community - Stever Grieser**

- A. Thank you to Rodney Johnson for being the Project Coordinator for the Home Repair Program. The program is wrapping up for the year, then will ramp back up as the weather warms. Only small jobs through the winter.
- B. Recently signed a contract on re-roofing a home of a resident. Biggest project yet.
- C. People in need of assistance and support can contact [steve@kennedyheights.org](mailto:steve@kennedyheights.org)

**8:14 p.m. Committee Updates - Safety & Infrastructure - Pat MacVeigh**

- A. No updates.
- B. Aware of Metro issues, but has not been able to get in touch with them to get interest.
- C. Will be staying on top of the District 5 / District 2 issues.

**8:15 p.m. Committee Updates - Nominating Committee - Sharifah**

- A. Looking for a community member to join Nominating Committee
  - a. The role involves going out into the community and finding people who would be interesting in running for a Board position
  - b. If you are interested, email [steve@kennedyheights.org](mailto:steve@kennedyheights.org)

**8:16 p.m. Partners - KHDC - No News**

**8:16 p.m. Partners - CRC - Kendall Bobo**

- A. Family Fun Movie Night, Dec 15, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- B. Glow Pickleball Party, Dec 19, 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- C. Podcast Club. Contact Kendall Bobo at [kendell.bobo@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:kendell.bobo@cincinnati-oh.gov) or 513-731-7894
- D. Spicy Book Club.

E. Toy Drive. New toys for ages 4-12. Drop them off at Pleasant Ridge Rec Center

**8:18 p.m. Partners - Schools - Shroder High - Pamela Wilder**

- A. Still looking for tutors. Seventh Graders, helping with basic math. 1:1, in the school.
  - a. 513-363-6977
- B. Hoping to find ways for students to volunteer, perhaps the Orchard Project or the Repair Project.
- C. Recognize DJ Reader who has established a DJ Reader Resource Room, where students can obtain basic supplies.
  - a. This last Friday they provided turkeys and Kroger gift cards for 100 families.

**8:21 p.m. Library - Jennifer**

- A. Tuesday, Dec 19, 6:00 p.m. - Kennedy Heights Filmmaker Jimmy J Jones will be at the branch to screen his short film *Santa Goes Straight to the Hood*.
- B. Second week of Winter Break
  - a. December Cincinnati Circus will be at the library with a magic show and balloon artist
  - b. Lots of other events during this week, see website.

**8:23 p.m. Partners - KHAC - Sarah Rodriguez**

- A. Winterfest - December 1
  - a. Looking for people to sign up to bring food or to volunteer at the event all evening long. Especially the craft area. Holiday Art Market
- B. Collective Members Art Show
- C. Winter Classes - Registration Opens December 1 for classes happening during the week and the weekends for teens and youth
- D. Clay Workshop - December 3 & 10
- E. Email Sarah: [sarah@kennedyarts.org](mailto:sarah@kennedyarts.org)

**8:26 p.m. Partners - KHDC Revisited**

- A. Report from Mary Ray, and some items we need to vote on
- B. NBDSF Grant: \$3750. Must Vote on how to use it.
  - a. Home Base CNBDU membership dues, general liability insurance, accounting, and Preparation of 990 forms.
  - b. Any leftovers to be used on creating a Senior Resource Guide, Event, or individual Coaching sessions
  - c. Motion made to approve these uses. Ruth Anne seconds.
  - d. Ayes carry the vote. NBDSF Grant approved.
- C. Liquor License renewal for Redwood Market. Need to vote that we have received notice of the renewal and do not object.
  - a. Motion made. Seconded.
  - b. Ayes carry the vote.
- D. Presbyterian does have a buyer.

### **8:30 p.m. Partners - The Caring Place - Sharifah**

- A. The Church has been sold. The Caring Place has until the end of January to vacate.
  - a. They are looking at available spaces in Pleasant Ridge, Kennedy Heights, and Golf Manor.
    - i. The Pleasant Ridge Presbyterian Church might have space in their basement, so they are exploring those logistics.
  - b. Want to stay in service areas: Pleasant Ridge, Kennedy Heights, Golf Manor, Silverton.
  - c. Please share all leads
  - d. The current situation is 5000 SF, in a basement, with minimal cost. Would like to continue this size and scale, but understand that it may not be possible.
  - e. Current pause on accepting donations of clothing and furniture.
  - f. Collecting boxes for the move.
  - g. Will be looking for volunteers to physically help with the move once they have more information.
- B. Question: Will this impact KHCC Meetings?
  - a. So far, we will still be able to meet through 2024 because the KHPC congregation will remain for 12 more months in the Fellowship Hall.
- C. Question: Will you still be taking used personal care items?
  - a. They never have. Only new personal care items.

### **8:35 p.m. Open to Public Comment**

- A. Question: There is a development going in on Aikenside, around 3712. There is a ravine and a vacant lot, and now they're building three houses down into the ravine. Are you aware of this? They already have foundations.
  - a. Nothing is known at this time, but we will look into it.

### **8:38 p.m. Closing**

- A. No meeting in December
- B. Next Meeting: January 16, 2024, 7:30 p.m.
- C. Motion requested to adjourn. Suzanne makes a motion. Pat seconds.
- D. The ayes carry. Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.