



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**

Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

December, 2012

Next monthly meeting:

January 15, 2013,
Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria,
Lower Level, Straight Street

Members of CUF Community Council board have been very busy these past few months.

The most controversial issue involved our deliberations over the proposed Community Entertainment District designation (CED) for the business district along McMillan and Calhoun Avenues, between Vine and Clifton. This designation has been applied for by other Cincinnati neighborhoods in an effort to revitalize declining business districts, notably Northside (Hamilton Avenue), Price Hill (Glenway Avenue) and Pleasant Ridge (Montgomery Road). The intent is to retain existing businesses and to attract new ones to the area through provisions that include permitting full-kitchen dine-in restaurants to offer alcohol with their meals via low cost CED licenses.

On the open market, the number of licenses is fixed statewide, and they are privately market-priced by negotiation between transferor and transferee, a practice that in today's markets prices out small local restaurateurs. CED designation provides licenses at comparatively low cost.

The Clifton Heights Business Association (CHBA), assisted by the Clifton Heights Urban Redevelopment Corporation (CHCURC), approached CUF with plans to participate in the program. After discussion, the board requested that the proposed boundaries be scaled back to include only the present business district as described above. It was felt that this would: a) limit permits to the already established area, b) promote businesses in the area, and 3) implicitly discourage commercial expansion beyond the CED boundaries. (To tread softly around this last consideration, one perhaps remembers that our neighborhood has several structures that formerly housed enterprises about which residents voiced express objection.)

After earnest discussions and accommodations among involved parties, which has

taken up more time and resources than all other issues we have addressed this past year, the Board decided, by a large majority to not oppose the plan and map as set forth as of (DATE+attached map). It was felt generally this was the best we could do to promote the continued presence of small locally-owned businesses in face of incoming large-scale national enterprise. Concerns about backyard proximity to residences remains an issue we are fully aware of and intend to monitor and address vigorously.

For more information about the CED program, search the web for Community Entertainment District – Cincinnati, or visit the website at – <http://www.urbancincy.com/2011/01/community-entertainment-district-designation-seen-as-model-for-future-developments/>

Submitted by John Ligon

Minutes, CUF Neighborhood Association general meeting Tuesday, November 20, 2012, Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria

Meeting chaired by Linda Ziegler

Board members in attendance: Rolf Kuhn, Janine Denlinger, Sharon Buckner, Rob Neel, Cherie Wallpe, Julie Zavon, Daniel Lewis, Sally Larson, Craig Lloyd, Chip Kussmaul, Tony Walsh, John Ligon, Ken Jordan, Nathan Hess

Police Report

Sgt. Voelkerding presented the report and recognized that out of control parties are a problem. District 5 leadership will be meeting with UC and the Uptown Consortium to address problems and staffing issues. Dealing with underage drinking is problematic due to legal issues and the inability to make arrests except under very specific circumstances. The district is hoping to work out a system with the University that would allow for sanctions rather than arrests.

The district is asking the Uptown Consortium for help with cameras to help further reductions in crime. Reportable crime declined in the district by 17% but nuisance issues show no decline.

City police will be taking over the coverage at University Hospital.

The Safety Summit will be looking for community input once the stakeholders directly responsible for public safety have met.

NSP - Neighborhood Support Program

Craig Lloyd reported that the allocation for next year will likely be \$5,000 although cuts could still occur. CUFNA will budget for \$5,000.

The following categories and allocations were presented to the general meeting for approval:

Beautification and Safety	\$3600
Newsletter	800
Membership/Marketing	600
Total	<u>\$5000</u>

Note that up to \$1000 can be transferred among allocations with NSP approval.

Rob Neel moved to approve the allocation. Seconded by Daniel Lewis. Motion carried with 30 votes in favor; no objections or abstentions.

Fairview Pool

CUFNA is hoping the Fairview Pool will not be closed. Since 2009 visits have steadily increased from 2031 guests to 3503 in 2012. A meeting with the Chris Bigham of the Recreation Commission was encouraging although there are no guarantees regarding closure. Mr. Bigham did note that open pools have a 35 hour time bank and individual communities may set the hours for their respective pool. A letter from CUFNA was sent to the Mayor, City Council members and the City Manager thanking them for their continued efforts on our behalf. Next step includes a group meeting at the pool with the CUFNA board, CRC and the Park Board regarding enhancements to the pool.

CED

J. D. DuBois, DuBois Bookstore, Travis Brinkman, Chicago Gyros, and Darren Phan, Cilantro, made a brief presentation to the membership regarding the benefits of having a CED. In their opinion low cost liquor licenses will increase the profitability of small restaurants and allow them to compete more favorably with larger enterprises and will draw people other than just students to the area. The businesses feel the need to move quickly on the CED designation in order to obtain licenses. They are asking for CUFNA's approval of the CED.

The presentation was followed by questions and discussion. Residents in attendance noted the importance of respecting residential areas and residential zoning.

CUF Treasurer's report

Balance: November 1, 2012 \$2,894.19

Income:

Membership dues \$170.00
Invest in Neighborhoods/NSP \$2,449.47

Total Income: \$2,619.47

Expenses:

Straight Street Hill Climb hospitality \$50.13
GCWW water bill \$210.63

Total Expenses: - \$260.76

Balance: December 1, 2012 \$5,252.90

Citizen Service Requests

The Cincinnati Customer Service Request line is 591-6000. Additionally, you can contact the city by following the link below and submitting a message about a problem you may have. It allows you to search a map of your specific area. <http://cagismaps.hamilton-co.org/csarcincinnati/>

Straight Street Hill Climb

On Sunday morning, November 18, CUF and the Campus Cyclery were sponsors of the Straight Street Hill Climb for the second year. This race was begun in the 1970s by the Clifton Track Club but had been on hiatus for many years. In the words of its sponsors, "It's two minutes of self-inflicted torture".

This year about 60 runners, 35 cyclists participated in various age categories. Some ran and rode up the hill. CUF was well represented by our own Suzanne Summer, Sergio Contreras and John Stork. Jim Wilson came in first place in the "Crazy Dad Pushing Son Up the Hill in the Baby Stroller" category. (The only entry.)

The climb benefits the Soap Box Derby, which CUF has been participating in for the past 7 years. The Fairview Flyer and 2009 CUF's 2nd place trophy were on display at the top of the hill near the refreshment station. Stanley Wilson, now two, couldn't keep his hands of the wheels. CUF's future driver???



**Because everybody
runs marathons**

Membership

The Trustees have been updating CUF's membership list. On the label of the newsletter beneath your name is the date your dues expire. Please renew by mail or at the next meeting on January 21st. See you then.

Happy Holidays!

Hopple interchange meeting

The Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) is embarking on a major reconstruction project to improve the Interstate 75 interchange with Hopple Street. This project is one part of ODOT's planned improvements to the I-75 corridor through Hamilton County. The project will add capacity, improve safety, and enhance connections to the Camp Washington and Uptown areas of Cincinnati. The project length along the interstate is approximately 1.60 miles with associated work on Martin Luther King Dr., Hopple St., and Central Parkway. Construction is anticipated to start in February 2013 and be complete in the summer of 2015.

A business outreach / informational meeting will be held to provide information on the anticipated construction schedule and maintenance of traffic sequencing. In addition, ODOT Design and Construction personnel will be available to answer questions.

The meeting is scheduled for January 18, 2013 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College (3520 Central Parkway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45223). The first 30 minutes will be set up as an open house style meeting with display boards. The presentation portion of the meeting will begin at 10:30 am.

City partners with SoMoLend to support small businesses

The City of Cincinnati, continuing its support of small businesses, is entering into an agreement with SoMoLend, a first-of-its kind web-based lending platform that connects small businesses with organizational lenders. Through the partnership with the City, SoMoLend will identify qualified small businesses to which the City would potentially lend capital. The City would make loans up to \$400,000 in order to stimulate economic growth and job creation within the City.

With SoMoLend, individuals, banks, local governments, business associations, chambers of commerce, and municipalities can invest in small businesses by use of a safe, secure, easy-to-use platform. In addition to the partnership with SoMoLend, the City will also continue to operate the Grow Cincinnati Fund (loans of \$100K or more) and the MicroCity Loan Fund (loans of \$35,000 or less) to lend capital to small businesses in need.

For more information, visit <http://somolend.com/> or <http://somolend.wordpress.com/>.

This issue of the CUF newsletter is being printed and mailed to members.
 The newsletter is also available online at: www.cufna.org
 (click on the *Our Organization* button and then the *CUF Newsletter* link.)
 You can print it as a PDF document.

13 projects recommended for Neighborhood Business District funding

\$1.65M allocated after competitive review process.

The City of Cincinnati Economic Development Division and Cincinnati Neighborhood Business Districts United (CNBDU) are endorsing 13 proposals for Neighborhood Business District Improvement Program (NBDIP) funding awards in 2013:

Neighborhood	Project Title	Request Amount
Walnut Hills	Park-Kemper Streetscape Design	\$30,000
West Price Hill	Covedale Center Marquee/Community Message Board	\$79,145
Roselawn	Business District Feasibility Study	\$30,000
Clifton	Ludlow Avenue Storefront Improvement Program	\$77,500
Westwood	Parking Lot Renovation	\$30,000
Northside	Hoffner St. Garden	\$80,000
Northside	Dhonau Garden	\$30,000
Corryville	Façade Improvement Program (Continuation)	\$236,397
Bond Hill	Bond Hill Identity Project	\$30,000
East Price Hill	St. Lawrence Corner Public Square	\$107,500
Pleasant Ridge	6025 Montgomery Acquisition & Redevelopment	\$150,000
Avondale	Reading, Rockdale & Forest Streetscape	\$400,000
Mt. Adams	Streetscape Completion	\$375,000

“Thriving neighborhood business districts will not only provide a high quality of life for current residents -- they’re also key to attracting new residents,” said Odis Jones, Economic Development Director. “The NBDIP process reaffirms our commitment to strategically investing in neighborhoods to grow the city and the local economy.”

Awarded annually, funds from the NBDIP can be used for a variety of capital improvements and other uses to promote economic development in officially recognized neighborhood business districts. The projects are implemented in partnerships between City staff and community volunteers.

At the end of an intensive peer-review process, member communities of Cincinnati Neighborhood Business Districts United submitted rankings of their fellow members’ proposals.

In this year’s competitive funding round, Economic Development Division received 29 applications requesting a total of \$3.1 million. The Economic Development Division is anticipating having a total of roughly \$1.65 million in federal Community Development Block Grant funds and Capital Investment Program funds available in 2013, which would allow the top 13 applications to be funded.

This funding is in addition to the Administration’s recommendation for the Focus 52 program, which will create a pool of \$54 million for neighborhood projects throughout the city. Cincinnati City Council will make the final decisions when it sets the Consolidated Plan and Capital Investment Program budgets for the 2013 fiscal year.





**CLIFTON HEIGHTS
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
FAIRVIEW
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

2364 West McMicken Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Cincinnati, Ohio
Permit No. 4834

CUF membership



Any person subscribing to the purpose of the CUF Neighborhood Association, Inc. and paying dues set by the Association may become a member. Election of Trustees is held at the annual meeting in July. Eligible voters are residents of the community who are at least 18 years of age and who are fully paid members of the Association and who have attended three general meetings after payment of dues during the year prior to the annual meeting. Non-resident members have voice but no vote in Association meetings and may not hold elective office. Annual CUF dues are \$6.00.

- CUF general meetings: 3rd Tuesday of each month, except August and December, 7:30 p.m., Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria, 311 Straight Street
- CUF Trustee meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m, Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria, 311 Straight Street
- CUF annual meeting and election: 3rd Tuesday in July, 7:30 pm, Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria, 311 Straight Street

CUF Neighborhood Association
2364 West McMicken Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Email: _____

Membership Type:

Voting Membership: CUF resident _____

Non-voting Membership: _____

CUF organization: _____

CUF business owner: _____

Non-resident: _____

Non-resident property owner: _____

Membership fee: \$6.00 per year.
Make checks payable to CUFNA.

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