



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**

Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

November, 2015

Next monthly meeting:

November 17, 2015

Deaconess Hospital Cafeteria,
Lower Level, Straight Street

Neighborhood update:

One of the issues most important to residents of CUF is enforcement of City codes, especially zoning and building. After years of disjointed, under staffed operations, a new structure has been put into place. The permit center, previously located on Central Parkway in Clifton, has been moved back downtown into the Centennial Building to join the rest of the Department of Building and Inspections. A new director and several other key staff have recently been hired.

Matt Shad, new zoning administrator, came to our November Board meeting where we had a lengthy and productive discussion. Of particular concern the last few months are developments at the former Pomodori's location and at the corner of McMillan & Ohio streets. Building activity by the new owner has not followed requirements of our IDC or City rules and codes. As a result, CUF has initiated and participated in a number of meetings and hearings regarding these properties.

Orders have now been given to the owner to bring the parking lot at the Pomodori site into compliance with handicapped parking, signage, landscaping, barriers between the sidewalk and parking spaces, and license to operate. The compliance process may take a few months, but it seems to be on the right track.

On November 6, the Planning Commission heard the most recent complaint about the owner not receiving a permit before demolishing a garage at 77 W. McMillan. In addition to the demolition, a curb cut was installed and concrete poured over the front yard of this property, also without permits. The Commissioners voted unanimously NOT to grant a permit after-the-fact. They made several strong statements about not allowing

illegal behaviors to become a pattern. Instead the owner will be subject to the usual civil penalties and/or fines for noncompliance with City codes.

Another section of CUF showing progress is Coy Field. Thanks to Jamie Campbell and Julie Braucksick of Marshall Avenue, the lower playfield is getting some long overdue attention. Our two dedicated CUFers have spent a lot of time cleaning up trash and coordinating with city staff for its removal. [See photos and report from the Cincinnati Recreation Commission inside.] The playground equipment which was torched some months ago has been replaced. Sharon Buckner and Cherie Wallpe are working with Keep Cincinnati Beautiful to find locations in the park for deer cams. The idea is to get more people to use the park for its intended purpose. Stop down and take a look if you haven't been there for a while.

Reminder: The developers of Block 1, the former McDonald's site, are coming to the November general meeting to present their proposal for a new hotel/office/residence. This is the time to discuss any concerns or suggestions with the project.

It seems clear that the table is set for some positive actions going forward in the neighborhood. CUF will continue to participate in these efforts. I hope more of our members will join us!

Linda Ziegler

CUF Neighborhood Association General Meeting October 20, 2015 Deaconess Cafeteria

Minutes of the CUF Neighborhood Association
Meeting for October 20, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by
Linda Ziegler

Safety Updates:

- CPD District 5: Sgt. Voelkerding reported that overall crime in CUF is the lowest in decades. Most of the eight CPD patrols from 7:00 p.m. until 3:00 a.m. are now being paid for by UC.
- CFD Engine 19: No fire report this evening.
- UC Police: Five representatives from UC were present to give reports and answer questions: James Whalen, Robin Engel, Deborah Merchant, Deneen Rocco and Rodney Chapman. The message was that after years of ignoring the community's voice, UC has set some serious changes into motion, what Robin Engel called a permanent change in philosophy. UC officers are not doing traffic enforcement or involuntary stops, but they are still patrolling and responding to calls from CPD for assistance. UC officers will begin generating reports regarding disorderly students, loud parties, etc. to be used for later follow up by the student affairs staff. Problem addresses will be tracked for possible nuisance actions and student code of conduct infractions.

- For immediate police assistance, continue to call CPD dispatch at 765-1212. To report other concerns, contact James Whalen at james.whalen@uc.edu, 513-556-4930; and Robin Engel at robin.engel@uc.edu, 513-556-5849.

Guest:

- Tim Mara, from Save Our Parks, spoke about the parks levy that will appear on the ballot in November. This measure is a permanent property tax that would be inserted into the city charter. Although no specific projects are in the levy language, it is being put forth mainly to fund capital expenditures such as a proposal for roads, parking and a restaurant in Burnet Woods.

Old Business:

- CUF's bylaws specify a vote by a majority of Trustees at a general meeting after publication of proposed bylaw changes in the newsletter. As there was not a quorum of Trustees present, the vote was postponed until November.

- * Acorn check #1297, written 8/19/15, is lost. Subsequently Craig paid with his credit card and was reimbursed by check. Therefore, the August statement is off by \$30.00.

- CHCURC: A developer has been signed for Block 1, the area bounded by Vine, Calhoun, McMillan and Scioto Streets. Plans call for an extended stay hotel on the Vine Street end and office/housing units on both sides of Scioto. The developers will present at the November general meeting.

Announcements:

- UC's Safety and Reform Community Council – Jack Martin to be CUF's rep
- Red Cross smoke alarm installation November

7, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FXMFHVD>

- University Impact study groups:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/UIASS-WorkingGroup>

- Straight Street Hill Climb Nov. 22, 9:00 am:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/827096970740858/>

New Business:

- Nicholas Hollan from Clifton Town Meeting is convening a group regarding Fairview School, specifically to address proposed changes in the selection process for magnet schools and transparency with the school board. Anyone interested in joining the group can contact Nicholas at: nicholas@cincinnatiavalleydental.com.

Next General Meeting: November 17, 2015

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Linda Ziegler

Treasurer's Report October, 2015

Balance on Oct 1, 2015	\$14,208.20
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Income:

Dues	30.00
Total	+ 30.00

Expenses

GCWW	120.35
Total	- 120.35

Balance on Oct 31, 2015	\$14,117.85
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Metro

Metro wants to hear from residents about the direction it should take in the future, as part of our ongoing efforts to improve transit for the community.

The Metro Futures Task Force has been hosting community listening sessions to learn how the public thinks Metro is doing and how it should improve. Such input is critical so that we know how to better meet the public transportation needs of Greater Cincinnati.

We want to ensure that all voices are heard. Constituents are encouraged to participate in this process by taking our on-line survey at www.go-metro.com.

We appreciate your help in spreading the word through social media posts, meetings, newsletters or your website.

Thank you for supporting this important initiative. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sallie Hilvers, VP of External Affairs, at

513-632-7681 or shilvers@go-metro.com.

UC policing statement

City and UC officials provided an update to the Law and Public Safety Committee of City Council on the ongoing effort to create a revamped Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) detailing how policing will occur in and around UC's Uptown campus:

- Created three full-time positions to advance UCPD reform, ensure transparency and accountability and expand collaboration with the community;
 - Proactively hired Kroll Inc. to complete an independent, comprehensive investigation of the July 19, 2015 officer-involved shooting and released the results to the public on Sept. 11, 2015;
 - Launched an early warning system to ensure tracking, oversight and accountability of UCPD officer performance;
 - Conducted the first of multiple training sessions for UCPD officers and supervisors as well as community members in fair and impartial policing practices; and
 - Established a Safety and Reform Community Advisory Council.
- Drafted Request for Proposal (RFP) for comprehensive review of UCPD policies, procedures, practices, and training to be issued the week of Nov. 16, 2015

THE CITY WANTS YOUR OLD SOCKS



The City of Cincinnati, in partnership with Saint Vincent DePaul and Save-A-Lot, is holding a textiles recycling drive to collect worn, torn or otherwise damaged clothing or household items to be recycled.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE ACCEPTABLE:

- Old Clothing
- Shoes
- Pillows
- Sheets
- Towels
- Curtains & drapes
- Stuffed Toys
- Fabric scraps

Textiles in any condition (worn, torn or stained). All items should be clean and dry.

Special collection event*
Saturday, Nov 14th 10:00 to 1:00

Save-A-Lot
Hillcrest Square, 1864 Seymour Ave

For questions contact Jenn at 513-200-8173

*Please note- these items not accepted in curbside cart

& PLASTIC BAGS



We will also be collecting plastic bags through the Bag-2-Bag recycling program!

THE FOLLOWING BAGS AND FILM ARE ACCEPTED

- Plastic retail bags
- Produce bags
- News Paper Bags
- Dry Cleaning Bags
- Cereal Box liners
- Paper towel and toilet paper wrap
- Over wrap on cases of soda or canned vegetables
- Sealed air pouches in mailed packages
- Ziploc and other zipper style bags—please remove zippers prior to recycling



Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority

An inspection is defined as a formal viewing or examination. In the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program at CMHA, Housing Quality Standards (HQS) inspections are more than that. The non-invasive inspections help low income families lease decent, safe, and affordable housing while also helping property owners identify unknown or hidden maintenance issues with their investment.

The department is led by the Landlord Compliance Manager who heads a team of ten inspectors and five support staff. Each inspector is trained and certified by Nan McKay and Associates, a National Trainer in the housing industry. An inspector performs roughly 12 inspections daily. There are two employees dedicated to scheduling all initial, annual and re-inspections, therefore, cutting down on the calls owners need to make to HCV while freeing up time for inspections to be done. Other staff make sure that the rents requested by owners are reasonable in accordance with market conditions.

CMHA conducts seven different types of inspections including: Annual, Initial, Emergency, Quality Control, Move-Out/Vacate, Special and Complaint. On average CMHA inspects approximately 23,200 properties annually and 1930 monthly. A change was implemented earlier this year with the introduction of Biennial Inspections. Inspectors will have to complete an inspection at minimum, every 24 months, on a unit. Complaints and Quality Control inspections will be conducted if reported.

Inspections are beneficial to the voucher holder, the owner and the community to ensure that assisted units are meeting or exceeding Housing Quality Standards. HQS Inspections help CMHA uphold its mission of promoting neighborhood stability and expanding the footprint of affordable housing.

Coy Field improvements



Jamie Campbell and Julie Braucksick with trash bags filled during their clean up project at lower Coy Field.

From a report on Coy Field by Robert Boehlein, of the Cincinnati Recreation Commission:

“I sent a crew to the site to remove any trash / dumped furniture / appliances; and the area is looking good. Within the last two months, I have had crews remove old furniture / trash / and overgrown weeds and grass from along the roadside. We also scraped the area down to prevent regrowth, and disposed of the majority of the debris. We erected a playground (to replace the one that was burned down) with quality equipment from another site, and are waiting on a few pieces of hardware to complete the audit and open it for public use. We also did a major clearing/chipping job around the inner perimeter of the park to make mowing easier and safer for our crews, and add to the aesthetics and safety of the park. We have spent hundreds of hours in an attempt to improve the area for safe and enjoyable public use. In order to prevent and identify those dumping, we are in the process of placing a camera in the area to hopefully deter as much future illegal dumping as possible.”



**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

Funded by the City of Cincinnati



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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