



**NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**

Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

July, 2017

Next monthly meeting:

July 18, 2017

Hughes High School, Innovation Lab
Second Floor, 2515 Clifton Ave. 7 p.m.

Save The Brighton Bridge!

Flying back to Cincinnati from Barcelona we were given a copy of the Enquirer. My wife read a story about the imminent demolition of the Brighton Bridge, located at the end of our block. "That's not going to happen." My wife Maureen said. We were new to the neighborhood and saving the bridge was our first foray into city politics. She proceeded to circulate a petition, despite councilmembers who told her it was a done deal. Demolition of the bridge was already included in that years budget. She sat on the bridge for a week, counting not only cars but the pedestrians-many of them children walking to school in the West End.

We testified at numerous council and committee hearings and in the end, the Brighton Bridge was beautifully restored at a cost of 1.4 million dollars. The restoration went on to earn the city accolades for Best Bridge Renovation in the state of Ohio (1992) and a Historic Preservation Award. The bridge has served us well and provided a vital link between W.McMicken and Brighton, the West End, Central Parkway, I-75 and the Central Post Office.

Now they want to tear it down again! ODOT Engineers say that there is considerable deterioration of the concrete in test areas of the structure. They have several proposed options, in addition to demolition. These include: replacing any beams that are unsound, patch and repair beams with fiber wrap and close the bridge to vehicular traffic (pedestrians only). We believe the structure should be completely renovated.

The Brighton Bridge, built in 1921 is a recognized Historic Structure and should be preserved. It adds to the cohesiveness of the Art Deco look of the surrounding area, such as the rails and lights along Central Parkway, the Western Hills Viaduct and of course Union Terminal. Even the new bridge at Bates Ave,

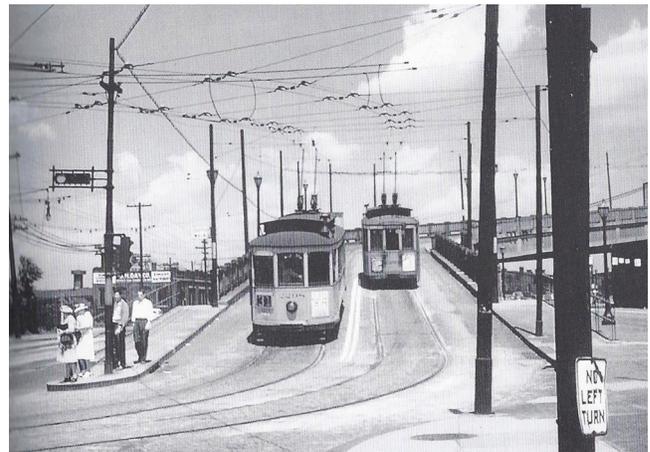
continues this aesthetic, albeit a contemporary "Deco Lite" look. The bridge and its surrounding retaining walls, though neglected by the city for years, are a beautiful component of the "parkway" concept as an entryway into the city.

The W. McMicken, Brighton and Brewery historic districts will be adversely affected by the removal of the bridge. In the 1920's, during the construction of Central Parkway and the subway, houses in the historic district were damaged by work on the hillside and below. Removing this great anchor (the bridge) could destabilize the west side of McMicken north and south of the Brighton Bridge. Ease of access and pedestrian traffic are vital parts of a vibrant community. Eliminating a major link to and from the neighborhood will impact the quality of life for our residents.

Please help us preserve this neighborhood gem. You can sign a petition at the CUF 7/18 meeting and/or send any comments to Mr. Andy Fluegemann, District Environmental Coordinator, ODOT-District 8, 505 S. State Route 741, Lebanon, Ohio 45036 andy.fluegmann@dot.ohio.gov or 513-933-6597

RE: HAM US-27 3.58
PID:104788

Thank you for your support!, Tony Walsh



Brighton Connector streetcars, 1947

courtesy of the Russ Schram collection

Congressional districts petition

Petition signatures are still being collected for amending Article XI of the Ohio Constitution to provide for the redrawing of congressional districts every 10 years following the U. S. Census. In 2015 over 70% of Ohio voters approved the establishment of a bipartisan Ohio Redistricting Commission for drawing districts for the state general assembly.

The current proposed amendment would extend the Commission's role in redrawing districts to include U. S. congressional districts. Districts are currently drawn by the state legislature and bipartisan approval is not required. This current initiative would be placed on the 2018 November ballot for voter approval assuming that enough petition signatures are received.

This initiative is strongly supported by the League of Women Voters and other nonpartisan groups. Signatures were collected at the June CUFNA meeting. Sally Larson will be present at the July annual meeting with petitions for those who wish to sign. You must be a registered voter in Hamilton County to be eligible.

CUF Neighborhood Association general membership meeting Hughes High School Innovation Center, June 20, 2017

CPD – Volkerding / Hageman

- Late night Calhoun crowd moved to Short Vine
- Busy because of Tensing trial
- Undercover in area
- Crime Stats
- Jumps in crime (violent w/guns in northern parts of District 5)
- Arrests for vandalism, ID theft, poss. heroin, forgery/rec. stolen prop, DV
- Issues noted with Halstead – drugs, shooting, etc.

Sally Larson – Petition to get Gerrymandering issue on the ballot

- Extension for what was originally approved in 2015 for state legislature
- Extend to Congressional districts

Maraskeshia Smith, Joe Koopman – Department of public services

- Changing how they do street sweeping
- Street swept on same day every month
- Will make adjustments to CUF to accommodate specific situation
- Will roll out original program first to get data

and see how it goes

- Will have mechanical sweeper and 5 hand crews
- Looking at getting different equipment to accommodate cars on street
- Large vacuum trucks and gators
- Not planning on penalizing citizens – hopes they will learn about sweeping
- Dates available on Fix It Cincy app – my service days
- Flyers also sent out
- Insights – city's website
- Can look at fire and police runs in the area, as well as sweepers and trash trucks
- Dan Cummins of UC says they can partner with city/CUF to send email blast to students about when to move their cars
- No signage yet
- Move in /Move out week:
- Manned dumpsters this year
- Not left overnight – will be removed around 8 or 9 pm
- Possible packer trucks roaming the area for curb pickups

Greg Baker – UC Safety and Reform – Director of Police Community Relations

- Presented PowerPoint about updates
- 46.6% reduction in property crime since 2006
- 62.0% reduction in violent crimes since 2006
- New policies and principles adopted after shooting
- 276 Voluntary recommendations by outside firm
- Currently have external monitor
- More accountability and officer tracking
- Tracks race of individuals stopped
- Report coming out soon – will provide to CUF

Travis Vencel & Josh Hreha (and others) – Trinitas

- Purchasing all property Deaconess owns
- Phase 1 – Vacant at north east corner of University and Straight
- On 3 of 8 acres
- 349 units – 1049 beds
- 9-13 stories depending on which street you are on
- Uses existing parking structure for new building
- Construction to begin Aug 2017
- Occupancy Aug 2019
- First of several phases
- Interior courtyard
- Zoning approved
- Permits not issued yet
- Tax abatement has not gone to council
- Parking – serves entire property. Will enter agreement with city that any new development on current hospital site won't

be allowed to be occupied until parking is satisfied.

- Additional phases – not designed yet
- “Probably” will be a public process
- Current doctors’ office building could stay or go
- Next phase in about a year
- Hospital may not be next phase

Mark Baumbach

- Update on Fairview park:
- Possible pickleball court
- Possible drinking fountain
- Auxiliary field for kickball
- No update on Burnet Woods Committee
- Potential to create a Fairview/Bellevue park advisory council similar to Ault Park
- Saturday, June 24 at 9:00 AM: Trash cleanup on McMillan

Brighton Bridge – petition to rehab by Maureen France

New Business - announcements

- Letter in support of extending Central Pkwy bike lane
- Joint letter from CUFNA, CHCURC, CHBA regarding impact study
- Trustee election next month
- Voting on NSP categories next month
- Proposed benches in neighborhood to compliment benches in business district
- Amendment to by-laws
- On back of agenda
- Board will vote on amendment in July
- Rising Stars Academy tour – Tuesday June 27, 2017.
- Little sisters of the Pour – Spaghetti Supper Saturday June 24, 3:00-7:00 PM

Next meeting: July 18, 2017

Minutes taken by Mike Morris

Input on CRA

The City of Cincinnati Department of Community and Economic Development is seeking public input on its community reinvestment area (CRA) tax abatement program.

What are your thoughts on how and where the City allocates these incentives for residential and commercial development projects?

Residential CRA survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CincinnatiResCRA>

Commercial CRA survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CincinnatiCommCRA>

Financial Report June 2017

Balance on June 1, 2017 \$3,748.07

Income:

Dues: 18.00

+

Total 18.00

Expenses:

Wallpe-mutt mitts 67.00

Westfield Insurance 500.00

Ziegler-agenda & misc. 27.69

-

Total 594.69

Balance on June 30, 2017 \$3,171.38

AmeriCorps job opportunity

The City of Cincinnati’s Department of Buildings & Inspections will be hosting a Community Surveyor position through AmeriCorps this fall.

The Community Surveyor will survey historic properties to identify and record historic themes and buildings, focusing on the mid-20th century, from 1940-1970, historic properties associated with African-American history, women’s history and other under-represented groups, and additional local survey priorities as appropriate in Cincinnati.

For more information or to apply, please visit <https://www.my.americorps.gov/mp/listing/viewListing.do?id=42018&fromSearch=true>



Trustee elections

The following five candidates are running for CUF Trustee at the July 18th election:

Alan Edwards

Alan Edwards has been a resident of CUF for the past 2 years after graduating from UC. He received his undergraduate degree in Environmental Science and History from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio and his Masters in Community Planning from the University of Cincinnati's School of DAAP. While in graduate school he served as a Peace Corps Paul D. Coverdell Fellow and also a National Parks Service, Rivers Trails and Conservation Assistance Fellow. He served in Peace Corps Senegal, from 2009-2011 as an Agroforestry Extension agent. In Senegal he helped small scale subsistence farmers implement more sustainable agriculture practices through implementing agroforestry techniques. This time in Senegal helped cement his desire to help people in need and put into practice more sustainable practices like permaculture back home in Cincinnati.

He has served as the Director of Education for Groundwork Cincinnati Mill Creek for the past 3 years, educating students about the importance of the Mill Creek watershed."

Maureen France

Maureen France is a long time resident and former CUF President. She is Coordinator for the award winning McMicken Community Garden, Member of the Fairview Park Committee, Member of the Anti Littering Task Force for Keep Cincinnati Beautiful, Member of Citizens on Patrol and a Trustee for the Tower Fund Board. She is interested in working with neighbors to increase home ownership, reduce crime and improve green spaces. Maureen is currently working to save the Historic Brighton Bridge from possible demolition.

France is a photographer and professor in the School of Design, College of DAAP. She serves on the FOTOFOCUS Board and volunteers with several organizations

Jack Martin:

My wife and I have been residents of Clifton Heights since 1972, when we got married and I first attended the University of Cincinnati. I graduated from DAA (now DAAP) with a Bachelor of Architecture, in 1976. We have raised a son and daughter in the neighborhood and our son lives in Fairview with his wife. I was a co-founder/owner of Builderness Design and Construction from 1979 until 1996, when I

took a position as an Architect-Urban Designer with the City of Cincinnati. I retired from the City as the acting City Architect (2009 – 2011), serving as head of the Transportation Planning and Urban Design Division of the Department of Transportation and Engineering.

I am currently on the board of Queen City Bike, the University of Cincinnati Safety and Reform Citizens Advisory Council, the advisory board of WheelHouse Cincy, the transportation committee of the Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation, and am a member of the Urban Basin Bicycle Club. I currently represent the CUF Neighborhood Association at Neighborhoods of Uptown, the Clifton Heights Business Association and their Parking Committee, the CUFNA Parks & Recreation Committee that is meeting with CRC and Parks to improve Fairview Park (and the others in CUF), and am on the CUFNA/CHCURC Housing Improvement Program (CCHIP) committee to promote homeownership options in CUF. In an ad hoc capacity, I represent myself and/or CUFNA at many City Hearings and Public Meetings.

I would like to continue to serve CUF through my work on the CUFNA Board.

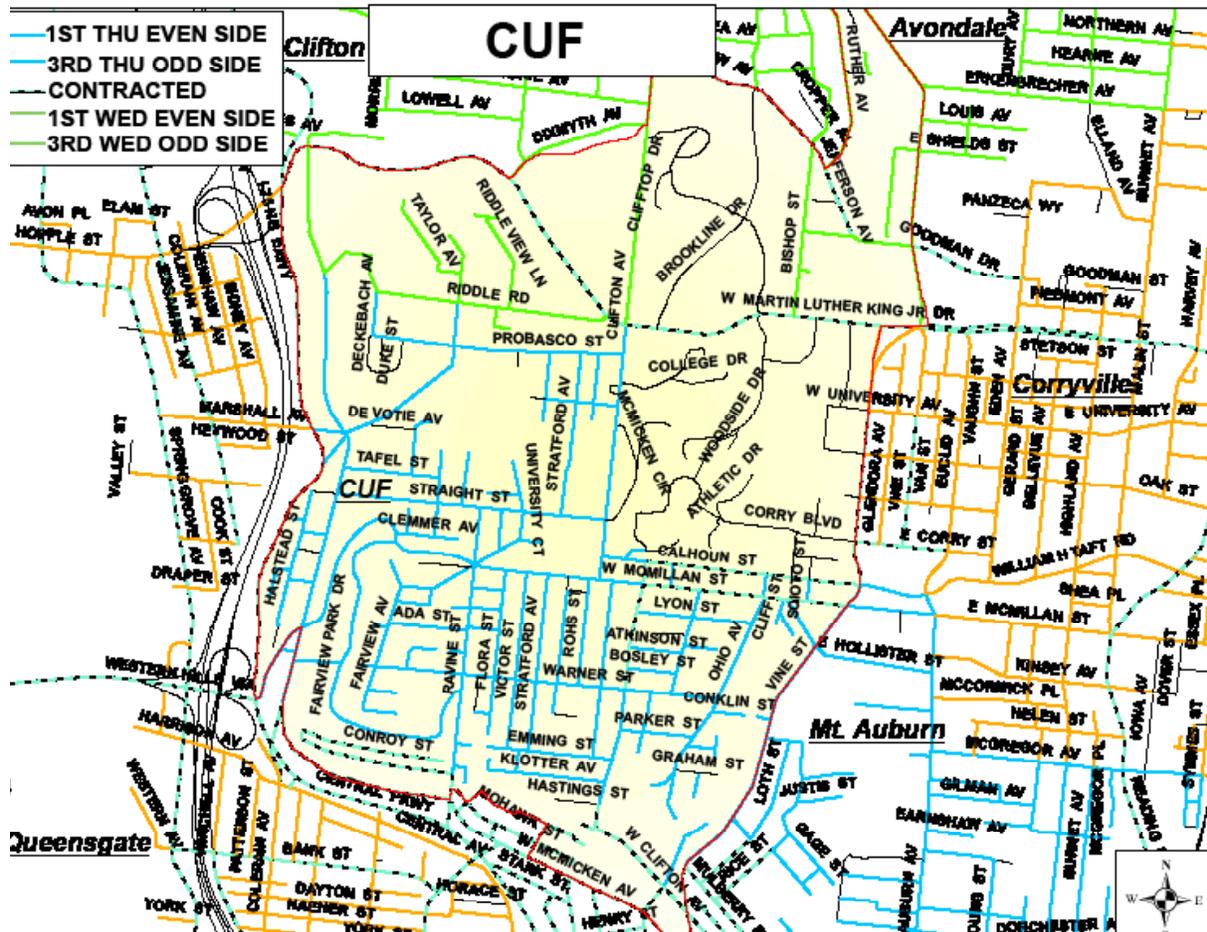
John Ndulue

Jules Rosen

My wife Alison and I have lived in CUF since we bought our home in September 2014. I received a degree in Neurobiology from the University of Miami (Coral Gables, FL) and worked at Children's Hospital Medical Center as a Research Assistant for several years before returning to school at UC's DAAP to complete my Master of Architecture. I am currently in year three of the four-year program. I am also on the board of Spring in Our Steps, a local advocacy group for shared and underutilized public spaces, predominantly alleyways and staircases; the CUFNA/CHCURC Housing Improvement Program (CCHIP); and the Clifton Area Neighborhood School Advisory Board.

As trustee, I hope to bring a perspective based in architecture and planning (as I have experience working for an urban planning firm) to counter the grandiose developer-driven schemes that continue to ravage our historic neighborhood. I am also firmly dedicated to restoring our underutilized park spaces, which afford some of the best views in the city. In addition, I would like to see a Code of Conduct implemented at CUFNA meetings to ensure there is civil discourse among community members.

Street Cleaning Schedule



Vacated & condemned buildings

The Vacated Building Task Force's goal is to reduce vacant buildings through rehabilitation and demolition. Their primary tool is the Housing Docket and the amended Vacant Building Maintenance License (VBML) ordinance. The owner of a building that is ordered vacated due to code violations must obtain a VBML. Note: An empty building without code violations doesn't need to be licensed. The license fee is calculated on the number of years the building has been continuously vacated, and the license must be renewed each year. Download the form for more about the license, fees, waivers and refunds.

Hazard Abatement

The Hazard Abatement Program is responsible for demolishing vacated and condemned buildings, as well as barricading open, abandoned structures. About 100 structures are demolished and an average of 500 buildings are barricaded annually.

You can report complaints by phone at 513-591-6000 or <http://cagismaps.hamilton-co.org/csr/>.

Once they receive a complaint, the building is inspected. If deemed dangerous and unsafe, it will be condemned.

After buildings are condemned -- and if the owner fails to comply with the condemnation order -- the buildings are placed in a public nuisance hearing process to determine if the City will demolish the building.

If, as a result of the public hearing, the building is declared a public nuisance, the City will demolish the building and invoice the owner of the property for the total cost.

Proposed by-law amendments

The following language has been proposed to amend our CUF by-laws. It will be voted on by the Trustees at the July annual meeting. The entire text of CUF's existing by-laws can be seen on the website at: <http://cufna.org/bylaws.html>

Proposed by-law amendments:

Article V – Eligibility: Membership/Voting/Election to Board

SECTION 1. Membership: Any person subscribing to the purpose of the CUF Neighborhood Association, agreeing to the standards of interaction specified in Article XV, and paying dues set by the Association may become a Member.

New Article XV – Meeting Decorum

All in attendance at Association meetings have the expectation of being treated with respect and the obligation to treat others with respect. The Association welcomes the expression of diverse opinions and the exchange of ideas at its meetings. Spirited discussion among stakeholders is a necessary component of community councils, when confined to accepted standards of interaction. Personal attacks, threatening speech and aggressive behaviors are inappropriate in the meeting setting and are not tolerated.

If speech or behavior escalates and becomes disruptive or abusive during a meeting, the facilitator will issue a Call to Order, followed by a request for the disruption to cease. Anyone who continues to be disruptive will be asked to leave the meeting. Similar repeated behaviors by an individual over the course of several meetings will result in additional sanctions.

[Insert and renumber Article XVI – Amendment of By-Laws and Article XVII – Neighborhood Support Program.]

New 'Results Cincy' dashboards look at City performance

Dashboards build on City's Existing CincyInsights, Open Data Portal Initiatives

A series of new "Results Cincy" digital dashboards offer residents a real-time graphical look at the City of Cincinnati's performance in a variety of areas such as neighborhood cleaning, police calls for service, street maintenance and more.

To further increase transparency and accountability, the City's Office of Performance and Data Analytics (ODPA) created these results dashboards to provide a high-level view of City services. Organization of the reports is based on the City Administration's strategic priorities.

Like the CincyInsights dashboards, the data populating the Results Cincy reports automatically refresh daily, providing users with information as it changes. All data used to power these results dashboards can be found on the City's Open Data Portal. <https://data.cincinnati-oh.gov>

PLAP

The Private Lot Abatement Program (PLAP) was formed through a proposal by Mayor Cranley to clean up overgrown lots and blight on private property in Cincinnati neighborhoods. HOW IT WORKS: Overgrown and blighted properties are reported by phone, the FixIt Cincy App, or online. Code enforcement inspectors go out to physically inspect these properties. Citations are issued for tall grass and weeds (when overgrowth exceeds 10" height) and litter on the property: if the property is still in violation 10 days later, a second citation is issued, and the property is considered "abandoned," and is included in PLAP for abatement and ongoing maintenance. Properties with multiple abatements are candidates for sale or legal lot re-purposing via the Land Bank.

Both code enforcement and property abatement work is managed by the Neighborhood Operations Division (NOD) of the Department of Public Services (DPS). <http://cagismaps.hamilton-co.org/csr/cincinnati>



**CLIFTON HEIGHTS
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
FAIRVIEW
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

2364 West McMicken Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

Presorted Standard
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, 7:00 p.m., Hughes High School, 2nd floor, 2515 Clifton Ave.
- CUF Trustee meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month, 7:00 p.m, Hughes High School, 2nd floor
- CUF annual meeting and election: 3rd Tuesday in July, 7:00 pm, Hughes High School, 2nd floor, 2515 Clifton Avenue

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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