



NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

May 2021

Next monthly meeting:

May 18, 2021, Online Format, 7 p.m

Dear Neighbors:

Our community parks continue to be in the news this month. CUF has been working with Park Board staff on ideas for improvements to Bellevue Park. A survey has been composed to gather information from users of the park, whether CUF residents or visitors from other areas of the city, on the types of activities and amenities they participate in. The survey can be accessed until June 21st; see inside for details. To coincide with the survey, CUF has applied for a grant from the Parks Foundation to hold a green-up, picnic and design charrette in June. A similar event was held in the fall of 2019; but plans for a 2020 event were cancelled due to the pandemic. We hope to do some maintenance with UC's Clean-up Cincy group, have some food and drink, and discuss future improvements to the park.

Another project being explored with the Park Board is the possibility of developing a dog park in Uptown. A proposal was recently debated

in Clifton, but consensus was not obtained on location. Park Board staff are in the process of holding informational sessions with various stakeholders to evaluate other potential locations. The first meeting is scheduled for May 12. Stay tuned for further developments.

On May 5th, Paul Gallagher was honored by City Council for the decades of service he has provided by planting trees in parks and tree lawns throughout CUF and other neighborhoods. Due to Covid restrictions, well-wishers were limited to 20 in Council chambers during the presentation of the proclamation. We are lucky to have such a community-spirited member in our neighborhood! (see inside)

CUF was recently informed that the city's Department of Transportation and Engineering has received a donation of bike racks from the Devou Good Foundation. Over the past year, DOTE has been soliciting suggestions for bike rack locations in all city neighborhoods. Phase 1 will include placement of 400 bike racks across the city. Phase 2 will include another 600 racks after additional public input. See inside for a map showing current locations and how to request location of Phase 2 racks. Brian Goubeaux is the staff member heading up this project. He can be contacted at 352-5305, brian.goubeaux@cincinnati-oh.gov.



CUF Neighborhood Association general membership meeting

Video Conference Platform (provided by INVEST)

20 April 2021 - The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:01 pm, by Charles (Chip) Kussmaul (due to technical issues, this meeting was not recorded).

Guests:

- UCPD (University of Cincinnati Police Dept.) – Carra Sparks
- CPD (Cincinnati Police Department) District 5 – Sgt. Todd Ploehs
- Trinitas & Associates – Aaron Bartels & Mark Becher
- DSD Advisors (Parking Solutions Study) – Colleen Reynolds
- UCURC (University of Cincinnati Urban Redevelopment Corp) – Megan Smith
- CHCURC (Clifton Heights Community Urban Redevelopment Corp – Matt Bourgeois
- Clifton CRC (Cincinnati Recreation Center) – Tiffany Thomas
- John Juech, Assistant City Manager for the City of Cincinnati
- Leslie Mooney, Executive Director of the CCAC (Clifton Cultural Arts Center)

Safety Updates:

- UCPD Officer Sparks advised of several upcoming events scheduled for this month (April 2021), including UC student move out dates between 8am – 6pm each day on April 23-27, 2021. He also advised that both sides of Calhoun Street will be “no parking” during this timeframe. He also provided upcoming UC Nippert Stadium Commencement Ceremony dates of April 29th & 30th and advised there will be other graduations including the UC Law & Medical Schools and various local High Schools. He will send out the May 2021 schedule to the CUFNA via email and also advised that they are searching for 3 new full time Security Officers (please forward any leads to him). When asked by the General Membership, Officer Starks advised that a recent road rage shooting incident which ended up on campus, did not start there, nor did it involve any students and that their Patrol schedules haven’t changed recently.
- CPD-5 Sgt. Ploehs reported that the temporary message sign board used in the Clifton Heights Business District last month has been returned back to Sunbelt Rentals and that it definitely helped reduce Auto Thefts (only 4 for the last 3 weeks), however, the business owners were not

pleased with it (in conjunction with the message boards, there were 3 plain clothes & 2 uniformed officers patrolling the area). He also provided the 2021 Crime Stats for CUF which overall, are still trending downwards from this time last year. Regarding countering motor cycle crowd gathering at the Ohio Avenue Shell Station, he and Officer Nick Hagerman manually installed water barricades next to the shell station on the North side of W. McMillan Street.

Guests Speakers:

- Aaron Bartels & Mark Becher of Trinitas & Associates reported the following: (10) the graffiti and debris located currently existing at the old Deaconess Hospital site has been taken care of, (2) Block A-1 PD Final Development achieved unanimous approval by the City of Cincinnati with permanent bid documents in work for design finalization, (3) an upcoming City Hearing scheduled for Thursday, April 22, 2021 regarding TIF money and the initial phase of public financing requested to relocate overhead utility lines and provide for new street scaping with parking garage for the District at Clifton Heights.
- Colleen Reynolds of DSD Advisors reported that there is a new City process in place regarding development projects over \$50K, which “require” a public engagement staff conference meeting.
- John Juech, Assistant Cincinnati City Manager advised that he lives in the Clifton Gaslight District and that all Uptown issues are important to him. Various discussion points between the General Membership and Mr. Juech, but especially regarding decades long parking issues revealed that he was not familiar with the CUF Walker Parking Solutions Study currently in review by City Staff and was attempting to begin the entire evaluation process from scratch when the CUF neighborhood is way past this. Once this was made clear to him, he advised that he will ensure the City’s final evaluation report includes all parameters identified in the Walker Study and he will also circulate/publish it as soon as possible. It was also noted by the General Membership verbally and within the Meeting Chat Notes, that too many studies have been done by the City for decades regarding lack of proper public services issues and the issues could simply be resolved by just having the City put more laborers (boots-on-the-ground) working on the issues (litter control/cleanliness, street sweeping, parking enforcement, etc.).
- Leslie Mooney, CCAC Executive Director advised that they have been given the green light to resume the weekly Wednesday, in-person public concerts at the grandstand in Burnet Woods beginning June 2, 2021 until the

2nd Wednesday in August. She also stated that these Wednesday concerts will be a hybrid of in-person and online streaming (last year's Covid-19 pandemic restrictions resulted in 20K world-wide online viewers). Leslie advised that the CCAC has partnered with CHCURC (Clifton Heights Community Urban Redevelopment Corp) to expand CCAC artistic programs into CUF, firstly they will be placing a rotating display of local community art at 206 Calhoun Street, and that there are conversations regarding activating Arts Events at U-Square and Bellevue Hill Park in the late summer/early fall (with anticipated city funding). Lastly, she advised that they are hoping to establish after school programs at the CANS (Clifton Area Neighborhood School) in August/September 2021.

Reports, Discussions & Announcements:

- The Treasurer's Report was shared by Chip Kussmaul.
- Tiffany Thomas representing the Clifton CRC (Cincinnati Recreation Center) advised that basically the same children are still participating in the CPS School Day Enrichment Program (enacted as a result of Covid-19. She also reported that she had recently visited Coy Field and submitted a ticket to City Services to fix the hole in the fence located behind the tennis court. She also advised that she is coordinating a visit to Bellevue Hill Park with Nathan Hess and that they are looking to host a community event there in the late summer/early fall. At a request from the General Membership, she also stated that she will take pictures of the old basketball court and submit an inquiry as to when it will be replaced.
- LSDMC (Local School Decision Making Committee) Rep for Hughes High School, Lyn Martin reported that their group has narrowed down a final recommendation to the CPS (Cincinnati Public Schools) Board for the new Principal's position and she should have that name available by next month's CUFNA General Meeting. LSDMC Rep for CANS (Clifton Area Neighborhood School), Tracy Schwetschenau advised that the Cincinnati Children's Home has been selected as their new Lead Partner. Relative to school children in general, Chip Kussmaul, CUFNA President stated that it could be useful to start educating children in grade school about not littering in their community.
- CHCURC (Clifton Heights Community Urban Redevelopment Corp) updates: Chip Kussmaul advised that there are no new updates regarding Block 1 development plans (Calhoun St.). He also reported that one of the Housing Initiative properties located at 2226 Wheeler Street has

recently been sold.

- CPD-5 New HQ: Chip Kussmaul suggested that CUF coordinate with other D-5 vested neighborhoods (Spring Grove Village, Northside, Camp Washington, & Clifton) to repush for the new HQ location of Central Parkway (old City Permit Building).
- CHBA (Clifton Heights Business Association) updates: Jack Martin advised of a pickup in large motorcycle gatherings in the business district.
- NOU (Neighborhoods of Uptown): Linda Ziegler recapped the cooperative partnership with Clifton & Corryville regarding boundary (& by-law) changes and per 3 sets of city maps, the CUF boundaries will now include the intersection of MLK & Central Parkway and a small spur located on Bishop Street (which has never been listed in CUF's by-laws and isn't really wanted by CUF). She also reported that the City has rejected Clifton's (outdated) by-laws change and that she believes the City has accepted CUF's by-laws change to include Burnet Woods.
- INVEST in Neighborhoods: Chip Kussmaul recapped the ongoing issue with Developers asking for permission afterwards versus proper neighborhood notification and transparency beforehand, thus the new city process involving development projects over \$50K & TIF money belonging to a specific neighborhood will require upfront notification to that neighborhood and 2 committee meetings will be required to allocate emergency funding/switching of these monies. He also stated the need for being "proactive" in approaches to resolving ongoing Litter & Graffiti issues.
- UCURC (University of Cincinnati Urban Redevelopment Corp): Megan Smith reported that UC's return to full in-person classes is planned for August 1, 2021 which includes Probasco Hall and that Clifton Court Hall is currently under construction. Lastly, she advised that the final design plans for the corner of MLK & Clifton Avenue are not yet available.
- Street Sweeping: Jack Martin reported that some parking violation tickets were issued during the last sweep this month on Fairview Avenue & Riddle Road (the prototype streets). Chip Kussmaul also advised that there was some discussion at the last INVEST Meeting regarding a process for setting up robo calls & text message reminders to move your car for street sweeping (more to follow).
- Bellevue Park Circle: Chip Kussmaul advised that he will check with the Parks Department to see if/when the survey will be posted online.
- KCB Grants: Chip Kussmaul recapped this is a semi-annual grant opportunity. He also

advised that he will check if the current bus stop benches can be relocated further away back from the curbside (as a safety concern voiced by the General Membership).

- Deer Cams: Chip Kussmaul advised that if anyone wants them for a specific neighborhood area (hot spot), that requestor would need to volunteer to install them and periodically read the SD memory cards.
- Public Works Reps: Chip Kussmaul advised that he will research the possibility of having a PW Rep attend CUFNA General Meetings on a monthly basis (or if not feasible, obtain reports that could be disseminated during the meetings).
- SORTA Grants: Chip Kussmaul advised that “sidewalks” are listed as a suitable funding item for this grant and that he recommends submitting the McMillan sidewalk entrance to Fairview Park as a candidate but please forward any other suggestions to the board.
- July 2021 Trustee Elections: Nathan Hess reported that he is working on the candidates list with assistance from Linda Ziegler compiling a list of eligible (up-to-date) members. There are 3 open positions that are voted on each year and self-nominations are acceptable (if accompanied by 20 members signatures in time for publishing in the June 2021 Newsletter). Nathan also advised that he has been contacting eligible volunteers and Linda advised that the candidates names and bios will be published in the May & June 2021 Newsletters.
- Other items of interest from the meeting/meeting chat notes: (1) a Clifton Area Dog Park is still being discussed by the Parks Department after the Dunmore Park Survey and there appears to be some strong outside interest in locating a dog park somewhere in the Uptown area (possibly Fairview Park in CUF) and that a list of potential sites will be due in 30-60 days and (2) Clifton Avenue temporary bike lanes were discussed as to the hurry (and poor configuration) in which they were constructed and that UC’s portion goes away with the August 2021 term.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 pm

Next General Meeting: 18 May 2021, 7:00 pm, location TBD

Next Board Meeting: 4 May 2021, 7:00 pm, location TBD

Minutes submitted by Carolyn Young.

CUF Neighborhood Association financial report

Balance on: Mar 31, 2021 \$ 2,739.47

Income:

NSP	\$ 7,987.00
AIG Dividend	\$ 911.00
Memberships	\$ 10.00
Total income:	+ \$ 8,908.00

Expenses:

Paypal Fee	\$ 0.59
GCWW	\$ 6.95
Total expenses:	- \$ 7.54

Balance on: Apr 30, 2021 \$ 11,639.93

2021 annual meeting and trustee election

CUF's annual meeting will be held July 20, 2021. Each year three trustees are elected from the list of eligible members. This year we have two incumbent trustees running for re-election as well as three additional candidates: Jack Martin, Jenn Martin, Tracy Schwetschenau, Mary Singler and Carolyn Young. Candidates will have the opportunity to introduce themselves at the May and June general meetings.

Due to the pandemic, the election will be held by mail again this year as was the case in 2020.

New CUF bike racks

Help us choose the best locations for new bike racks by making a request! The Devou Good Foundation has donated 1,000 bicycle parking racks and 5 bicycle repair stations to the City of Cincinnati.

The chart below shows the racks we plan to install this Spring. Let us know where else your neighborhood needs racks!

Make a Request: <https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/bikes/contact-us/request-bike-parking/>

Location Details

# of Racks	Address	Name of Location	Description
1	Park Dr.	Bellevue Park	2' from curb, near restroom
1	350 Warner St.	Ravine St. Market	2' from curb, 3' from trash can
1	213 W McMillan St.	Thai Express	2' from curb, between poles
1	165 W McMillan St.	Fuzzy's Tacos	2' from curb, 3' from pole
1	113 W McMillan St.	Adriatico's	2' from curb, 3' from pole
1	240 Calhoun St.	Calhoun Hall	2' from curb
1	2401 Vine St.	Home Base Tavern	2' from curb, 3' from trash can
1	2330 W Clifton Ave.	E&G Mart	2' from curb, 3' from water valve
1	533 Riddle Rd.	The Riddle Road Market	2' from curb, next to drain
1	2634 Stratford Ave.	Stratford Heights	2' from curb, on edge of pavement

Bellevue Park Survey

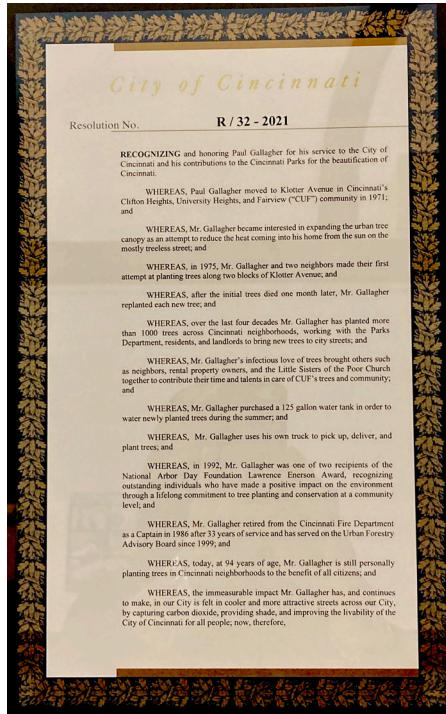
The Cincinnati Park Board, Clifton Heights, University Heights, and Fairview Neighborhood Association (CUFNA) and volunteers of Bellevue Hill Park are seeking feedback on ways to enhance the park for the enjoyment and benefit of all users.

Please take a moment to complete this brief survey, that will be used to inform efforts to improve Bellevue Hill Park. We would also appreciate your assistance in sharing this opportunity with any groups of members with which you have access.

[Bellevue Park Feedback Survey](#)



Design for Bellevue Park survey signs.



City proclamation recognizing Paul Gallagher for his work with the landscaping of the CUF community.

Krohn Conservatory

25th Anniversary Butterfly Show the Butterflies of Bali

Presented by ScherZinger Pest Control & John A. Schroth Family Charitable Trust

May 8th – September 6th, 2021

Open 10am – 8pm | Monday – Sunday

Purchase Tickets: [Link to purchase timed tickets for Krohn Conservatory & the Butterflies of Bali](#)

You must purchase your tickets before your visit to Krohn Conservatory. You will see Monarchs, Blue Morphos and many new species native to Bali, such as Tailed Jays, Common Rose Swallowtails and Leopard Lacewings. Admire the colors and enjoy the beauty of Bali!



Riverfront Park Events Are Back!

Get ready for a fun-filled summer at our Riverfront parks.

Current and upcoming events:

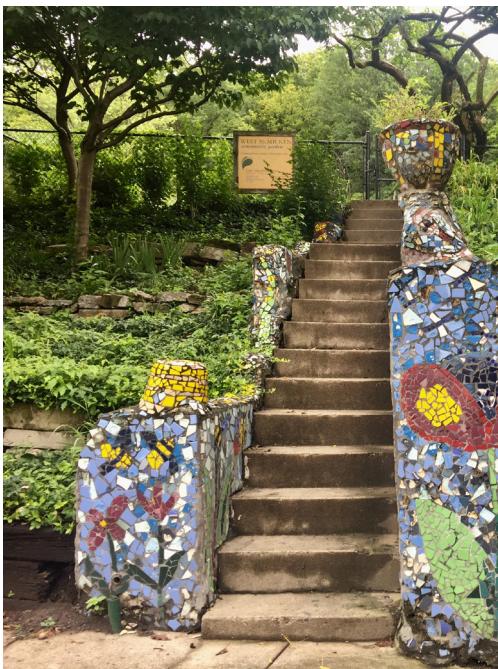
- Food trucks at Castellini Esplanade
- Rockin' the Robeling
- Sawyer Point Concert Series
- Amped Up Concert Series
- Acoustic Lunch Series at Piatt Park
- Smale Mind and Body

Plant Donations Needed

If you are splitting full or partial shade plants this season, consider passing your extra plants to the West McMicken Community Garden.

Last year, the garden was full and we had a waiting list of potential gardeners. A motivated gardener next on the list lobbied to turn a weedy & shady corner of the garden into a garden plot. This corner was unused because it was shaded by a tree. Our motivated gardener cleared the weeds, dug the soil, and planted a fabulous vegetable garden. Unfortunately, the shady plot yielded very little vegetables, since vegetables take full sun. On the upside, our garden has a tremendously energetic new member who graduated to a full sun plot this year.

Another positive is that the garden also has a corner that has been cleared, tilled, and amended with compost. This spot will very quickly revert to a weedy spot unless we plant. The community garden is looking for partial to full shade plants such as Hosta, Astilbe, Solomon's seal, Hellebores, Jacob's ladder, Columbine, etc. If you have plants to share, text Mary at 513.460.5182 or email her at mary.h.singler@gmail.com. To check on available spaces in the garden, or to volunteer at one of the garden work parties email maureen.france@uc.edu.





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 \$10.00.

- 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: \$10.00 per year.
Make checks payable to CUFNA.