



NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

July 2021

Next monthly meeting: July 20, 2021, online format, 7 p.m.

Party in the park

Thanks to all of our neighborhood volunteers who came out on June 13 to participate in the Bellevue Hill Park clean up. Special thanks to Jack Martin for organizing the event and to the Cincinnati Parks Foundation, student volunteers from UC and Cleanup Cincy for their generous support. Participants helped spread mulch and cut back wild honeysuckle. Afterward pizza and beverages were provided. Live music, courtesy of Monigold Studios, featured 3 bands. We also used the opportunity to gather information from participants on ideas for improvements to the park.



CUF Neighborhood Association General Membership Meeting

Video Conference Platform (provided by INVEST)

15 June 2021 - The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 pm, by Charles (Chip) Kussmaul (due to technical issues, this meeting was not recorded).

Guests:

- UCPD (University of Cincinnati Police Dept.) – Officer Carra Sparks
- CPD (Cincinnati Police Department) District 5 – Sgt. Todd Ploehs, & Officer Nick Hageman
- Hughes STEM High School – Dr. Jennifer Williams
- Hughes LSDMC – Heidi Yokum
- Cincinnati City Council Candidate – LaKeisha Cook
- Spring-in-Our-Steps – Christian Huelsman
- Step-Up-to-Art UC – Kate Bonansinga, Jennifer Ustick, & Rachael Nolan
- Trinitas & Associates – Aaron Bartels & Mark Becher
- Gateway Lofts – Ryan Pearson (EDGE) & William Kirk (Halmark Group)
- UCURC (University of Cincinnati Urban Redevelopment Corp) – Megan Smith

Safety Updates:

- UCPD Officer Sparks advised that UC's Summer Term ends on 9 August 2021, the Fall Term begins on 23 August 2021 and the associated move-in/move-out event will occur the week before that. He also provided a list of upcoming UC games (with Nippert Stadium designated back to full capacity) and advised that there is still some traffic back-up around Calhoun Hall.
- CPD-5 Officer Hageman provided the May 2021 CUF Crime Stats and Sgt. Ploehs requested that overtime parked car service requests in the neighborhood be forwarded to him directly at Todd.ploehs@cincinnati-oh.gov. Additionally, some discussion took place between Sgt. Ploehs and the General Membership regarding excessive speeding (with car wrecks) on residential streets (the 2300 block of W. McMicken for example), the June 3rd Homicide which occurred at Marshall & W. McMicken, the uptick in prostitution occurring around Luna & Straight streets, and the ongoing Citizen App reports of police calls for service at 3244 Central Parkway (The Rest Inn). Sgt Ploehs advised that he would obtain and place the speed tracking device on W.

McMicken (near W. McMillan), homicide reports are classified during ongoing investigations/ pending court hearings, nothing about the uptick in prostitution, and that several CPD specialized departments (the gang unit for example) will be moving into the city owned old Permit Center next door to the Rest Inn at the end of July 2021 (pending bullet proof window installs and A/C updates).

Guests Speakers:

- Christian Hulesman of Spring-in-Our-Steps and Kate Bonansinga along with Jennifer Ustick and Rachael Nolan of Step-Up-to-Art UC spoke about their commitment and vision of improving outdoor staircases throughout Cincinnati which will also improve pedestrian walkability. The Pilot Project will be the staircase on Ohio Avenue that leads down to Vine Street and a Focus Group is scheduled to meet at the top of the steps (2134 Ohio Ave.) on Saturday, 19 June 2021 at 9:00 am with a Cleanup scheduled for the next day (Sunday, 20 June 2021).
- Aaron Bartels of Trinitas & Associates provided a recap of last month's PD (planned development) by City Council and that the permitting process begins in August 2021. He also reported that various construction and demolition activities involving the old Tri-Delta house and the old Deaconess Hospital building are scheduled to happen between September through December 2021. Lastly, he advised that he anticipates an update at next month's General Meeting concerning the Hotel portion of the project.
- Ryan Pearson and William Kirk provided some analysis with concept drawings of the Proposed Gateway Lofts Project (the main building is designed for 469 beds) and advised that they have submitted a PD (planned development) Rezoning Request situated around W. McMillan (north), Moerlein (west), and Lyon (east) as described during their recent presentation to City Planners (this also includes parking ratios and Lyon Street setbacks). This report proceeded to various discussion points with the General Membership concerning the Rezoning Request, especially Lyon Street which is currently zoned Residential and is "not" under the umbrella of the Clifton Heights Business Association (of whom the Developers stated that they had met with regarding the zoning variance) and that the size of the site is less than the City's standard of 2 acres required for a Planned Development. Additional discussion took place regarding the inclusion of public amenities (such as Retail) on the McMillan edge, similar to the Verge (2 restaurants and some retail), unrealistic

parking ratio design (every student will have a car even within the convenient metro bus loop), and what type of financing is being used (the developer advised that this project is using private financing, but they will be pursuing City (public) incentives.

- LaKeisha Cole, Cincinnati City Council Candidate from Westwood introduced herself and background of working for FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) and that she wants to grow and develop our city positively. Chip Kusssmaul advised that a Q&A with LaKeisha could be held at the end of the general meeting.

- Dr. Jennifer Williams, newly appointed Principal of Hughes STEM High School introduced herself in her new role and advised that the school building is in the process of relocating various spaces, including the Community Learning Center which should be available as a CUFNA meeting space in the fall.

Reports, Discussions & Announcements:

- The Treasurer's Report was shared by Chip Kusssmaul.

- Tiffany Thomas representing the Clifton CRC (Cincinnati Recreation Center) was absent from tonight's general meeting.

- LSDMC (Local School Decision Making Committee) Reps for Hughes STEM High School, Lyn Martin and Heidi Yocum were both in attendance and Lyn advised that the high school may move away from uniforms to a dress code system. LSDMC Rep for CANS (Clifton Area Neighborhood School), Tracy Schwetschenau advised that they will be incorporating the After School Program into their school building (currently held at the nearby CRC) this coming school year.

- CHCURC (Clifton Heights Community Urban Redevelopment Corp) updates: Chip Kusssmaul reported that Matt Bourgeois has recently prepared an outline of CUF/CHCURC Strategic Planning items and that CHCURC only participates in specific CUF residential areas with CUF's buy-in.

- CHBA (Clifton Heights Business Association) updates: Jack Martin reported that they provided support to the Bellevue Picnic held earlier this month.

- NOU (Neighborhoods of Uptown): Linda Ziegler reported that Mt. Auburn & CUF's goVibrant maps were previously finalized and now Corryville's is, so they are hoping that the official maps and signage will be following soon.

- INVEST in Neighborhoods: Chip Kusssmaul advised that he is still attending meetings,

especially those focused on getting the City to listen to the Neighborhoods better than they currently do.

- UCURC (University of Cincinnati Urban Redevelopment Corp): Megan Smith reported that there will be a slow transition of staff back to the office and that this Saturday, traffic will again be reduced to one lane on Calhoun.

- Street Sweeping: Chip Kusssmaul reported that the pilot program on Riddle and Fairview is still being enforced, including the issuance of parking violation tickets but doesn't know exactly how long this will continue.

- KCB Grants: Chip Kusssmaul recapped this is a semi-annual \$10K matching grant opportunity and please forward any project ideas to the CUFNA Board and Tracy Schwetschenau is collecting a list of potential building candidates for murals in heavily graffiti tagged areas.

- Community Council Boundaries: Chip Kusssmaul and Linda Ziegler advised that there are several neighborhoods that are upset with the City's current attempt to try and control said boundaries (of which there is no legal precedent or city governing ordinance).

- Bellevue Hill Park Picnic: Jack Martin reported that it was held this past Sunday, 13 June 2021 and that it was very successful (including the music organized by CCM Student, Ryan Monigold) and it is hoped that there will be more events like this in the near future.

- Gateway Lofts (old Pomodori site): Chip Kusssmaul advised that the CUFNA Board will be working on a plan at next month's meeting.

- Dog Park: Linda Ziegler advised that Jack Martin recently sent out the most recent report from the Parks Department.

- July 2021 CUFNA Trustee Elections: Linda Ziegler advised that she has mailed the ballots out with return envelopes to 26 eligible voters and due to sometimes slow U.S. Mail, she requests they be sent back immediately.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:57 pm

Next General Meeting: 20 July 2021, 7:00 pm, location TBD

Next Board Meeting: 6 July 2021, 7:00 pm, CHCURC Offices

Minutes submitted by Carolyn Young.

CUF Neighborhood Association financial report

Balance on: May 31, 2021	\$ 7,873.47
Income:	
Membership	\$ 60.00
PIP Reimb - MadTree	\$ 81.00
Reimb - Parks Board	\$ 787.98
Total income:	+ \$ 928.98
Expenses:	
PayPal Fee	\$ 0.59
Cinci Disk Golf Donation	\$ 1,000.00
Monigold Studios	\$ 500.00
GCWW	\$ 21.71
Total expenses:	- \$ 1,522.30
Balance on: Jun 30, 2021	\$ 7,280.15

Upcoming Botanical Garden events



Native Plant Sales
Bowyer Farm, 2210 North
Montgomery Road, 9am-12:30pm (By
Registration Only)
August 14
September 11
September 25
October
Keep checking the website for availability.
Capacity increases are possible.

- Friend or Foe: Bugs in Your Sustainable Garden Podcast

In the food garden, insects can be a plant's best friend or worst enemy. Domonique Peebles of Brick Gardens; Cedric Rose, gardener, writer, and librarian at the Mercantile Library; and Scott Beuerlein, Manager of Botanical Garden Outreach at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden sit down to discuss their strategies for attracting pollinators and protecting plants in their sustainable gardens. [Register here.](#)

- Symposiums:
Plant Trials Day
Cincinnati Zoo, Frisch's Theater
Aug 26, 8am-6pm
Our highly acclaimed and always popular Plant Trials Day symposium returns live and in-person on August 26. Legendary plant collector,

gardener, and nursery owner, Dan Hinckley will give two talks! Additionally, we are featuring Paul Westervelt and Jared Barnes. They are young and popular horticultural speakers who have both won the "40 Under 40" award from Greenhouse Product News and the Perennial Plant Association's "Young Professional of the Year" award. Another speaker, likely one who is very popular and one of the best from our past programs, TBA. Stay tuned!

Uptown waste diversion

In partnership with University of Cincinnati Sustainability, City of Cincinnati Department of Public Services, City of Cincinnati Office of Environment and Sustainability, and CHCURC, are joining forces to tackle an increase in waste that occurs annually as students move out of off-campus housing near the university.

Moving out can generate an excessive amount of waste. In Uptown, most leases end around July 31st, so students and families are cleaning out to move during that week. In the past, this has caused a lot of furniture, trash, and other items to be on the street or overflowing in dumpsters. In order to try to prevent this from happening, and to try to divert waste from the landfill, Uptown is offering extra trash and recycling dumpsters and will accept donations of usable items.

We're looking for volunteers to join with our site lead coordinator to assist with sorting of acceptable items. Directing participants on where to place their trash, recyclables, electronics, reusable items, etc.

[Volunteer Link](#)

To volunteer click on the link above or go to the Keep Cincinnati Beautiful site and click on the volunteer image link.



Rider alert

New Stored Value Account Debuts in EZfare

Starting today, you can now use cash to purchase mobile tickets for trips on Cincinnati Metro and the Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky (TANK) using the Transit with EZfare app.

Through Transit with EZfare, transit users can use their smartphones to plan trips, pay fare and track buses in real time. Add funds to your EZfare mobile ticketing stored value account, which can then be used to buy mobile tickets when needed. These mobile tickets will be displayed directly on your smartphone when boarding the bus.

Add funds via credit card in the Transit app, or with cash at the Metro Sales Office at 120 East Fourth Street, Mercantile Center Arcade, Cincinnati, Ohio. Credit card users can purchase any amount between \$1 and \$100; cash users can purchase amounts in \$10, \$20 or \$30 the same as Metro's current paper stored-value cards.



Bellevue park survey

The link to the Bellevue Park survey results can be found by clicking [here](#) or by going to the Cincinnati Parks website and clicking on the survey icon.



The Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub is a nonprofit organization providing a "one-stop" drop-off location for items that can be recycled or reused, but that can't go into traditional recycling bins. [Learn more](#) about what is accepted. What they take for free: shoes, textiles, Kroger and simple truth packaging, styrofoam, health and beauty items, medical items, all #1 - 7 plastics, office items, tools. What they take for a fee: batteries, lightbulbs, tires, smoke detectors and electronics.

The Cincinnati Recycling & Reuse Hub has announced an electronics recycling drop-off event on July 24th from 10 AM - 2 PM at their warehouse location, 911 Evans Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45204. Residents from all areas of the Tri-State are encouraged to attend. All electronic items, including household appliances, computers and all accessories, and more will be accepted, with the exception of biohazardous items, such as glucose meters. TVs, computer monitors, refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, air conditioners, batteries, light bulbs, and smoke detectors require per item fees to cover disposal costs for the hazardous waste components of those items. For all other items, there is a fee of \$10 per vehicle. CASH ONLY accepted at the Hub, but some fees can be paid online with a credit card prior to drop-off. Electronics are also accepted during regular Hub business hours.

Recycling reminders

Please place the following items into your recycling cart:

METAL CANS



Metal lids OK.

PLASTIC BOTTLES, JUGS & TUBS



Reattach lid.
Yogurt and fruit cups OK.

GLASS BOTTLES & JARS



Any color. Reattach lid.

PAPER



Flatten cardboard
and remove plastic
packing material

CARTONS



No egg or ice cream
cartons. Remove
caps and straws.

Recycling should be loose in recycling carts. Don't bag. As a reminder, plastic bags aren't accepted in the curbside recycling program.

Yard waste is collected every-other-week through the second week of January and is collected on the same day as your recycling. Yard waste cannot be placed in your green recycling cart— it must be placed in clearly marked cans with handles, paper bags designed for yard waste, or bundled with heavy twine or cotton rope. For yard waste questions, call: (513) 591-6000.



**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.

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