NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

September 2021

Next monthly meeting: Sept 21, 2021, online format, 7 p.m.

CUF Neighborhood Association General Membership Meeting

Video Conference Platform (provided by INVEST)
20 July 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.) – Officer Carra Sparks
•CPD (Cincinnati Police Department) District 5 – Sgt. Todd Ploehs, & Officer Shawn Dent
• Hughes LSDMC – Heidi Yokum
• Cincinnati City Council Candidate – Galen Gordon
•Trinitas & Associates – Aaron Bartels & Mark Becher
• DSD Advisors – Colleen Reynolds
•UHCURC (University Heights Community Urban Redevelopment Corp. University of Cincinnati Urban Redevelopment Corp) – Megan Smith
• Nolan Monigold – Monigold Studios

Safety Updates:
• UCPD Officer Sparks advised of various upcoming events scheduled for August & September 2021, including UC Commencement on August 6th & 7th; Hosting Leader Cast at 5/3 Arena on August 11th; Fall Term runs August 23rd through December 11th; and Nippert Stadium (full capacity) Football Games on September 4th & 11th. He also advised of a recent rash of Robberies around the UC Campus and that UCPD will be providing Extra Visibility Patrols Off-Campus Thursday-Saturday from 7 am to 3 pm and are hoping to be able to interact with Students and other Residents during these Patrols. A Burglary Awareness Event is scheduled for August 5th from 4-8 pm which is focused on the South side of Campus around the Ohio-Warner-Ravine-McMillan perimeter.
• CPD-5 Sgt. Ploehs introduced the Officer Shawn Dent as the new Liaison Officer for CUF and advised that Officer Hageman has transferred to the CBD (Central Business District). Officer Dent introduced himself and provided the monthly Crime Stats Summary. Sgt. Ploehs proceeded to report that Auto Thefts have been up this year but are starting to go back down again. He also provided important information concerning a recent rash of Armed Robberies in the immediate area (1 on the UC Campus and 2-3 more in CUF), including 2 Suspects were arrested today out of a total of 5 possible suspects and all are believed to be Juveniles. UCPD, CPD-5 & 3 Investigators are all working together on this issue as some of these Suspects are also believed to involved in the recent Shootings at Smale Riverfront Park during the 4th of July Weekend, and the Warner/Wheeler Armed Car Jacking which occurred on July 13th. As a result of the 4th of July Shooting, CPD are adding 25 extra Officers throughout the City on Thursday through Sunday Evenings which is an Interdepartmental effort involving all Districts, Bike Patrols, SWAT, and others. Lastly, CPD-5 will also be adding Extra Visibility Patrols throughout CUF on Weekends. Sgt. Ploehs also reported of a recent Arrest in Clifton involving 1 4-Wheel Vehicle Operator who was able to call and warn off his other friends prior to his arrest and that the few who are apprehended, usually have Firearms on them. Lastly, Tracy Schwetschenau advised the CPD-5 Officers that she is working on a KCB Grant Application for Anti-Graffiti Murals and will be needing some data from them.

Guests Speakers:
• Galen Gordon, West End Resident and Cincinnati City Council Candidate introduced himself and advised he would be available

for Questions & Answers after the end of the General Meeting.
• Nolan Monigold of Monigold Studios provided a schedule of Live Music Venues scheduled for July & August 2021 on Friday evenings in Bellevue Hill Park. He also advised that on Saturday, September 11th, the 1st leg of the Underground Music Crawl starts at Bellevue Park.
• Aaron Bartels of Trinitas & Associates along with Reps from Crawford Coyne advised that the Final Permits submittal will occur by the end of this month (July 2021) regarding The District at Clifton Heights Streetscape and Parking Garage and that both the City and DOTE will start work at the end of this year, 2021. Andrea Parris, General Manager of The Deacon provided details concerning the UC Move-out scheduled for July 30th including extra trash dumpsters and more front of the building Security to keep traffic moving during the upcoming Move-in on August 18th which will also include Open to the Public Food Trucks on their property. Crawford Coyne Reps provided a Graphic Slide Summary of the latest Design Plans slated for the future A-2 Building (Hotel & Mixed Use/Retail). There was also some discussion with the General Membership regarding the need for Wide Sidewalks to accommodate Pedestrian Safety in a very busy Traffic and Pedestrian Corner, and No Visibility of the Above-Ground Multi-Level Parking Garage across from the UC Campus.
• Colleen Reynolds of DSD Advisors, advised that her recent conversation with Assistant City Manager, John Juech revealed that the City Admin is planning to provide an Updated Report for the Next Steps necessary to implement the Full Neighborhood Parking Solutions Program by the end of Council's Recess (Labor Day). Colleen also suggested that Mr. Juech be invited to the September 2021 General Meeting.

Reports, Discussions & Announcements:
• The Treasurer's Report was shared by Chip Kussmaul.
• Tiffany Thomas representing the Clifton CRC (Cincinnati Recreation Center) advised that they are in the 7th of a 10-week Summer Program which ends on August 13th, a few days before CPS resumes classes on August 19th and that 60 Children are already registered for their Before & After School Program. She also advised plans for adding Day-time Pickle Ball into their Fall 2021 Programming.
• 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 there have been no recent committee meetings, but they have met with the new Principal. There is a School Supplies Drive-Thru scheduled for August 4th & 5th from 5-8 pm and will be staggered by grades. Heidi also reported that unfortunately, one of their own Students was a Victim of the Smale Park Shooting and that Grief Counseling and other Student Support Resources have been setup. She also advised that the area around Hughes will be very busy on August 18th & 19th because of CPS starting back to School coinciding with UC Students moving into The Deacon building nearby. LSDMC Rep for CANS, Tracy Schwetschenau advised that there have been no recent meetings.
• CHCURC (Clifton Heights Community Urban Redevelopment Corp) updates: Chip Kussmaul reported that the Sandheger Place Property has been listed and should sell soon, and the Homeowner/Buyer will be contractually required to live there. Chip also briefly mentioned that Matt Bourgeois is working on a possible In-Fill Multi-Housing Concept within CUF that doesn't exactly match with CUFNA's Mission of restoring/increasing Single Family Home Ownership.
• CHBA (Clifton Heights Business Association) updates: Jack Martin reported that there was a Presentation by the Gateway Lofts Developer (W. McMillan/Moerlein/Lyon) last Thursday to the Business Association and the resulting feedback was no more receptive than the CUFNA has been so far.
• NOU (Neighborhoods of Uptown): Linda Ziegler advised that there was no meeting last month and the next meeting is scheduled for this Thursday, July 22, 2021.
• INVEST in Neighborhoods: Chip Kussmaul provided a recap of recent meetings where various other Neighborhood Community Councils are working together through INVEST to strongly push for Improved Community Engagement at City Hall, especially regarding Commercial Development, Tax Abatements, TIF funding, and Zoning Changes that are Universal to several neighborhoods. There is also a possibility that the City could legally designate a Property as a Historic Landmark without the Property Owner's permission. Neighborhood Boundaries is also an ongoing and active topic at INVEST.
• UHCURC (University Heights Community Urban Redevelopment Corp. University of Cincinnati Urban Redevelopment Corp): Megan Smith advised that the old YMCA is going to be more expensive to Stabilize than previously thought and the University is attempting to add increased funding for the project. She also

advised that her Office is still very understaffed in UC Planning+Design+Construction Construction Planning & Design, otherwise August 15th is the target date for full time office staff at UC. Based on discussion with the General Membership, she advised that it is too early to know if UC plans to block-lease apartments at the future Gateway Lofts and Central Parkway/Marshall Student Housing complexes but did state that demand for UC enrollment continues to increase. Other discussion was held concerning the temporary bike lanes along Clifton Ave. between Straight St. and MLK being removed before School starts again but UC is also paying a Consultant for a Study of them and will provide the results to the CUFNA, once they are available.

• SORTA (Southwest Ohio Regional Transportation Authority) Updates: Chip Kussmaul reported that SORTA recently presented recent Metro Bus Route Enhancements and future plans to the CUFNA Board.

• July 2021 Board of Trustees Election Results: Linda Ziegler reported that 3 Trustees have been elected/reelected: Jack Martin, Mary Singler, & Carolyn Young and this will be published in the upcoming Newsletter.

• Street Sweeping: Andrea Schwallie who lives on Fairview (one of the two Pilot streets) advised that she will be drafting a Letter of Inquiry to the City requesting status and future plans.

• KCB Grants: Tracy Schwetschenau advised that the deadline is August 6th to apply for a matching $10K grant to install a Mural on a Graffiti hot spot building and the owner of the old carpet building located at Warner & Clifton Ave. is interested. A possible option for the next grant award in February 2022 could be installing Safety Lighting in Schorr Alley but there would also be post-grant costs of paying for the electricity (possibly the Student Rental Property Landlords, etc.).

• Neighborhood Activation Fund: Chip Kussmaul advised that this is another, new $10K asset available to each city neighborhood but he doesn't have much information yet.

• Future Live Meetings at Hughes: Lyn Martin advised that the CUFNA will need to obtain an updated CPS Policy for after-hours building usage. Some discussion was held on the pros-cons of Live vs Virtual and asking INVEST to develop a universal neighborhood platform to accommodate Hybrid meetings.

• 2022 NSP Expenditures: Linda Ziegler provided a recap of 2020 & 2021's issues regarding NSP funds and the City's fiscal year timelines vs signed contracts, etc. The General Membership voted Unanimously at tonight's meeting and approved the following categories with percentages: Beautification – 60 %, Newsletter & Communications – 15 %, Marketing & Membership – 25 %.

•Step up to Art (a collaboration between UC and Spring-In-Our-Steps): Jack Martin advised that there will be 2 upcoming Saturday sessions of Volunteers cleaning the Ohio Avenue Steps from 9-11 am on July 24th & August 6th.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:06 pm

Next General Meeting: 21 September 2021, 7:00 pm, location TBD (no August 2021 meeting)
Next Board Meeting: 7 September 2021, 7:00 pm, CHCURC Offices

Minutes submitted by Carolyn Young.

CUF Neighborhood Association financial report

Balance on: July 31, 2021	$ 3,437.80
Income:	
Donations from party in park	$ 75.00
Dues	$ 10.00
Dues	$ 40.00
Total income:	+ $ 125.00
Expenses:	
Bambach, green up supplies	$ 75.44
Wallpe, MuttMitts	$ 932.44
GCWW	$ 15.14
Total expenses:	- $ 1,023.02
Balance on: Aug. 31, 2021	$ 2,539.78

Matching grants for multi-family building owners

The City's Office of Environment and Sustainability has just released an exciting funding opportunity for property owners.

Up to $80,000 to be dispersed in the form of $5,000 matching grants to support energy efficiency upgrades.
They are seeking applicants - due 10/1/21.
Register for optional, virtual Pre-Application Meeting to be held on 9/15/21 here.
Contact Molly Robertshaw with questions after reviewing their website.

For income-eligible tenants

Are you struggling to pay your energy bills and want to pay less for electricity monthly? All income-eligible renters in Cincinnati can earn up to $500 on your Duke Energy bill by completing: a free energy assessment of your apartment unit, free energy efficiency upgrades, and basic energy efficiency education programming.

Families must live in Cincinnati, in a multi-family building, and have an income of 200% or below the Federal Poverty Limit.

The first step is to call (513) 685-4478 (select option 3) to make an appointment with Cincinnati-Hamilton Community Action Agency and ask to be qualified for WarmUp Cincy.
The City will facilitate WarmUp Cincy in its current form with current partners until a new contracted facilitator is selected via the RFP above.

2021 WarmUp Cincy Pilot Partners:
Community Action Agency I Cincinnati and Hamilton County - People Working Cooperatively - City of Cincinnati Office of Environment and Sustainability.

Fall ReLeaf

For the last 33 years, Cincinnati Parks' Fall ReLeaf program has grown, improved and sustained the canopy coverage of our city. The highly successful effort has given away 20,000 free trees consisting of more than 40 species. Do you know the many benefits that trees offer?

- Trees remove pollution from the atmosphere, which improves air quality and health.
- Trees absorb carbon dioxide (CO2) from the atmosphere, reducing the effects of climate change.
- Trees save energy. According to the Arbor Day Foundation: "The average Cincinnati community tree saves the average household $56 annually in cooling costs by reducing electricity use."
- Trees reduce the urban heat island effect by shading buildings and streets and releasing water vapor into the air. Urban trees can cool a city by up to 10°F.
- Trees make us feel happier. Living and working in areas that have trees can improve mental health, mood and social connections.
- Trees provide natural storm water management. A single large canopy deciduous tree can control 400 to 1,000 gallons of stormwater. This benefits homeowners by

reducing soil erosion and manages flooding from rainfall.

Interested in planting your free tree to help make Cincinnati greener? Applications for trees opened to all city residents on September 4, 2021. Click here to apply or visit the Cincinnati Parks website.

Controlled bow hunting in Cincinnati Parks

Hunting Season Begins Saturday September 25. Interested in learning about Controlled Bow Hunting in Cincinnati Parks? Check out this article:

Autumn is one of many people's favorite season. Cooler temperatures, drier weather, changing leaves and fewer insects make it a fantastic time to enjoy a nice hike on the trails. Autumn allows for other forms of outdoor recreation too, such as controlled bow hunting.

One of the greatest challenges throughout our park system is the loss of young tree seedlings and spring wildflowers, due to the overpopulation of white-tailed deer. This loss alters forest composition and hinders the long-term regeneration of future forests. As a result of this changing ecosystem, all the wildlife is negatively impacted.

White-tailed deer are considered a keystone species, known for affecting other organisms in an ecosystem. They are browsers, meaning they eat all forms of plant material including seedlings, leaves, buds, flowers, fruit, bark, young trees and branches. Without the presence of keystone predators, like mountain lions, wolves, and black bears, the uncontrolled overpopulation of deer threatens the natural environment. Left unchecked, the forest becomes over-browsed of favorite deer species, such as oak trees, degrading forests for park patrons to enjoy now and into the future.

Safety

The program has been well-established for 14 years with an outstanding safety record thanks to an annual mandatory skills test each hunter must pass in order to qualify for the program. Beyond this, all qualified hunters receive educational training delivered by Parks DNR staff on the Park Board's hunting regulations and safety requirements.

Hunting season lasts from September 25th, 2021 to February 6th, 2022. Cincinnati Parks is proud of the success achieved in improving our forests, is grateful for the deer management volunteers, and looks forward to another successful season.

Click here to find a full list of parks and maps of controlled bow hunting zones.

Become a Cincinnati Parks volunteer

Our Parks depend on support from those who use and love them. Your contribution of time is one way to help Cincinnati Parks maintain our status as one of the top urban park systems in the country. From working out in the parks with dirty hands to engaging the community for special events to administrative tasks – there are opportunities for everyone. We have one-time and ongoing opportunities available to provide you with a rewarding and satisfying volunteer experience.

To learn about year-round, on-going opportunities and commit to being a Cincinnati Parks Volunteer, create an account on our Volunteer site. Get a broad look at all of the ways to support Cincinnati Parks. This is where our dedicated volunteers access opportunities, track hours, receive communication and stay involved.

Old CUF

source: University of Cincinnati Libraries Digital Resource Commons

A view of McMillan Street looking west from Vine Street. The photo was taken in June of 1930 by the Cincinnati Highway Dept. Note the street car tracks and two-way traffic.

CLIFTON HEIGHTS
UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS
FAIRVIEW
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
2364 West McMicken Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45214

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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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