



NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

REPRESENTING CLIFTON HEIGHTS • UNIVERSITY HEIGHTS • FAIRVIEW

August, 2020

Next monthly meeting:

September 15, 2020

Online Format, 7 p.m.

Dear Neighbors,

Last month was CUF's annual meeting when we chose new trustees. Maureen France was re-elected to a second consecutive term; and John Stork will be returning to the board after a one-year hiatus. New this year is Andrea Schwallie a recent homeowner in Fairview. Jack Martin was term-limited but will continue in several support roles as representative to the Clifton Heights Business Association and the Neighborhoods of Uptown group. Jules Rosen and his family have moved to Clifton, so they will remain neighbors.

Officers for the coming year are: Chip Kussmaul, President and CHCURC representative; Nathan Hess, Vice President; Jenn Martin, Treasurer; Carolyn Young, Recording Secretary; John Stork, Corresponding Secretary; and Linda Ziegler, Membership Secretary and NSP Manager. Craig Lloyd has agreed to continue as the newsletter editor. In addition, our Hughes LSDMC representative is Lyn Martin; our CANS LSDMC representative is Tracy Schwetschenau. A number of other neighbors lead efforts to preserve our parks, fill Mutt Mitt dispensers and liaise with city departments about quality-of-life issues. There are many opportunities to become involved in the CUF community. Please reach out to trustees if interested.

It appears that we will be meeting virtually for the foreseeable future on a platform provided by Invest in Neighborhoods. The day before each meeting information on how to join by computer or phone will be published on CUF's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/CUFNA> and on CUF Nextdoor: <https://nextdoor.com/neighborhood/cuf--cincinnati--oh/>. Please contact Linda Ziegler at zieglerl@fuse.net if you have questions or concerns.

Remember, there is no meeting in August. "See" you September 15th.

CUF Neighborhood Association General Membership Meeting

Video Conference Platform (provided by INVEST)

21 July 2020 - The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:04 pm, by Nathan Hess (please note: The audio recording option available in this digital platform will only be executed to assist with the drafting of meeting minutes and will be deleted upon approved finalization of these minutes).

Guests:

- UCPD – Capt. David Hoffman, Lt. David Brinker, & Officer Jim Vestring
- UC Student Affairs Representative – Aniesha Mitchell
- Trinitas & Associates – Aaron Bartels, Mark Becher, Andrea Parris
- DSD Advisors (Parking Solutions Study) – Colleen Reynolds

Special Guests:

- Cincinnati City Council Member – David Mann, Chief-of-Staff Gerald Checco, & Staff Case Worker Kathy Doanne

Safety Updates:

- UCPD Capt. Hoffman advised that the UC Campus will be getting busier next month (August 2020) but online learning is still going to be very much in play. The status of Collegiate Athletics is still unknown and they will be attending a meeting next week regarding this. Capt. Hoffman also reported that CPD-5 has recently arrested 3 juveniles involved in stealing a car and that several other recent arrests surrounding B&E (Breaking & Entering) crimes have also been made. Capt. Hoffman proceeded to introduce UC Student Affairs Representative, Aniesha Mitchell, and lastly, he

advised that earlier this week was the 5-year anniversary of the death of Sam Dubose (July 19, 2015).

- CPD-5 Liaisons were not in attendance at tonight's Video Conference Meeting but have kindly provided a copy of the most recent crime stats for CUF. Nathan Hess has attached these stats to tonight's meeting agenda and the plan is to continue to provide them with the meeting agenda (virtual or physical) going forward. Nathan also provided a recap of his recent in-person meeting on last Monday, July 13th with CPD-5 Liaison Officer Nick Hageman who spoke about the crime stats report and several other safety issues including the student off-campus parties, loud fireworks past the 4th of July holiday, and rock throwing from Bellevue Hill Park onto W. Clifton Avenue. Officer Hageman advised during this meeting that he would contact the Parks Department to review this issue and try to develop a plan for better security (fencing repair) of the official park boundary (the rock throwing location occurs in an area that is supposed to be off-limits to the public), and the possibility of more CPD-5 directed patrols. Nathan also requested that any specific questions/complaints be directed via email to the CUFNA.org about 1 week prior to the next scheduled General Meeting, and he will forward these to Officer Hageman for review. CUFNA member, Julie Murray reported that she has twice visited the CPD-5 HQ, and asked various street patrol Officers to address the overcrowding (30-40 parked cars) and criminal activity (drugs and prostitution) that is occurring daily in Bellevue Hill Park (especially during the hours of 4:00 pm to 10 pm). UCPD Lt. Brinker advised that they will be meeting with CPD-5 tomorrow for their bi-monthly meeting, and that they will voice the CUF community's safety concerns with CPD-5 Capt. Gregoire.

Guest & Special Guest Speakers:

- Nathan Hess introduced Cincinnati City Council Member David Mann, who in turn also introduced his 2 accompanying staff personnel (Gerald Checco & Kathy Doanne). Mr. Mann spoke briefly about the newly proposed TIF Transparency Ordinance, and the extreme negative financial impact to the City Budget caused by COVID-19 (including the approved FY-2021 budget swap of \$250K TIF money from CUF to the Clifton Cultural Arts Center). He also advised that he will be meeting tomorrow with CPD-5 Capt. Gregoire and he plans to discuss the current crime situation at Bellevue Hill Park. After Mr. Mann spoke, Nathan Hess described CUFNA's concerns regarding the

FY-2021 Budget (particularly the TIF swap and the temporary CPD-5 HQ currently located in College Hill). Additionally, several CUFNA Members commented (via the chat notes) their "strong" disapproval and concern of the City's approved budget and a statement from Mr. Mann advising that TIF monies can "legally" be reallocated to an "adjacent" neighborhood, providing the "original" neighborhood will also benefit. Other causes for concern surround the various Community Budget Requests that have been requested by CUF for the past several years, yet continue to be denied or ignored (ex: missing sidewalks along W. McMillan Street leading into Fairview Park and lack of a proper Pedestrian Safety Crossing at a dangerous curve). Nathan also recapped the most recent Parking Solutions Survey Proposal (which was approved in the FY-2021 Budget) and Colleen Reynolds with DSD Advisors advised Mr. Mann and his Staff that she could also provide detailed specifics aside from this meeting. CUFNA has recently requested that Council Members Mann and Seelbach participate in a local neighborhood ride-along to help understand the overcrowded and insufficient amount of neighborhood parking spaces (including very narrow 2-way streets) and traffic congestion throughout CUF. Mr. Mann also indicated that he was personally unaware that the City was "not" enforcing City Parking Regulations throughout CUF, including on street-sweeping days. Lastly, after being asked how CUF can receive better support from Cincinnati City Hall, Mr. Mann advised that Elected Officials are reactionary in nature, thus Community Councils & other Individuals need to constantly reach out to these Elected Officials and communicate their needs and concerns.

- Aaron Bartels and Mark Becher, representing Trinitas & Associates reported that a number of LOIs (Letters-of-Interest) for the Hotel, Multi-Family, & Senior Housing (vertical development) are in process of being reviewed/negotiated. Aaron also advised that there are now 2 potential Developers interested in Public Space (horizontal development) and Trinitas is working with the City on The District TIF Project (please note: this TIF Project is in no way related to any CUF TIF money or projects). Mark also introduced the on-site General Manager for the Deacon, Andrea Parris who gave a brief update regarding the upcoming Move-Out Period is scheduled for July 27th through 31st from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm (some early move-outs are actually happening now) and the Move-In Period is scheduled for August 14th through 30th. The front doors on Straight Street are prohibited for any type of moving items. All loading and unloading will be restricted to the Stratford Street Parking Garage

using either 15 or 30-minute time period loading zones, and that a 3rd Party Security Firm will be in place to enforce these rules. These policies and procedures are being communicated to all tenants via email correspondence. Aaron advised that the Deacon Management is requesting that all of their Residents fill out the 2020 Census forms. Lastly Mark advised that they are looking at Curb Management (street scape and place management) including obsolete signage at the old Deaconess Hospital site.

Reports, Discussions & Announcements:

- The Treasurer's Report was shared by Nathan Hess.
- Tom Reece representing the Clifton CRC (Cincinnati Recreation Center) reported that the Clifton Rec Center will be hosting a Summer Camp for 25 Families Mon-Fri 7:00 am – 6:00 pm with a Staff to Children Ratio of 1:9. Due to COVID-19, CRCs have reduced staffing, and there will be no swimming pools or field trips this year. Tom also advised that he is waiting for a coordinated plan between CPS (Cincinnati Public Schools) & CRC which will provide a Child Care Day Camp on "alternate" off-from school days, and the CRCs will continue to close at 6:00 pm. He also asked that we email him with any local families that we know will be needing this type of child care service and that the 1st day of school is August 24th.
- LSDMC Hughes High School: Lyn Martin advised that there have been no recent meetings or updates at this time. The CANS (Clifton Area Neighborhood School) LSDMC Rep was absent from this meeting.
- Neighborhood Parks & CPAC: Nathan Hess advised of the current lack of maintenance and landscaping (overgrown weeds) at Fairview Park. Tom Reece reminded everyone of the temporary road closures in Burnet Woods.
- CHCURC Block 1 & CUF Housing Initiative updates: Chip Kusmaul advised that there have been no meetings for a few months but there is a meeting tentatively scheduled for next month (August 2020) and that Block 1 plans are still in work but will no longer be including a hotel. Regarding the Housing Initiative, Chip stated that there are 19 properties they are active in (but CHCURC does "not" own all of them). They do own 2455 W. McMicken and its roof has been stabilized and foundation repaired, so it is now ready to resell to someone else to finish it off. They also own 2136 Ravine Street (which received a \$10K donation from and adoption by CUFNA). It is currently being cleaned out and has some retaining wall issues. Lastly the property located on Sandheger (the original

property that kicked-started the CHCURC & CUF Housing Initiative), was obtained through the courts (via receivership).

- CHBA updates: Jack Martin advised that there no new updates to report.
- NOU & go Vibrant updates: Linda Ziegler reported that due to COVID-19 and other budgetary constraints, the City of Cincinnati will "not" be participating in or providing trash dumpsters for this year's UC Move-in/Move-out period (but there should also be less students this term. Nathan Hess also advised that UC Students can take advantage of local non-profit organizations (Goodwill, St. Vincent de Paul, etc.) to coordinate collection of reusable student items, including electronic devices. Linda recapped the go Vibrant Program and Maureen France advised that CUF is #6 in the Million Mile Challenge which runs between June 15th through October 10th.
- UCURC (UC Community Redevelopment) updates: Megan Smith reported that the upcoming Move-in period scheduled for August 14th-24th will be typical but with 600 less beds projected for this school year. Megan and her boss, Jon Siebert will be participating in a Study Panel hosted by the Uptown Consortium on Wednesday, July 23rd at 2:00 pm, which will be focused on the reopening of UC and the best methods for conducting classes during the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic. She also advised that her boss is unhappy with the landscaping around the new Sculpture Studio and is working with their contractor on improvements. Additionally, because of City worker furloughs and overgrown weeds in the median on Clifton Avenue, they have hired a new contractor to take over the City's work (which has already been paid for by UC and will require reimbursement). Lastly, she advised that she is unsure of the status of the scaffolding at the old Church building (now owned by UC) located at Clifton & Probasco and she will have to research this.
- Parking Solutions Study updates: Nathan Hess recapped that the recommendations from the study was approved in the City's FY-2021 Budget and that Jack Martin has contacted the offices of Council Members Mann and Seelbach to arrange a social-distancing drive-along through the CUF neighborhood to visually pinpoint specific problem hot spots.
- NSP Categories Vote July 2020: Nathan Hess and Linda Ziegler provided status on this. This year, CUF paid \$3,600 to the City for neighborhood flower pot maintenance but only \$2,100 of services has been provided so far. Due to COVID-19 and city furloughs, no more flower pot maintenance can be accomplished

until next year 2021, the city will either repay the 2nd portion (recently cashed \$1,500.00 check) or push forward the money towards next year's services. The traditional categories have been (1) Beautification, (2) Marketing & Membership, and (3) Newsletter. This past year, CUF had all of its allocated \$6K approved and didn't have to return or forfeit any of it. Next year 2021 is projected to be increased to \$8K, however since we still unsure of this, Nathan Hess suggested that we divide the allocation by percentages (instead of hard dollar amounts) among the 3 traditional categories. A motion was submitted and "unanimously" approved by the General Membership to allocate 60% to Beautification, 25% to Marketing & Membership, and 15% to the Newsletter.

- Proposed Crosswalk Mural at the Joselin Intersection: Nathan Hess advised that he is still communicating with Matt Bourgeois at CHCURC regarding this but due to COVID-19, not much information is available as to how/ when this will take place (City of Cincinnati AARP Grant).

- Proposed Development of 7 Townhomes at 351 Volkert Street: Nathan Hess reported that there are preliminary plans to develop 7 townhomes at this location to replace the old, empty Church building (sold to a new owner a few years ago). There probably isn't enough time to meet the August 2020 deadline but February 2021 should be attainable. More information to be forthcoming at a later date.

- KCB Safe & Clean Grants: Nathan Hess reported that these are available twice a year (August & February deadlines) and is suggesting that the Ravine Street Market building, ravine street façade would be a good candidate for a Mural to combat the constant graffiti tagging that occurs building. The owner of the building would have to approve this but if so, it could meet KCB's project eligibility criteria.

- Prospective Guest Speaker Invitations: Nathan Hess reported that last month, both Cincinnati City Council Member, David Mann (who is present tonight) and Hamilton County Clerk of Courts, Aftab Pureval were invited to attend the June 2020 General Meeting but both had to cancel due to other obligations and commitments. Aftab Pureval is currently spearheading an Evictions Roundtable, which met last night, Monday July 20th. More information will be forthcoming at a later date.

- July 2020 Trustee Election Results: Linda Ziegler recapped a previous CUFNA Board Vote with Approval to adjust this year's voter participation to allow for currently paid membership dues and the attendance of at least 1 General Meeting (CUFNA By-Laws

require attendance of at least 3 meetings), due to the COVID-19 abrupt closure of Hughes High School and resulting in cancellation of the March 2020 General Meeting. The newly elected Trustees are: (1) Maureen France, (2) Andrea Schwallie, and (3) John Stork. CONGRATULATIONS!

- Closing comments: Nathan Hess advised that there will be no General Meeting next month in August (ref: CUFNA By-Laws) and Carolyn Young advised that due to COVID-19, there will be also no National Night Out next month (CPD-5 was originally scheduled for Tuesday, August 4th at Mt Airy Forest).

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:04 pm

Next General Meeting: 15 September 2020, 7:00 pm, location TBD

Next Board Meeting: 4 August 2020, 7:00 pm, location TBD

Minutes submitted by Carolyn Young.

CUF Neighborhood Association financial report, July 30, 2020

Balance on: Jun 30, 2020 \$ 18,586.57

Income:

Membership \$ 60.00

Total income: +\$ 60.00

Expenses: 07/08/20

Postmaster - US Bulk Mail \$ 240.00

Paypal Fees \$ 1.77

CHCURC \$ 10,000.00

City of Cincinnati - Flower Pots \$ 1,500.00

Ziegler - Reim Postage \$ 175.00

GCWW \$ 6.72

Total expenses: -\$ 11,923.49

Balance on: Jul 31, 2020 \$ 6,723.08

Clifton Cultural Arts Center program

CCAC Creativity & Learning Out-of-School Program.

Concerned about the upcoming school year? Are you struggling with how to balance your child's academics and your work/life schedule? Same here. We've spent the last few weeks creating a Creativity & Learning Program to give kids enrolled in Cincinnati schools a place to focus on academics while parents get things done.

Program will consist of:

- One full day of care for your child at CCAC's Short Vine location on either Tuesdays or Thursdays starting August 25.
- A facilitator who will lead children in fun arts and cultural activities, and supervise virtual student learning.
- Breaks for snacks, lunch, and outdoor time.
- Following best practices for safe social distancing and staying healthy.

Message us or contact classes@cliftonculturalarts.org for more information or to reserve your child's spot!

Census update, new deadline

These updates were recently announced by the Census Bureau about the 2020 Census plan: More employees are being hired, and enumerator awards are being implemented to accelerate the completion of data collection and apportionment counts by the statutory deadline of December 31, 2020. The deadline to respond to the 2020 Census is now September 30, 2020. Updates to the plan will improve the speed of the count without sacrificing completeness. As part of the revised plan, additional training sessions will be conducted. Staff will continue to follow federal, state, and local health and safety guidance, including appropriate safety trainings and personal protective equipment to field staff. For more information visit <https://2020census.gov/en/news-events/press-releases/delivering-complete-accurate-count.html> or call 844-330-2020.



If you haven't responded yet, visit <https://go.usa.gov/xdK8s> today, and remind your friends, family, and neighbors to do the same. CUF counts!



Join Us at Our Cincinnati Zoo Pollen Nation Facebook Page!

Where is the best place to get a regular dose of pollinator po-tion? Why, it's our Pollen Nation Facebook page, of course! Join us there for all kinds of inspiration and in-formation. It's fun. It's free. It's full of friendly advice.

As we enter cooler weather and the fall planting season, be sure to look for specially branded Zoo's Best Plants for Pollinators at participating garden centers. Selected for performance, beau-ty, and for their value to pollinators, these locally grown plants are sure bets for your garden! Best of all, a portion of the proceeds are paid to the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden to sup-port our plant trials program. For a full list of the plants and participating retailers, please visit the Cincinnati Zoo website and click on Zoo's Best Plants for Pollinators. website: <http://cincinnati-zoo.org/horticulture/plant-for-pollinators/>

Parks advisory

Important information from Cincinnati Parks: Cincinnati parks and trails remain open to the public; but maintaining proper social distancing has become challenging in many of our parks.

It is important that park goers practice social distancing of 6 feet when visiting our parks. We have created signs that are being posted at many of our parks. Our key messages are:

1. maintain proper social distancing when visiting parks
2. wash your hands before and after visiting
3. stay home if you are sick.

We have also created a web article highlighting various hidden parks throughout the city. Our hope is people will venture out to these lesser-known and less populated parks. Please share:

<https://www.cincinnati-parks.com/hidden-parks-cincinnati-parks/>

For all the updates about our parks, facilities and programs visit: <https://www.cincinnati-parks.com/how-is-covid-19-affecting-cincinnati-parks/>

Thank you, and stay healthy!

Go Vibrant Million Step Challenge

CUF's Go Vibrant project is progressing. With our Corryville and Mt. Auburn partners, we have finalized walking routes. Photos of neighborhood highlights have been sent to the designers who are working on our community profile for the website and street signs to be placed along the routes.

In the meantime, the 2020 Million Step Challenge officially began on Monday, June 15th and includes a "Kids Category" this year. The app is now live and can be synched with other devices to allow walkers to add their steps to CUF's total. In all nineteen communities are participating. Currently, CUF is in 6th place, so let's get walking!

For further information, see the website:

<http://www.govibrant.org/stepup/>





**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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