



## Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, June 12, 2018

### Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by President B. Smyth at 7:02 p.m.

*In Attendance: J. Buening, D. Discepoli, E. Geiger Draugelis, D. Hapner, S. Hassel, L. Hill, A. Lewis, J. Lovelace, S. Mullin, T. Nelson, T. Roe, B. Smyth, and G. Wollenweber*

*Advance Notice of Absence: N. Lewis and A. Shikany.*

#### 1. **Guests:**

**Cincinnati Police Department, District 2—Officer Tarvin** circulated the Hyde Park Neighborhood Report for the period ending June 9, 2018. He reported that a silver Ford Focus with temporary plates was identified as the perpetrator of a number of thefts in the neighborhood, charges are pending. District 2 is stepping up motorcycle patrols to crack down on speeding along Erie and Observatory. He cautioned residents who frequent local gyms and walking/biking trails to be mindful of leaving valuables in their cars. An organized crime spree of thefts from autos has been reported between Florida and Michigan targeting such locations. Officer Tarvin can be reached at 979-4480.

**Cincinnati Fire Department, Hyde Park Fire Station—Brian Doering (Firefighter and Paramedic in charge, Engine 46)** delivered the May 2018 Narcan Report. Doering can be reached at 352-2346.

**Marisa Rowe—Hyde Park School** talked about the roadblocks her volunteer group (spearheading the new HP School play yard) has encountered with the HPNC. She reported that a HPNC representative has been on site questioning contractors (and taking photographs) about the project and the temporary signage on site. Her group has been cited by City Zoning for violations of the Zoning Code related to the signage for the project (without a permit). She expressed concern about the treatment her group has experienced and urged the HPNC to engage in open dialogue and communication with the school volunteer group. The play yard will be a true asset to the community, and the group of volunteers has worked tirelessly to raise funds and spread the good news about the project throughout the community, but feel it has been undermined along the way by the HPNC Zoning Committee. J. Lovelace, as the HPNC Trustee serving on the school's LSDMC, will work to ensure better communication and collaborative efforts going forward.

**Andrea Harrison** a HP resident shared her concerns about the current trend of split lots/teardowns and related tax abatement incentives. She asked the HPNC to voice its opposition to the rampant trend to preserve the character of our neighborhood. The Council shared some insight about the current IDC in place for Hyde Park and Mt. Lookout and encouraged Ms. Harrison to express her concern about the tax abatement issue to the City's Budget Committee (suggesting that she contact Chairperson Amy Murray's office directly).

## 2. Officers' Reports

### A. Recording Secretary's Report – S. Mullin

Minutes from the May 8, 2018 board meeting and the Spring Meeting of the members on May 17, 2018 were sent by email. Without objection the minutes were approved as submitted.

### B. Treasurer's Report – A. Lewis

The May 8-June 10, 2018 Financial Report was sent by email. Without objection the Report was adopted as submitted.

### C. Officer Elections

#### **President**

T. Nelson nominated **B. Smyth**  
Second by T. Roe  
Nomination accepted  
All in favor

#### **Vice-President**

B. Smyth nominated **T. Roe**  
Second by J. Buening  
Nomination accepted  
All in favor

#### **Recording Secretary**

T. Roe nominated **S. Mullin**  
Second by A. Lewis  
Nomination accepted  
All in favor

#### **Communications Secretary**

S. Mullin nominated **T. Nelson**  
Second by J. Buening  
Nomination accepted  
All in favor

**Treasurer**

J. Lovelace nominated **A. Lewis**  
Second by T. Roe  
Nomination accepted  
All in favor

**Executive Committee Member**

J. Buening nominated J. Buening  
Second by G. Wollenweber  
Nomination accepted

A. Lewis nominated S. Hassel  
Second by T. Nelson  
Nomination not accepted

All in favor of **J. Buening**

3. **Committee Reports**

A. **Hyde Park Square Business Association** – J. Buening reported that an “emergency” HPSBA meeting was held at which the members agreed they still want the Farmer’s Market on the the Square, but withdrew support of securing the requisite permits (because the new Market owner refused to meet to discuss Market vendors competing with businesses on the Square). “Wine Walk Wednesdays” will be take place up until the Hyde Park Blast in July (selling wrist bands for free wine at merchants in the Square Wednesday evenings). Proceeds from the sale of wrist bands will be donated to charity.

B. **Traffic and Public Safety**—T. Roe reported that the City has agreed to install pedestrian actuated signals at Michigan and Observatory and also on Erie at Clark Montessori. The traffic paddles on HP Square have been re-installed following the Flying Pig Marathon.

C. **Zoning Committee**—

G. Wollenweber talked about the upcoming Zoning hearing on June 13, 2018 regarding the properties at 2623 Erie (garage demolition) and 3443 Zumstein (establishment of commercial parking). The Zumstein property was the subject of a prolonged (14 month) process after which a notwithstanding ordinance (not a variance or zone change) was put into place. Now the property owner wants to demolish the garage on the Erie property and establish commercial parking at the Zumstein address. Shelia Sierman, a Zumstein resident voiced her concern about and opposition to the proposed plans. She said that the garage provides a buffer to the commercial parking which helps maintain the residential character of the street.

G. Wollenweber moved, "***The HPNC objects to the demolition of the garage that is a critical screening element of the commercial parking at 2623 and 2619 Erie Avenue. See letter to the Hearing Examiner.***" Second by T. Roe. 10 in favor, 1 abstention. Motion carried.

At the 3443 Zumstein property, the first two floors of the structure are occupied and used as offices for the law firm/owner, third floor is residential. The proposed plan is to build a new parking lot behind the building using both the Erie and Zumstein back lots. The entire back yards would be paved and abut residential properties. If, at a later date, the Zumstein property is not used for commercial purposes, the access to the parking forever binds the properties together (one residential and the other commercial).

G. Wollwenweber moved, "***The HPNC objects to the establishment of commercial parking in the rear yard of the Single Family district property. See HPNC letter to the Hearing Examiner.***" Second by S. Mullin. 10 in favor. 1 abstention. Motion carried.

#### 4. **Old Business**

A. B. Smyth reported that Interim Development Control ((IDC) Overlay District No. 81, HP/MTL was approved by Cincinnati City Council in May and is set to expire August 25, 2018. The working group that is addressing the matter includes representatives from: The City of Cincinnati Zoning and Economic Growth, the Mayor's office, HPNC, Mount Lookout Community Council, Board of Realtors, and local developers. The meetings are open to the public.

P.J. Smith, an Observatory Avenue resident, expressed concern about the perceived "moratorium" that the IDC puts on lot splits in Hyde Park and Mt. Lookout. He urged HPNC to take into consideration the diversity of opinion among HP residents. He talked about the benefit of thoughtful development and the benefits tax abatement incentives and the positive impact the program has had on growth and development in our neighborhood. He owns a house with a second vacant lot that could be developed and purchased the property with that potential in mind as an investment. He urged that the representation on the IDC working group be nuanced and open to resident' input and varied opinions.

J. Buening moved, "***That the HPNC supports the IDC Overlay District #81 that was adopted by City Council on June 6, 2018.***" Second by D Hapner. 5 in favor, 3 opposed. Motion carried.

B. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the Wasson Way Trail is scheduled for Saturday July 28, 2018, from 9:30-11:30 a.m. behind Withrow.

C. A. Lewis reported that Summer Intern, Scott Retta, continues to work on a number of projects for the Council. He is coordinating contacts and links for the upcoming website launch to keep residents informed about neighborhood events. He has been updating the Council's social media sites, writing thank

you notes for membership dues payment, building a database of our membership, and hopes to plan a back to school ice-cream social in September. We appreciate his efforts and hard work.

**Adjourn:** Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Draft by:  
Sybil Mullin, Recording Secretary  
Revised Draft by:  
Carl Uebelacker