



Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

Annual Meeting Minutes

Meeting via Google Meet called to order by President, D. Discepoli at 7:03 p.m.

In Attendance: J. Buening, D. Discepoli, D. Hapner, S. Hassell, N. Lewis, S. Mullin, R. Postler, A. Rusche, A. Shikany, B. Whitney, G. Wollenweber, and V. Woodham

Advance Notice of Absence: B. Smyth

1 **Guests:**

Cincinnati Police Department, District 2—Captain Aaron Jones reported that property and violent crimes are down in general in 2020. Officer Barry was unable to join the meeting. Police non-emergency line 765-1212. Christine.Barry@cincinnati-oh.gov. Officer Barry can be reached at 979-4480.

Michelle de la Vega—new Hyde Park resident at 2686 Grandin Place addressed the Board about the major subdivision Planning Commission meeting scheduled for Friday July 17th. She has experienced a sink hole in her yard and a sewer disconnection as a result of the work at the proposed subdivision all since moving into her new home on June 30th. She will communicate with the Zoning Committee to learn about what steps she can take to protect her new home.

2 **Officers' Reports**

A. Recording Secretary's Report – S. Mullin

Minutes from the June 9, 2020 Board meeting was sent by email. Without objection, the minutes were approved as submitted.

B. Treasurer's Report – N. Lewis

The Financial Report for the period May 12-July 14, 2020 was circulated via email. Without objection, the Report was adopted as submitted.

3 **Committee Reports**

A Membership Committee A. Rusche reported that the membership survey for members and community members is available on the Council's Facebook page. She encouraged all Trustees and meeting attendees to take the survey. We hope to build our email database with the survey participants. A. Rusche has some ideas about the Council partnering with local businesses. The initial feedback from the survey participants has been very positive.

B Traffic and Safety D. Hapner reported that residents continue to express concern about safety and speeding vehicles around the Square. The missing flag sticks are an ongoing issue and their absence contributes to speeding cars. With the removal of the bushes in the park in the Square, there is a clearer line of sight for drivers to see pedestrians, however it has also contributed to cars driving faster.

C Zoning Committee G. Wollenweber reported that The E (2900 Wasson Road) is seeking approval for multiple conditional uses related to its outdoor area (including enlarging outdoor seating area, use of audio/visual or amplified sound, extension of hours for outdoor seating). A hearing is set for 7/22/2020. The Zoning Committee recommends a vote against the request for zoning relief. G. Wollenweber moved, "***That the HPNC support the unanimous recommendation of the Zoning Committee to oppose the approval of the 4 conditional uses requested by the applicant.***" Second by N. Lewis. 6 votes in favor, 2 opposed. Motion carried.

D Neighborhood Support Program N. Lewis reported that neighborhood councils have been asked by the City to return 25% of annual NSP funds (\$1,500). The returned funds would go back to the City's general fund. The Board agreed to wait to vote on the request to see how other councils vote on the matter.

4 **Annual Trustee Elections** S. Hassell presented the slate for election of current Trustees for additional 3-year terms (2020-2023): Danielle Discepoli, David Hapner Sybil Mullin, and Gary Wollenweber. J. Buening moved to approve the entire slate. Second by V. Woodham. All meeting participants voted in favor. Entire slate approved for a 3-year term ending 2023.

5 **"What's Up, Hyde Park?" Speakers** J. Buening introduced the following speakers who provided news and updates on their organizations.

A Hyde Park Art Show A. Rusche reported on the upcoming 54th annual Hyde Park Art Show, scheduled for October 4th from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The Art show is looking for volunteers to help with the set up and operations the day of the show. The committee hopes the show will take place, but in light of COVID19, it may be canceled. A decision is expected by early August.

- B Park in Hyde Park Square** Jim Burkhardt, Regional Manager of East District of Cincinnati Parks reported on the plan and progress of the renovations at the park in the Square. New wider sidewalks have been installed. The soil under the lawns has been replaced. Shrubbery around the perimeter of the park has been removed and the fencing is being installed. 2 backless benches have been installed by the flagpole. The foundation will be filled and turned on when the Governor gives the ok.
- C Hyde Park Center for Older Adults** Shelley Goering, Executive Director talked about the Center, which celebrated its 45th anniversary in 2019. The Center serves 7 neighborhoods with activities, programs, delivered hot meals, social work services for seniors, transportation to doctor's appointments, zoom exercise classes, and much more. With COVID19, the Center is changing and has developed a new digital connect program for area seniors. Its name will officially change to 55 North in the coming months. Their lease is up soon and the Center is looking for new office space to continue their operations while they determine the best way to move forward in the current environment.
- D Hyde Park Branch Library** Blossom Smith, Branch Manager, reported that curbside and walk-up services are in full swing. In-person services should resume on July 20, with hours Monday-Saturday 10-6. There are plans for outdoor furniture to be added to the branch's front porch and possibly a new elevator. The majority of the staff has been back at the branch since the end of June. Storytime is available on the Library's YouTube channel.
- E Wasson Way Trail** Sean McGrory, President of the Board, reported that the first two phases of the trail are complete. Saturday July 18th at 8:30 am there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for phase 3 at the former Hyde Park Garden Center at Wasson Road and Michigan Avenue. The trail will help neighborhoods attract and retain talent, enhance neighborhood connectivity, improve public health, and promote environmental sustainability. Phase 3 (1.5 miles from Hyde Park Garden Center to Marburg) should be complete by November. Phase 4 will run from Marburg through East Hyde Park and down to the Red Bank Trail. Where the trail crosses Madison Road, there will be a pedestrian activated light and an island in the middle of Madison Road wide enough to accommodate a bike with a trailer.
- F Madison Road Hotel Project** Janet Buening reported that the 100-room Hampton Hotel will be built on the site. More grading is needed and the developer is working on LEED certification for the project. The construction timeline is uncertain in light of COVID19.

Adjourn: Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Sybil Mullin, Recording Secretary