



## Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

### Meeting Minutes

Meeting via Google Meet called to order by President, D. Discepoli at 7:02 p.m.

*In Attendance:* J. Buening, D. Discepoli, A. Edwards, B. Frappier Schirmang, D. Hapner, S. Hassell, N. Lewis, S. Mullin, R. Postler, T. Roe, A. Rusche, B. Smyth, B. Whitney, G. Wollenweber, and V. Woodham

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

**Cincinnati Police Department, District 2 Captain Danita Pettis** a 22 year veteran, of CPD has been at District 2 for a month and previously worked on the gun violence task force, canine unit, and was previously assigned to District 2 in 2004. Captain Pettis shared her contact information (979-4444 [Danita.pettis@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:Danita.pettis@cincinnati-oh.gov)) and encouraged residents to reach out to her with any concerns or questions. Officer Perry Locke is stepping in for Christine Barry who is on leave. Officer Perry gave the monthly police report (2 auto thefts, 2 domestic violence, 2 personal thefts, 1 theft from auto). Police non-emergency line 765-1212. [Christine.Barry@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:Christine.Barry@cincinnati-oh.gov). Officer Barry can be reached at 979-4480.

**Oakley Recreation Center—Jalisa Elkins** reported that CPS is back to blended learning and the Center is still open for remote learning days for students. There are slots available at Hyde Park School for the CRC after-school care program at the school. Seniors can still get a week's worth of meals at the Center, pick-up day is Wednesday. Free senior tax preparation help will be available through AARP at the Center starting the week of February 21.

**Hyde Park School—5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher Chris Barker** reported that K-3 students returned last week and 4-6 graders come back next week. The virtual introduction to Kindergarten event will take place on February 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Check HPS PTO website for details. Principal, Jill Sunderman, reported that teachers and staff have received their first COVID vaccinations, and second doses are expected soon.

**Robert Harris—Cincinnati City Council Candidate** introduced himself as a lifelong Cincinnati growing up in the west end. He is president of One Family One Love a non-profit focused on tackling violence and mental health issues. He is President of the

West End Little Senators and serves on the Board of the Lindner YMCA in the West End. He is a proponent of small business advancement, reducing the homicide rate, and equal housing opportunities. Learn more about Robert at [www.RobertHarrisforcouncil.com](http://www.RobertHarrisforcouncil.com).

**Gavi Begtrup—Cincinnati Mayoral Candidate** is a “serial entrepreneur” having built several companies in Cincinnati over the past decade, including a medical device startup. He was a former policy advisor to Senator Gabrielle Gifford. He is a proponent of higher wages, growing the tax base, and believes in strong leadership in the Mayor’s office. Contact Gavi at 620-4284 and learn more about his platform and campaign at [www.voteforgavi.com](http://www.voteforgavi.com).

## 2. Officers’ Reports

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

Minutes from the January 12, 2021 were circulated via email for review. Without objection the Minutes were adopted as submitted.

### B. Treasurer’s Report – N. Lewis reported that the NSP Contract while submitted is not valid until signed by the City. We received \$38.52 in dues during the period (2 memberships).

## 3. Committee Reports

### A. Nominating none

### B. Traffic and Safety D. Hapner encouraged residents and trustee to suggest ideas to slow traffic on HP Square. The traffic sticks have been permanently removed and are too expensive to continually replace. Some ideas are changing the structural material of the crosswalk path, or installing a raised crosswalk (like at Evanston Academy). D. Hapner will contact the Evanston Principal and Derek Bauman to find out how the raised crosswalk is working. The crosswalk by District 2 is unlikely because of the curve and increased speed due to the slight grade.

### C. Education D. Hapner reported that the CPS sponsored COVID vaccine event at Woodward for staff and teachers had a huge turnout.

### D. Zoning G. Wollenweber will send the letter to the agent listing Hyde Park Baptist Church as proposed in the Zoning Committee email (attached below). The building on the site could be as large as Michigan Terrace.

1. **We are Hyde Park Neighborhood Council (HPNC) and the following items are an initial reply to your query. We will be pleased to work with you as you develop your plans. There is a Hyde Park Business Association (HPBA) that may also have an opinion(s).**

2. We do not think the architectural style portrayed in attached rendering, a project in Carmel IN, is a complement to the prevailing architecture and history of the Hyde Park Business district.
3. Regardless of the style, the rendering does not show how the concept would relate to a corner lot in a neighborhood pedestrian oriented business district that abuts two public sidewalks and a public library. Any redevelopment must relate and enhance the surrounding properties and uses.
4. We would prefer a design that has rich architectural details complementing, not contrasting, the neighboring 100+ yr old buildings. We would like any developer to propose a design that considers the draft Hyde Park Master Plan "Developers considering redeveloping the property should know that Hyde Park Square is the heart of one of Cincinnati's most desirable neighborhoods. Incorporated as a village in 1896 and annexed to the City of Cincinnati in 1903, Hyde Park is a welcoming, thriving, and ever-evolving neighborhood with a respect for history. An established community, it is valued for its tree-lined, walkable streets, distinctive housing stock, vibrant business districts, strong schools, parks, and places of worship. Hyde Park offers residents and visitors a place to live, work, learn, shop, and dine with a beautiful public square at its center. In keeping with this history and property's location on the Square, proposals should incorporate and reflect Hyde Park's unique history and architecture."
5. In this CN-P zoning district and UD#4 overlay district, the first floor is intended to be commercial use with high percentage transparency (windows) showing inviting commercial interiors to pedestrians. The window patterns in the rendering imply same use on all floors. There are strict restrictions on signage in Zoning Code.
6. A soft corner at Erie and Michigan, with significant set back allowing a small plaza for public gathering, beverage consumption or outside dining is encouraged. The existing grassy area serves this visual purpose but its functionality needs improvement.
7. The access to a garage containing the required parking is not shown on the rendering. Keep in mind the local water table will likely allow only one level underground unless expensive countermeasures are employed. We prefer garage access from Michigan Avenue and so does Zoning Code
8. We suggest prospective buyers/developers read these critical Cincinnati Zoning Code chapters and employ an Ohio registered Architect to develop a suitable plan. We are rather strict to the code and do not take variances lightly.

**E. Membership Committee** A. Rusche reported that she had been in touch with HP Square business owners about special offerings discounts ("Hyde Park Perks" program) for HPNC members. A digital card will be issued with paid memberships giving members special offers at participating HP businesses. Support two new HP businesses: Parlour Pizza Project (next to Keystone) and North High Brewing (HP Square). See Annie if you are

interested in a free day pass for Co-Hatch, the new co-working space in the Square.

**F. Wasson Way Trail** D. Discepoli reported that pedestrian activated lights at the Madison crosswalk by La Rosa's is expected to be functional by the end of February.

4. **New Business** None

**Adjourn:** Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Sybil Mullin, Recording Secretary