

Mt. Auburn Community Council

Full Council 04/17/17 Meeting

Recorded and Prepared by Carlton Farmer (Recording Secretary)

Board Members in Attendance: Sandi Allen, Stanley Broadnax, Rod Browne, Carlton Farmer, Ken Farmer, Carol Gibbs, Steve Gibbs, Cathy Ingram, Deborah Ooten, Anne Shannon, Anthony Thompson

Excused Absence: Ryan Lammi

Special Guests: Daniel Betts (Cincinnati Recreation Commission Director), Michael Mendralski (Mt. Auburn Chamber)

1. Call to Order
 2. Safety Report
 3. Special Guests
 4. Previous Month's Minutes
 5. Treasurer's Report
 6. Board Report
 7. Old Business
 8. New Business
 9. Adjournment
-

Meeting Activities

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order by Stanley Broadnax at 7:08 PM followed by a moment of silence.
2. **Safety Report (Officer Brazil)** - Brazil: **1.** Crime statistics are looking pretty good, except for burglaries. A number of the burglaries were family members and significant others, but just be careful and vigilant. People are leaving their windows open this time of year, and sometimes that's inviting to criminals. Have a neighbor check in on your house if you are going to be out of town. **2.** Citizens Police Academy starts in Sept through Oct. If you are interested, call 357-7554. It is an eight-week program designed to provide a better understanding between citizens and police. **Questions. Ingram:** Is this the same thing as Citizens On Patrol? Brazil: No. They are two different programs. Citizens Police Academy is to educate yourself and better understand the officers who are policing your city. Citizens on Patrol starts in April and is a three day course one must go through in order to be in Citizens on Patrol. **C.Gibbs:** What happened to all the people who went through Citizens on Patrol last time? Brazil: There were some people from God's Bible School that went through the program, but I haven't been able to get them to start their patrols. **K.Farmer:** Reach back out to Richard Miles. He said that he was ready to start patrols. **Michael Mendralski:** I'll reach out to the Mt. Auburn Chamber and see if we can have a representative attend the next safety meeting.
3. **Filson Park Pool Update (Daniel Betts, Director of Cincinnati Recreation Commission)** - Betts: I love seeing people, especially young people, active in their community. I'm coming with great news--we are not doing any closures of any community centers or pools. The CRC is putting about \$55,000 into Filson Pool so that it can be up and running this summer. I have made it very clear that we are not going back to business as usual. We are going to change the culture in CRC. We are developing a Recreation Master Plan, in which we assess all our assets across the

city, speaking with communities throughout the process. We will be working closely with you folks in Mt. Auburn to raise the profile of the Filson Pool. Last summer, Filson Pool averaged about 30 people a day and its average swim class was 3 people. We need to increase these numbers. As part of this effort, we will be working with you to do a marketing blitz for this pool.

Questions. C.Gibbs: Some have talked about an opening day party. Do you know when opening day is? **Betts:** Usually around Memorial Day. We will work with you on this. **C.Gibbs:** Can this be a fundraiser? **Betts:** Yes, I think so. **C.Gibbs:** How are numbers counted? **Betts:** Through memberships and sign-ins. **Anna Linders:** Korgers used to sponsor opening day, maybe they would again. **Joyce Hughley:** \$250,000 to operate one pool for a summer seems high. **Ooten:** Is that number just for Filson? **Betts:** No. It is for this region. Filson's operating costs for this season is \$50,000. **Thompson:** Will there be new hours? **Betts:** In the past, the hours were 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM, 3 days a week. We haven't changed those hours. **Ooten:** We need to have signage for the pool. **Betts:** I will give you my contact number and we will get that done. First and foremost, we need people to know that the pool exists. We need to get people in this pool. We at CRC recognize that we need to do a better job marketing our assets. 2017 is the first year that CRC has a marketing person on staff. **Linders:** A big sign outside the pool about hours, dates, lessons, etc. would be very helpful. Ideally, that sign would already be up. **C.Gibbs:** There are people who have lived here for 30 years and didn't know the pool existed. **Ooten:** Can your marketing person connect with our communications committee? **Betts:** Yes. Her name is Tiffany Stewart.

Broadnax: It would be good to have information about Corryville CRC locations as well, since some residents may be closer to those. **Betts:** The CRC will be working to change and update along with the city and your community. **Ooten:** Taft Elementary has an indoor pool that is underutilized. It is not currently open to the public or to the kids all year round. **C.Gibbs:** It is open to some of the students of Taft Elementary. **Ooten:** Yes, but it would be great if it were more accessible. This would be a great way to get kids off the streets year-round.

4. **Mt. Auburn Clean-Up Day (Michael Mendralski)** - This is the annual Keep Cincinnati Beautiful clean-up day. It is on Saturday, May 13th, from 9:00 AM until noon. We will meet at Jackson Hill Park. **Linders:** Have you identified problem spots? **Mike:** We have, but if you have suggestions, we would be happy to take them. ****Angenette Phillips**:** The park next to New Unity Baptist Church is a problem. **Daryl Frazier:** I've called police and park board about drug issues. **Betts:** We can work with police about this park. We can alter park layouts, put cameras in, etc. There are things we can do. **Daryl Frazier:** Some of the dealers are related to police officers. That's the issue. **Ooten:** Please make sure we have your name and contact info and we will work with you to address this issue. **Ingram:** Can we align the NEP troublespots with the upcoming Clean-Up? **Mike:** Yes. We are hitting a number of steps throughout the neighborhood. **C.Gibbs:** Is the needle exchange still in place? **Mike:** As far as I know. I can check.
5. **Mt. Auburn International Academy (Heather Newkirk)** - **1.** Mt. Auburn International Academy wrote a Kaboom grant for a neighborhood playground. It is an \$80,000 playground that is being funded by Delta Airlines. It is the first playground being built through this program in Cincinnati. Delta is supplying some volunteers, but we need to supply more volunteers. The playground will be open Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. **2.** The school is holding a Walk for Peace on Monday April 24th at 1:00 PM until 3:00 PM. We are asking for people to wear as much purple as possible. **Questions. Linders:** Will it be open on weekend? **Newkirk:** As of right now, it won't be open on weekends. **C.Gibbs:** How do we get kids to start coming back to the clinic? Is this something your school can help with? **Newkirk:** We aren't allowed to hand out flyers to our students. **Ooten:** So we need to get this info to their parents? And they can take their kids to the Taft Clinic during the daytime hours? **Newkirk:** Yes. They could do that. **Ooten:** Heather, let's brainstorm about how to connect these kids and families with

this clinic.

6. **Crossroads Health Center (Carol Gibbs)**- There will be a Grand Opening reception. They haven't picked a date yet, but it will be in May. **Ooten:** How many people follow the Mt. Auburn Facebook page or look at the website? [Mixed response from those in attendance.]
7. **March MACC Minutes** - *S.Gibbs made a motion to approve the minutes. Anthony Thompson seconded. Motion carried.*
8. **Treasurer's Report** - *Anna Linders made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Joyce Hughley second. Motion carried.*
9. **Board Report (Stanley Broadnax)** - We have been awarded \$3,000 from the Center for Closing the Health Gap for Mt. Auburn Day. Mt. Auburn Day will be in August, a week or two before school starts. The Communications Committee will be stepping up its efforts to promote this and other aspects of the Mt. Auburn Community (pools, events, etc.). *Anna Linder made a motion to approve the Board Report. Rod Browne seconded. Motion carried.*

10. Old Business

1. **Mt. Auburn Plan Meeting Taft Historic Site** - *Sandi Allen made a motion to allow MACC funds to be used to print materials for these meetings. Anthony Thompson seconded. Ingram:* Is there an up-to amount? What will be printed? **S.Gibbs:** I thought Christ Hospital was picking up the printing costs. Broadnax: No, Christ Hospital is just paying for the final printing. **Ingram:** I suggest \$250. **Allen:** How about a maximum of \$300? *Motion was amended to approve up to \$300 for printing. Motion carried. Ooten:* Let's see if we can get this donated. **Resident:** I will help defray some of these printing costs.

11. New Business

1. **Ingram:** Uptown Business Celebration is upcoming.
2. **Ingram:** May 25th is the Chamber's Safety meeting. [People were unsure of time.] Mendralski will get clarification and let Broadnax and Ooten know.
3. **NEP Update from Ingram:** NEP is done. We are waiting for the opening of the grilling area in Inwood Park. Ooten asked Mendralski to see if he could figure out when the opening will be.
4. **Syd from Corryville CRC:** CRC is Hiring part time for summer season through the fall. This would mostly be outdoor maintenance work. CRC is also currently interviewing for the Teen Summer Program. This Friday (4/21) there is a CRC Citywide Teen Social at the Clifton Arts Center. More programs and info are available at CincyRec.org. **Betts:** We are looking for maintenance staff, lifeguards and more, but you need to move soon, or you will miss out. **Thomspon:** Didn't we get a flyer about these positions? **Shannon:** Yes, we put the info on Facebook and our website. **Betts:** We need to get people involved in the CRC programs, or we risk losing funding for those programs.
5. **C.Gibbs:** Stagger Lee's Liquor Store is moving from Corryville to the corner of Highland Avenue and E. McMillan. We should probably have some conversation about this. **Ingram:** We never got any zoning requests. **Broadnax:** There was previously an establishment on that corner that sold liquor. **Ingram:** So that zoning still stands? **Broadnax:** Yes, to my knowledge. **Ingram:** We should take this up with the city, regardless of the existing zoning. **Ooten:** Generally changes like this should come before the Community Council, but we heard nothing about this. **Broadnax:** It was a surprise to the Corryville Community Council. **Betts:** Maybe embrace them as a new member of the community. If they are here, you might as well try to work with them. Be proactive and work with this entity. **Ooten:** I like that attitude. Let's get out in front of this. **Philips:** The concerns are well-founded. I mean, look at the Shell station on Reading Road.

Broadnax: We should talk with them about security and their store policies. We will reach out to them. **Betts:** Contact the city about this and ask for advanced info about moves like this. **Derek Williams:** What were they like in Corryville? **S.Gibbs:** There pretty good. **Mendralski:** It's often not what happens on the inside of the store, but what happens on the outside of store. **Rotte:** Their biggest issue in Corryville was parking. **C.Gibbs:** They are planning for parking at McMillan and Highland. **Ooten:** Mike can you reach out to Stagger Lee's and see if we can meet with them. **Mendralski:** Yes, I can try. **Walter Hawkins:** I can't fathom putting a liquor store at that location. It will create a negative environment. Right next to UC students. **Broadnax:** We may have a problem with this, but they are not doing anything illegal. I don't know that we have any legal resources. **Daryl Frazier:** But don't you think out of respect, they should have come to the community? **K.Farmer:** I suggest we talk to them about video cameras, outside lighting, etc. **Ooten:** Good idea. We will work on this and get back to you. **Linders:** Maybe the zoning should have changed at some point. Can you just moved a liquor license anywhere you want? **C.Gibbs:** There are different licenses for bars and for stores that deal in packaged liquor. **Ooten:** Let us do some work on this. We'll reach out to the city and to Stagger Lee's.

12. **Adjournment** - *Anthony Thompson made a motion to adjourn. Tom Rotte seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.*