

# Mt. Auburn Community Council

## Full Council 05/15/17 Meeting

Recorded and Prepared by Carlton Farmer (Recording Secretary)

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

**Excused Absence:** Ken Farmer

**Special Guests:** Laure Quinlivan (City Council Candidate), Michelle Dillingham (City Council Candidate)

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
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### Meeting Activities

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order by Stanley Broadnax at 7:15 PM outside of Taft Elementary due to the doors being locked.
2. **Safety Report (Officer Brazil) - 1.** There has been an uptick in burglaries. It is important to “target hardening” your property--shut your windows and doors of your home, keep valuables out of the views of windows, check your property and surroundings. **2.** Stagger Lee's. We are working to get a representative from Stagger Lee's to come speak to the Community Council. We can't stop them from moving to this location, but we can impress upon them to work with us to be good neighbors with safety signs up, good lighting, good store policies, etc. Broadnax: Our plan is to collaborate with Stagger Lee's to address concerns members of the community may have. **Questions. Rotte:** On an unrelated topic, can you put steel bars on bathroom windows? Brazil: I believe that is a fire hazard. You can check with Building and Inspections, but I believe that is the case.

**[Taft Elementary doors unlocked, migrated inside.]**

3. **Special Guest Laure Quinlivan (City Council Candidate)** - I was an investigative reporter for WCPO and after that, I served on City Council from 2009 until 2013. I'm about livable, walkable neighborhoods that are safe. Our city needs more affordable housing. There is currently a bill in the U.S. Senate that would increase the funding for affordable housing. I'm married to a public school teacher and education is important aspect of what I do. I'm proud of the work I've done to revitalize neighborhoods. You can read more about my record at QforCouncil.com. **Questions. Rotte:** Do you agree with how the building department funds itself through charging a fee to look at inspection reports, specifically fire escape inspections. Q: That doesn't sound right. Please lodge an official complaint. Departments are trying to make ends meet and sometimes overstep.

4. **Special Guest Michelle Dillingham (City Council Candidate)** - If I look a little familiar to some of you, that's because I ran for council in 2013. I came close, but did not win a seat. I am a social worker in Kennedy Heights and the CEO of Community Shares. For a time my office was in Mt. Auburn. I'm active in Kennedy Heights Community Councils and other entities of my community. I worked for former Vice Mayor David Crawley for four years. He was my mentor. He taught me a great deal about community engagement and I want to bring that same spirit back to City Hall. My platform is A Call from City Hall, which means if you contact our office, someone WILL get back to you. We need to bring funding back to neighborhoods and work to ensure that development in our city is done in an equitable way. **Questions. Rotte:** Do you think that the city should give tax abatement to developments in neighborhoods that no longer need it? Dillingham: Good question. These abatements are supposed to spur development where it is needed. The city asked a group to study this and see if we were using these abatements correctly. We don't need to give abatements when they are not needed. I think everyone should pay their fair share. **Jon Vogt:** Do you support the property tax rollback? Dillingham: I am not sure that this will serve the best interests of our city. I would be willing to take a fresh look at the property tax rollback.
5. **Treasurer's Report** - *Anna Linders made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Tom Rotte seconded. Motion carried.*
6. **March MACC Minutes** - *Anthony Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes. Deborah Ooten seconded. Motion carried.*
7. **Board Report (Stanley Broadnax)** - **1.** Grand Opening of the MA Health Center in the Taft Elementary. Both the center and grand opening event are here at Taft Elementary. It's important for us to promote the health center. It is supported by Christ Hospital and is operated by Crossroads Health Center on Liberty Street. It is open all summer to Mt. Auburn residents and non-residents alike. It has a separate entrance from the school. It's Grand Opening is May 23rd. **2.** Crossroads Church Go Cincinnati Clean-up is May 20th from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Meeting at Loth and Vine, by the school on Vine. Ryan Lammi: We will be cleaning up some empty lots and areas along Loth. We will provide gloves, tools and dumpster. Mike Mendralski: We did just have a clean-up a couple of weeks ago. So may want to check that it still needs it. Lammi: I did recently check but will again. **3.** Auburn Avenue Corridor study, congrats to MACDC for the study being approved. **4.** Stagger Lee's. Board is suggesting that we try to collaborate with the owners of Stagger Lee's and the property to ensure that corner is free of crime. Resident: Is it cash only? General consensus is that it is not. Jon Vogt: Do we know anything about the design? Broadnax: They have not approached us, so that is why we are going to approach them. We would like to know more about their plans. From what I understand, there will be a small parking lot off-street. There are some traffic concerns at that corner. Walter Hawkins has help get us contact info for the owners. Officer Brazil will be a part of those conversations. *Rotte made a motion to approve the Board Report. Anna Linders seconded. Motion carried.*
8. **Old Business** - None.
9. **New Business**
  1. **Melissa Meadows (Community Center Director at Corryville Rec Center):**  
Corryville and Filson Pool are locations where kids can get free lunches throughout the summer. (Brought info about Filson pool swim lesson schedules, membership info, etc.) Corryville kids will be doing their swim lessons at Filson Pool this summer. We really want to get Filson Pool membership numbers up this summer.
  2. **Mt. Auburn Newsletter** - Copies of our neighborhood newsletter are available on the front table. They are also being mailed.
  3. **2017 Mt. Auburn Plan Meeting** - There were 22 people at the first meeting of this

group. It will be meeting the 4th Monday of each month at 1:00 PM at the Taft Historic Site on Auburn Avenue. The next meeting will focus on developing a mission statement and reviewing some of the goals and objectives of the draft plan. We are going back over the plan with the assistance of the city planning department. It encompasses all of the section of Mt. Auburn. Plan on setting up meetings for the next 6 months. **Question.** Ingram: What's the timing on the plan? You said 6 months. Broadnax: I'm hoping it doesn't take that long. We are hoping to get it to City Council and City Planning in the fall. We just wanted to set up date 6 months out just in case. Ooten: City Planning was represented at the first meeting and they are involved.

4. **Mt. Auburn Day** - Rod Browne will be asking people to join a planning committee for Mt. Auburn Day. The date will be August 5th. (This has subsequently been changed to August 12th.)
  5. Ingram asked about **Inwood Park** opening, stated that it was initially June, but now they are saying fall. C.Gibbs said that it is the fall.
  6. Resident: Has the Auburn Avenue plan already started? C.Gibbs: No, it just got approved. Broadnax: The plan is just that, a plan. Theoretically, a developer can buy land and start developing it, plan or no plan. We encourage any developers working in our neighborhood to come to community council and present their plans to us.
  7. We will be following up with the Port Authority about their purchases of vacant lots in Mt. Auburn.
10. **Adjournment** - *Stephen Gibbs made a motion to adjourn. Tom Rotte seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.*