

# Mt. Auburn Community Council

## Full Council 06/17/19 Meeting Minutes

Recorded and Prepared by Carlton Farmer (Recording Secretary)

**Board Members in Attendance:** Sandi Allen, Shawn Baker, Stanley Broadnax, Carlton Farmer, Ken Farmer, Carol Gibbs, Steve Gibbs, Walter Hawkins, Ryan Lammi, Tom Rotte, Anne Shannon, Anthony Thompson, Sarah Vogt, Alice Williams

**Absent:** Joshua Gilbert

**Special Guests:** Cincinnati Recreation Commission (April Durham and Tiffany Stewart), Dept. of Transportation and Engineering (Matthew Andrews and Brad Johnson)

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order by MACC President Stanley Broadnax at 7:03 PM.
2. **Safety Report (Officer Hamann) – 1.** Crime is significantly up in Mt. Auburn and the surrounding areas, mainly theft from autos. Police have made a number of arrests of young boys, trying door handles. People leaving valuable items and even key fobs in their cars greatly contribute to this. Can't stress enough how important it is to remove valuables from vehicles. **2.** Police have re-educated their officers on park hours and rules. Please call the non-emergency number (765-1212) if there are issues with people in parks after dark. **3.** About 200 officers are set to retire, and the next class set to come up is only about 40 people. **4.** Citizens on Patrol is a group of at least 3 people (they don't have to be from the same neighborhood). They walk or drive around their neighborhood and report any issues. They are issued a radio upon passing the Citizens on Patrol class. **Questions.** Daryl voiced concern that house break-ins in the neighborhood are not being taken seriously. Rotte voiced concerns about high rates of speed on short Dorchester. Resident suggested that we send an email to Christ Hospital to encourage their employees to drive slower. A number of residents voiced concerns about people not stopping at the Kinsey/Highland intersection.  
Officer Hamman can be reached at (513) 569-8679. The non-emergency police number is (513) 765-1212.
3. **Special Guests –**
  - a. **Cincinnati Recreation Commission (April Durham and Tiffany Stewart)** - The CRC has 23 recreation centers, 24 parks, 6 pools, 85 tennis courts, 5 community gardens and more. **Results of a recent audit.** CRC is overextended financially. Many of our facilities are under-utilized. Resident: Are you part of the Parks Department? Stewart: We are separate. C.Gibbs: How does all of this impact Mt. Auburn? Durham: As of now the pool will remain open and there are no plans to sell or repurpose CRC properties in Mt. Auburn. Lee: Are there efforts to collaborate with area hospitals? Stewart: Yes, those efforts are currently underway. Broadnax: The CRC Director is relatively new and this strategic plan for the CRC was one of his first big initiatives. Resident: Is there a CRC app? Stewart: No, we do not have an app, but we utilize social media.
  - b. **DOTe on changes to Liberty Street (Matthew Andrews and Brad Johnson)** - We started this plan around 7 years ago. And although it has gone through some changes in the last few months, many of the original goals remain in place. Recently City Council voted to approve the 6-lane option and funded the project. Currently Liberty Street is 7 lanes. We left parking on the north side of Liberty. There will be parking on the south

side of the street during some hours of the day. Mt. Auburn and Pendleton will not lose any on-street parking spaces. OTR will lose parking on the south side of Liberty from Elm to Sycamore from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. The construction drawings need to be completed by fall of 2019 so that we can put bids out and have a full construction season to complete the project. Project is currently about 30%, we'll come back when the project is about 60% and then again at 90%. *Taped a large print-out of the plan up on the wall and asked for feedback.* There will be new trees along the street which have been proven to help calm traffic. Derek: How wide are the sidewalks? Andrews: Minimum 10 ft., probably closer to 11 ft. J.Vogt: Would any of the current work that is being done on this project enable a future reduction to 5 lanes? Andrews: No, not really. The main issue was the water line. Lammi: Where is the water main located? Johnson: About 3 ft. to the north of the southern curb. Lammi: In the future, could the north side sidewalk be extended into the northernmost lane and the then northernmost lane would be parking only on certain hours. Andrews: We could, but it would cost another \$3 million-ish. Visitor: What types of crosswalks will you be installing? Andrews: We are likely going to "zebra stripe" all of the crosswalks along this section, definitely around the schools. S.Vogt: Does the current funding include retiming the stoplights? Johnson: Most all of the lights will be retimed as part of this project. Andrews: I was a big advocate for the 5-line option, however, I think with some of the changes we made that this 6-lane project is a really good compromise and accomplishes much of what we were trying to do with the 5-lane option. Ingram: Have you talked to businesses in the area that will be losing parking during the day? We have and we have reached out to the Chamber as well. Hawkins: Where did the original request for this come from. Andrews: This came up in 2011, with the goal of increasing safety and traffic calming. Feedback and requests are due before the end of June.

- c. **Walnut Hills/Mt. Auburn Working Group** - No one from this group was in attendance.
4. **Previous Month's MACC Full Body Minutes** – *Steve Gibbs made a motion to approve all three sections of the pack. Joyce Hughley seconded. Motion carried.*
5. **Board Report** –
  - a. Broadnax briefly ran through the board report, touching on Opportunity Zones, the project to relocate the housing at Malvern Place is on hold, crosswalks in the neighborhood are getting repainted and refurbished. – *see above for approval motion*
6. **Treasurer's Report** – *see above for approval motion*
7. **MACDC Report (Carol Gibbs)** -
  - a. No report given.
8. **Old Business** -
  - a. none
9. **New Business** -
  - a. Carol Gibbs: The owner of the Body Snatcher property plans on tearing down what is left of the damages building.
  - b. Shawn Baker: The next mailing that comes from the MACC will include a form to update voter registration.

**Adjournment** – *Ryan Lammi made a motion to adjourn. Ken Farmer seconded. Motion to adjourn carried at 8:17 PM.*