

Mt. Auburn Community Council

11/18/19 Full Council Meeting Minutes

Recorded and Prepared by Ken Farmer (acting Recording Secretary)

Board Members in Attendance: Stanley Broadnax, Carlton Farmer, Carol Gibbs, Steve Gibbs, Walter Hawkins, Cindy Jo Holmes, Ryan Lammi, Tom Rotte, Anne Shannon, Anthony Thompson, Sarah Vogt, Alice Williams

Absent: Sandi Allen, Shawn Baker, Ken Farmer, Tom Rotte, Sarah Vogt

Special Guests: Ryan Dyson and Brian Ogawa from the city, Lexi Brown (UC Student)

- 1. Call to Order** – Meeting called to order by MACC President Stanley Broadnax at 7:04 PM.
- 2. Safety Report (Officer Hamann) – 1.** The past month in Mt. Auburn, there has been a dip in almost all crime stats. However, there is usually an uptick in crime during the holidays--porch pirates, people taking cars that are left running to warm up, and houses that are targeted due to appearing empty. **2.** Two new officers: Officer Leray, whose regular beat is Mt. Auburn, and Officer Taylor, who is a new recruit. **Questions.** Walter Hawkins: Is there a good way to get demographic information on areas in the neighborhood? I see a lot of police activity in the area around the Maplewood/Kinsey intersection. Hamann: I am not aware of a way to get specific demographic data. I know that it is collected by the census, but that is kept confidential for a number of years. Darryl: I just want to say that it is really important to call whenever you see something. About a year ago, Burnet had a lot of issues, but myself and other residents started calling and reporting all incidents. We called a lot. But it has worked. Burnet is experiencing much less.

Officer Hamann can be reached at lori.hamann@cincinnati-oh.gov or (513) 569-8679. The non-emergency police number is (513) 765-1212.

- 3. Special Guests –**
 - a. Tax Increment Financing District (Ryan Dyson and Brian Ogawa) –** Dyson: Tax Increment Financing (TIF) districts are a means that the city uses for economic development within specific districts. *This will not raise your taxes.* How it works essentially is when a property's value is raised by the County Auditor, a portion of that increase will go into a specific TIF fund. In non-TIF districts, these funds are still collected, but they go to the county and then come back to the city's general funds. These funds can be used fairly broadly, for residential improvements. The city currently has 20 TIF districts. Currently Mt. Auburn is *not* in a TIF district. We are proposing to create one. If created, starting in 2021, we would begin to have an idea of the amount of monies in this fund. We would work with this community on developing and prioritizing TIF projects. Ultimately, any projects would need to be approved by the City Council. December 18, 2019, City Council will be voting on whether to approve all of the newly-proposed TIF districts. Schimberg: Can't TIF districts be 300 acres? This is 291. Is there a reason for that? Ogam: We had to move a little quickly on this. Until recently we thought we were at the maximum number of TIF districts. Linders: What makes you decide to propose a TIF district? Dyson: There are a number of factors, Mt. Auburn meets a number of them. Resident: So the funds have to be used for something in the TIF district. Ogawa: The language is that it has to improve the TIF district, for the most part this is. Resident: What year is the baseline for taxes. Dyson: It was 2019 through the

summer of 2021. McNeal: How did the TIF district affect the increase in taxes in the TIF districts that currently exist? Ogawa: The increase in property value is a county process, while the TIF is a city process, so they are not connected. Of course, neighborhoods that are growing quickly, such as Hyde Park or Oakley, may see their TIF funds increase more rapidly than neighborhoods that are not growing as fast, such as Carthage. *Freeman McNeal made a motion to write a letter of support for the TIF district for Mt. Auburn. Joshua Gilbert seconded. Motion carried.*

- b. Perception of Green Space Survey (Lexi Brown, student at the University of Cincinnati)** – Passed out a survey, asking for people’s ideas and perceptions of greenspace. This is for her senior project at UC.
 - c. Membership committee (Steven Martz and Alice Williams)** – Reminder that everyone’s membership is due starting in January of each year. So whenever you pay for your membership, your membership will then be good through the end of that calendar year.
 - d. Neighborhood Support Program (Joshua Gilbert)** – Josh spoke briefly NSP and encouraged attendees to submit their ideas for an NSP project. Any projects submitted will be given time to present their projects at the January 21, 2020 MACC full body meeting. Freeman McNeal: Do you have to pay for it up front and then get reimbursed? Linders: That is often how it happens, but there are situations in which the community council could pay directly for something in advance, but would need invoices or other forms of documentation of the cost.
 - e. January and February 2020 MACC meeting changes** – Meetings these months will be on Tuesday rather than Monday.
- 4. Previous Month’s MACC Full Body Minutes** – Freeman McNeal asked if the MACDC was part of the MACC. Broadnax answered that they are separate entities. A number of residents wanted it to be recorded that they don’t think the vote taken at the September MACC meeting on the uptown properties project was accurate. Jessica Hemmer stated that Dr. Broadnax said in the October meeting that there were people who voted on both sides who were not members. Broadnax responded that he had been told that there were people on both sides of the issue that voted when they shouldn’t have. David Barnet, Freeman McNeal. Jessica Hemmer stated she thinks it is important that the minutes reflect this. Linders: This was a crowded meeting and going forward we should check membership. Resident: I think it shows strength if we take a step back and redo a vote. I don’t think there is any shame in that. *Jessica Hemmer made a motion to reconsider the vote. Freeman McNeal seconded the motion. Schimberg objected to the motion, stating that since the community council wrote a letter to the city, in support of the project, Uptown Rental Properties have spent around a quarter of a million dollars on this project. Anthony Thompson made a motion to table this motion. Resident asked Dr. Broadnax to explain what a motion to table would mean. Broadnax explained that it would mean that the motion made by Jessica Hemmer would be tabled until the next council meeting. Stanley Broadnax took a roll call vote on the motion to table. There were 13 votes to table the motion, 15 votes not to table the motion and 2 abstaining. The motion to table the motion failed. C.Farmer noted that we actually cannot entertain a motion to reconsider since the meeting at which the vote in question took place has been adjourned. He stated that someone would have to make a motion to rescind the vote in question and outlined the options available to those who may want to do so, noting that it would require a two-thirds majority to overturn a previous vote. After this explanation, no motion to revote was made. No motion was made to amend or approve the minutes from the October MACC full body meeting. Not long after this, the lights in the room were flicked off and on*

signifying that we had run past our cut-off time of 8:30. The school was closed that day, so someone came in specifically to open and close the building for us.

5. Board Report – *Did not make it to this point in the agenda.*

6. Treasurer’s Report – *Did not make it to this point in the agenda. No motion to approve was made.*

7. MACDC Report – *Did not make it to this point in the agenda.*

8. Old and Unfinished Business – *Did not make it to this point in the agenda.*

9. New Business and Announcements – *Did not make it to this point in the agenda.*

Adjournment – *Freeman McNeal made a motion to adjourn. Anthony Thompson seconded. Motion to adjourn carried at 8:37 PM.*