

# Mt. Auburn Community Council

## 05/17/2021 Full Council Meeting Minutes (Zoom)

Recorded and Prepared by Carlton Farmer (Recording Secretary)

**Board Members in Attendance:** Sandi Allen, Shawn Baker, Carlton Farmer, Ken Farmer, Carol Gibbs, Steve Gibbs, Joshua Gilbert, Cindy Jo Holmes, Ryan Lammi, John Pearl, Alice Williams, Lee Wilson

**Absent:** Walter Hawkins, Anne Shannon, Sarah Vogt

**Special Guest Speakers:** Carol Hettel from Permaganic Garden; Harrison Bingham from Alpha Citizen Cincinnati

1. **Call to Order and a Moment of Silence** – Zoom meeting of the MACC was called to order by MACC President Steve Gibbs at 7:03 PM.
2. **Safety Report (Officer Bower)** – Theft from auto vs. theft of motor vehicle parts, should be reported differently. Reports of this nature can be filled out online. Arrests of thieves of catalytic converters have been made in District 1 and in District 5. Rash of theft from auto appear to be smash and grabs, often these cars had nothing really left in them. District 4 put together a taskforce to address this and that appears to be working, as the number of these crimes has decreased. These crimes can be reported by calling me directly or calling District 4. New Section of the crime statistics sheets. This new section provides more detail about the crimes reported on the map. Questions. How many runs on average does an office make a day? Bowers: Hard to say, but usually between 15-20 runs a day. What were the response times to the two reports of houses being shot? Bowers: I don't have that specific time information. Mark Burns: Response time for shotspotter or for "shots fired" are high priority runs. Lee Wilson: Was there a shotspotter report for the gunshot on Walker? Bowers: I don't believe there was, it was not noted in the report. Mark Burns: We only get calls for about 15% of the incidents caught by shotspotter. We still need to hear from residents. Lee Wilson: If you don't know much or where the shots were fired, what do you say? Burns: Just call us and give us as much information as you can. Our neighborhood liaison officer can be reached at (513) 569-8679 or [Maggie.Bower@Cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:Maggie.Bower@Cincinnati-oh.gov). The non-emergency police number is (513) 765-1212.
3. **Speaks Guest Speakers** –
  - a. Carol Hettel – New board chair for Permaganic Garden. 2020 was a difficult year for us, but we did manage to have a small program. 12 kids for the five-week program and three of them stayed on through October. December we had a big volunteer day, planted some trees and took the fence down to help residents know that the garden is open to the community. We get a lot of UC student volunteers. Our plans for this year include some remodeling and some new programming. Youth program will start June 8th and run through July. We are looking for more adult volunteers in the garden. We will have a monthly event on the same day as Second Sunday on Main, hoping to bring people further up Main to see our space and what we have to offer. We have a kitchen in the building on the south side of Hughes. Questions. Best days for volunteers. Thus ~2pm 7pm, Sat 9am to noon. Once the youth program starts, we will be there Tuesday afternoon. Once the Easterseals programming starts, there will likely be someone there every day. John Back: Will the person you are looking for the youth program a paid position? Hettel: Yes, it would be. If you know someone who is interested have them email [permaganic@gmail.com](mailto:permaganic@gmail.com) Permaganic.org

- b. **Harrison Bingham (Alpha Citizen Cincinnati)** – Worked to clean-up an overgrown area near the basketball courts on Main and Hughes. Filled up two dumpsters with litter and trash. We are now looking to make the space over with some plants and landscaping. We are also thinking of ways that this space could be used by Permaganic for their programming. Mt. Auburn Cares is an upcoming event at this location, held on Sunday September 5th. Any funds raised at this block party would go to City Gospel Mission. Carol Gibbs: We'll work on who we need to contact at the city and get this information to you. I'm looking for help figuring out how to move forward. Charlie Gonzalez: Do you own the land? Harrison Bingham: No. Carol Hettel: The city owns that whole block, part is CRC and part is municipally owned. Carol Gibbs: DCED owns all the property and CRC is supposed to maintain the basketball courts and mow the area. If you are interested in learning more, you can email [harrison@wearealphacitizen.com](mailto:harrison@wearealphacitizen.com). Next event is 5/30, we will be chipping trees and honeysuckle that were cut down earlier this year. Upcoming volunteer events are on our website [WeAreAlphaCitizen.com](http://WeAreAlphaCitizen.com). Brad Cooper: What do you think the purpose of this land is, since you have been working on clearing it up? Harrison Bingham: I don't know what the future is for the area, but for now, it is a nice green space for the neighborhood to use. Carol Hettel: I have worked with Harrison and his group. The work they have done in this area is incredible. So much potential for green space. Charlie Gonzalez: You may also want to reach out to Wade Johnston, with Green Umbrella.

#### 4. **Board Report –**

- a. **Bylaw Updates and Revisions** – The bylaws committee has finished its work on bylaw revisions. A draft of these revisions will be presented to the MACC board at their June 14 meeting. If approved by the board, these revisions would then be presented to the full council on June 21 at the regularly scheduled meeting. Monday, July 19 meeting would be the first chance that we would have to adopt those changes. There is a draft on MtAuburn.org that we encourage everyone to take a look at in the coming weeks.

#### 5. **Treasurer's Report (Joshua Gilbert)** – AIG grant deposit of \$911 on 5/10/2021. We should receive our NSP deposit by Friday, 5/17. Cindy Jo: Anyone who submitted an NSP project has been notified that the funds are coming. *Carol Gibbs made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Brad Cooper seconded. Motion carried.*

#### 6. **Previous Month's MACC Minutes** – *Shawn Baker made a motion to approve the April 2021 full council meeting minutes. Lee Wilson seconded. Motion carried.*

#### 7. **Old Business –**

- a. South Wendel Alley Two-Day clean-up event hosted by Spring in our Steps is scheduled for Saturday, June 12 and Sunday, June 13.

#### 8. **New Business and Announcements –**

- a. **Bigelow Development Update (Patrice Eby Burke)** – Dirt is being hauled off the site, using Auburn, Bigelow and Josephine. This first big phase of hauling dirt will continue for another two to three weeks. Christian Huelsman: There appears to be a public space between Josephine and Bigelow. Will that continue to be a public path? Patrice: I don't believe the city has any plans to vacate that land, so yes, I believe so. Anyone interested in being on the distribution list email [peburke@uptownrents.com](mailto:peburke@uptownrents.com).
- b. **Filson Pool** – Will not be open this season, due to a shortage of lifeguards.
- c. **Flat Iron Building** – Will be open by the fall. Carlton Farmer: Is the project moving forward regardless of delays in 5-point intersection changes? John Back: For the most part, yes. First big part would involve repair of the wall along Dorchester since that will be integral to the flat iron building. Bryan Sherman: What is going in the flat iron

building? John Back: There will be a coffee and wine shop on the first floor and then the two floors above will be apartments. The two lots behind the building will be park and a/c units and this area will be capped by a deck.

- d. Anthony Issacs (Wasson Way Trail) – Looking for feedback around connecting Mt. Auburn areas through bike and walk paths. Steve noted that a number of groups/people working on issues like this in Mt. Auburn, including Guilford Guthrie and Spring in Our Steps.
  - e. Loth Street Development – Six Townhomes. \$400,000 asking price. Profits from these will go to build 3 similar houses on the same street and then subsidized and sold for \$200,000.
  - f. Virtual Job Fair at Choice Hotel on Reading – Virtual job fair. If interested send email to [info@kingsleyandcompany.com](mailto:info@kingsleyandcompany.com) Hard opening date of June 14 for the hotel.
9. **Adjournment** – *Shawn Baker made a motion to adjourn. Carlton Farmer seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.*