

Mt. Auburn Community Council

August 21, 2023

Mt. Auburn Community Council – May

Tonight's Agenda

1. **Call to Order and Moment of Silence** –
2. **Safety Report** – Throwing a ton of resources at Jackson Hill Park right now. Little information is shared from homicide. Homicide is confident that it is an isolated incident that was between two people. Police are up there as much as possible. Working on getting the lighting improved. Going to check it tonight. Lots of overgrown shrubbery that police are going to work with Parks Department to trim back hopefully. Actual report will not be made unless there was a crime. If shots are fired they will get initial information from Shot Spotter. They will go later and collect shell casings to try and link those back with other crimes. Are calls being taken seriously? Are reports being investigated? Officers aren't walking the beat as much anymore. Vine and Thill and Vine and Polk is having continual issues but very little policing seems to be taking place there. Hopefully redistricting will solve some of these issues. Community projects have been taking place including litter clean up. If you call in and ask for a callback who is supposed to return the call? Communications is supposed to return the call. Officers will typically not personally return the call. Sometimes detectives will return calls because they are issued work cell phones. Concerns about different level of policing in different communities. Are some areas being better policed than Mount Auburn. Intersection of Young and Dorchester is still having people run the stop signs and it is very dangerous. Is this being addressed at all? Questions about speed bumps on Short Dorchester. People speeding out of Jackson Hill Park. Officer Maggie's phone number is 513-569-8679. Maggie will be our neighborhood officer until we go to District 1.
3. **Carl Westmoreland Intersection Renaming** – Need a motion to rename intersection. This has been endorsed by MACDC. Three/Five Point intersection. Carl Westmoreland started Mount Auburn Good Housing Foundation. He is considered the father of Community Development Corporations. Alice made motion made to give Short Auburn the honorary name. Darryl Frazier seconded. All in favor. None against.
4. **Five Points Intersection Continued Safety Issues** -
5. **Special Guest Speakers and Presentations**
 - a. **College Community Resource Center** – Dominica Brantley with Cincinnati Public Schools. Job is to help students choose a postsecondary pathway. All resources are free. Work with several community organizations. Job is to help people create sustainability. Located at the Board of Education on Burnett. First floor. Open Monday through Friday 9 to 5. Please give heads up before visiting. Many resources available. Please spread the word to local teens that could benefit from help. Hosted two career symposiums last year. Employers can reach out as well. Work with special need students as well. Just have to be alumni and live in the community for assistance.

- b. Historical Marker at the Bottom of Main Street Steps (Christian Huelsman)** – Main Street steps are the longest steps (364 steps) in the city and the very first concrete steps in the city. Main Street steps are on the footprint of the very first incline in the city. Main Street steps were the longest public stairway in the United States when it was first built. Christian is asking for support from MACC for a landmark marker at base of Main Street steps. Deadline is May 1st of next year. Christian leads Spring in Our Steps. Next clean-up is on September 2nd at East Alley. Motion made and seconded.
- 6. Kinglsey Organization Hotel Property Street Sale** – Request for a submittal of a formal letter of retraction regarding previous support that Steve Gibbs gave for MACC without first consulting MACC. Steve made a motion to approve request. Discussion now takes place. MACC wants to make sure that the city knows that Steve spoke on behalf of MACC without this information coming before the council. Formal letter of retraction was approved. Important to distinguish that it is both a sale of private property and a sale of Right Away. Sale of Right Away does not necessarily need to be given the same notification. Burnett Street is not an alley. Brief job on Burnett Street before it turns into Kinsey. Recommendation is to not sell the street but instead put up bollards to restrict speeding. Proposal is to never sell the street. Proposal to sell the street was to reduce crime. At the meeting in April it was mentioned that it would be festival space including music concerts, food truck events, weddings, funerals, etc. A one-page rendering was submitted to City Planning with no notes four months after the initial meeting. Rendering will be shared with MACC at some point. All parties should be involved in conversation. Everyone should be at the table. Work with City Planning staff again to organize another meeting with all available documents made public. Motion made to table request and to have Kingsley representative present during discussion. Conversation should not be at the hotel. Meeting needs to be at a neutral space. Motion to table request passes.
- 7. MACDC Report** – No report
- 8. Board Report (Steve Gibbs)** –
- 9. Previous Month’s Full Council Meeting Minutes** –
- 10. Treasurer’s Report** – Prepared by Tami Hendrickson. Balance as of 6/30/2023 - \$12,181.17. Rozzi Fireworks - \$3,000 NSP. Balance as of 7/31/23 - \$9,181.17
- 11. Old and Unfinished Business** –
- 12. New Business and Announcements** – Shawn Baker, former MACC Vice President, brought up new business involving his resignation as well as Roger’s resignation and other people considering resignation. Shawn recommended that leadership be removed and will do what he can to help remove leadership. Mentioned that several board members are scared to speak out.
- 13. New Business** – Corryville library recently reopened and has been completely updated. Next meeting can potentially be at Corryville library.
- 14. New Business** – Questions about money spent on Rozzi fireworks and when that was approved. Request for minutes to be shared.
- 15. Adjournment** – Derrick Williams made a motion to adjourn at 8:48. Tami Hendrickson seconded. All in favor.

Mt. Auburn Community Council Board Meeting

8/14/2023 Board Meeting Minutes (Zoom)

Recorded and Prepared by Cody Sheets

Board Members Present: Carol Gibbs, Ken Farmer, Roger Hildebrand, Christian Huelsman, Steve Gibbs, Alice Williams, Cody Sheets, Tami, Darryl Frazier, Sandi

1. **Call to Order and Moment of Silence** – 7:06
2. **Crime in Parks and throughout Community**– Two people shot at Jackson Hill Park. One deceased. Shooting in CUF less than 24 hours later. No meeting in Jackson Hill Park. The meeting will be in Inwood Park instead and Jackson Hill Park in the future. MACC should not abandon Jackson Hill Park but it may not be appropriate to have the meeting there next week. We should hear more from the police about what is being done here. Is it possible to put trail cameras up to try and catch criminals? Why is the police department not doing more to monitor the areas? Reports of drug dealing in the community should be made to police regularly.
3. **Tax Filing** – Some tax returns were not filed. Tami caught the issue and all of the taxes are now up to date. Failing to file could cost us our NSP and AIG money. Tami needs reimbursed for the money that was used to buy the tax filing software.
4. **Carl Westmoreland** – Neighborhood hero who invented the community council. Renaming of Three Point / Five Point intersection. Intersection of Auburn Avenue and Dorchester Avenue have an honorary renaming. Carol made a motion for the honorary renaming and Roger seconded. All in favor.
5. **Bylaw Revision** – Conflict of interest statement in the bylaws. Bylaws inadvertently had a section about board members signing a conflict of interest statement. This is unnecessary for board members since we cannot make decisions involving significant amounts of real estate. It was also discovered that the City thinks the boundaries of Mount Auburn are not correct in that it extends west of Vine Street. CUF Community Council elected to not claim section west of Vine Street. This section of Vine Street is shown as part of Mount Auburn in the bylaws but it should be part of CUF. Alice made a motion to put an item on the discussion next month to give the area west of Vine Street to CUF. Darryl seconded. Roger made a motion that we delete it. Tami recommended changes to the bylaws. Someone from the CUF board should attend the upcoming meeting where we give the land to CUF.
6. **College Community Resource Center** – Cincinnati Public School Program asked to be on the agenda for the upcoming meeting to speak for 15 minutes. They are a college readiness program with CPS.
7. **Five Point Intersection Handicap Access Issue** – Supposedly are still working on this until December 1st but all equipment is gone. No works has been done for weeks. No conversation about crosswalks. Site visit and recommendations to City Manager and hopefully some changes will be made at that point. This should be brought up at the meeting next week.
8. **Board Behavior** – Much discussion about respect and conducting ourselves on the board. Do members feel comfortable voicing their opinions and are all opinions respected equally?
9. **Historical Marker at the Bottom of the Main Street Steps** – Needs approval from a civic organization. Christian would like a historic marker located at the bottom of the Main Street Steps. Estimated cost of \$4,000 but there are multiple grants that could potentially be obtained. Put on agenda for next week.
10. **Next Weeks Meeting will be at Inwood Park.**
11. **Previous Month's Full Council Meeting Minutes** – N/A
12. **Treasurer's Report** –
13. **Old and Unfinished Business** – N/A
14. **New Business and Announcements** – N/A
15. **Adjournment** –

7/17/2022 – April Meeting Minutes (Zoom)

Mt. Auburn Community Council – July

Tonight's Agenda

- 1. Call to Order and Moment of Silence – Steve called meeting to order at 7:03.**
- 2. Safety Report** – 20 auto break ins in Corryville. Some auto thefts in Mount Auburn that happened around the same time. Don't leave any valuables in cars. Estimated break ins were between 4:00 AM to 6:00 AM. Third shift patrol is being extra vigilant.
- 3. Special Guest Speakers and Presentations**
 - a. City Gospel Mission (Lucretia Bowman and Jennifer Osborn)** – City Gospel Mission on Goethe Street. Have been working on this since 2020. Giving an update about ongoing projects. Currently working on the second phase of the project. They own multiple buildings on Goethe Street. 141 Goethe will be an extension of a mixed living community enabling transitional living. 131 Goethe Street is affordable housing. \$4 million project. Building permits should be submitted in August. Hope to have most of the money in the bank by January. Project is estimated to take around a year to complete. Buildings have been owned for around 40 years. Honorary street naming for centennial celebration. No addresses will be changed. Community Council members are more than welcome to have a tour. Honorary street renaming of Goethe to City Gospel Mission Courage Way. Alice made a motion to support. Darryl Frazier seconded.
 - b. Issue 1 Discussion (Dani Isaacsohn)** – Ohio GOP banned August elections before choosing to allow August elections for one special election which involved moving the goal posts. Issue 1 seeks to move the goal posts making it more difficult for ballot initiatives to pass. Ohio has more than one million more people than Michigan but fewer registered voters. Issue 1 if voted in favor of changes the requirement for ballot initiatives from 50% to 60%. Changes petition requirements to require all 88 counties as opposed to 44 counties. Eliminates the “cure” period as well. Special election is costing taxpayers \$16 million. Tell all your friends to vote. It is important to defeat this to maintain our basic rights.
 - c. Short Dorchester Curb Cuts** – Not sure what is going to happen at this point. Carol is meeting with people. DOTE is having issues.
- 4. MACDC Report** – Main focus has been on the curb cuts on Short Dorchester. Sidewalk has been partially repaired but still would be difficult. Congress of New Urbanism is holding their international conference next spring. In host city that they hold their conference they offer four or five redesigns. Carol applied for a project in Jackson Hill Park. Any good design from CNU would be great if application is approved.
- 5. Board Report (Steve Gibbs)** –
- 6. Previous Month's Full Council Meeting Minutes** – Tami made a motion to approve the minutes and Ken seconded. Interior demolition before coordinated site review which makes them in violation.
- 7. Treasurer's Report** – Bank Balance is unchanged since last meeting and currently sits at \$12,181.17. Someone needs to purchase the benches to get reimbursed.
- 8. Old and Unfinished Business** – N/A

- 9. New Business and Announcements** – Christian mentioned a domestic dispute on Vine Street that was seen during alley clean up. Police were called and volunteers were concerned about safety so they were relocated to other locations. Interior demolition is taking place at 18 Mulberry and 2108 Loth before permits have been pulled and coordinated site review has taken place. This means they are in violation. Alley has also been blocked as a result.
- 10. Adjournment** – Tami made a motion to adjourn. Alice seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.