

Mt. Auburn Community Council July 17, 2023

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.

Mt. Auburn Community Council Board Meeting

7/10/2023 Board Meeting Minutes (Zoom)

Recorded and Prepared by Ken Farmer

Mt. Auburn Community Council Board – July

Present: Steve Gibbs (Board Chair), Carol Gibbs, Tami Hendrickson, Ken Farmer, Darryl Frazier, Richard Hildebrand, Christian Huelsman, Lee Wilson

Absent: Cody Sheets, Alice Williams, Sandi Allen

1. **Call to Order** –7:07 p.m.
2. **NSP Interim Report (Tami Hendrickson)**
Tami reported on the data as of June 30, the specific date for this Interim Report to NSP. Therefore, all the data surrounding the 4th of July events were not included in this report but will be for the next Interim Report. Steve asked Christian if he had any expenses to report. He did not and indicated that expenses from projects will come after July 17th. There was a question concerning the benches that Alice had requested. Tami confirmed that there was \$1,200 in budget for them.
3. **Location for upcoming meetings**
Steve asked for suggestions concerning where and how the upcoming board and full-council meetings will be held. After discussion the decision was for the board to continue meeting by Zoom as well as for the July Council meeting. However, from September on, the Council meetings will be in person, weather permitting. If there is a severe weather event, the Council will be informed that the meeting will be a Zoom meeting.
 - July Council -----Zoom meeting
 - August Board-----Zoom meeting
 - August Council-----Jackson Hill Park
 - September Board -----Zoom meeting
 - September Council -----Taft Elementary School (Multipurpose Room)
 - October Board -----Zoom meeting

- October Council ----- Taft Elementary School (Multipurpose Room)

4. Speaker coming to discuss Issue 1

Dani Isaacson, Ohio State Representative will be joining the Zoom meeting next week to discuss and answer questions about Issue 1 on the August ballot. This issue will make it more difficult to change the Ohio Constitution by requiring a 60% versus the current 50%-plus-1. Additionally, petitions will be required from all 88 counties.

5. Adding honorary street name to Goethe Street

Steve noted receiving a request from Vice Mayor Kearney's office last month after our Board Meeting concerning adding the honorary name of "City Gospel Mission Courage Way." This only needs the support of the residents living on Goethe Street.

6. Adding honorary street name to Goethe Street

Steve said there was no further report or presentation available on the Cumberland Alley/Hotel Street vacation proposal, which has been sent to the hotel's landscape architect which is "2K Landscape Architecture." He emailed Stacey Hoffman and the Kingsley representative asking for guidance on next steps on this proposal, and has received no response. His suggestion was to table this until we received some sort of report from the architect, that hopefully would be a compromise that might meet everyone's needs. Carol did confirm that the Cincinnati Planning Department does have the new plan.

7. Curb cuts at Three Points

Steve mentioned that there were ongoing concerns about curb cuts and traffic safety issues relating to finishing construction of our "Three Points Town Center" by the City and Prus Construction. Carol mentioned that she had talked with both council members and City staff concerning handicapped access and traffic safety issues. Various people came out and looked over the situation, including the vice mayor. Pictures were taken.

The remaining sidewalk which needed work was finally repaired. However, it is too narrow for wheelchairs and is chunky after the repaired section. Engineers appeared to be only concerned as to whether it matched the construction plans and not whether it was ADA compliant or not. Carol said council member Mark Jeffreys is going to take charge of this. Hopefully needed changes will occur.

8. Christian Huelsman discussion

As Christian had earlier noted that he was in favor of adding curb cuts mid-block on Short Dorchester (related to item 7 above), Steve asked for his input. He said that rather than give his suggestion to the group that he had just decided to announce his resignation from the board. His concern was that rather than accepting his suggestion for discussion by the board at its meeting, he had his suggestion quashed before the meeting and in what he considered to be a disrespectful manner. He said this was not the first time he had experienced such conflict and said that two others had resigned due to similar treatment and not given a "real opportunity" to speak.

He was encouraged to bring his ideas on to the board so it can be discussed at the board level. A number of the board members assured Christian that he had a unique set of knowledge and skills that the board really needed and that resigning would in fact be bad for the board. After some discussion, Christian agreed to stay on the board.

9. Christian Huelsman discussion

Christian mentioned that some of the information on the MACC website was not current and that at times minutes were not current there. Steve said that Cody had committed to staying in the secretarial position until end of term. One suggestion was to see if Cody would pass along the info to others so that could help in this transitional period.

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

6/19/2023 – June Meeting Minutes

Mt. Auburn Community Council – June

Tonight's Agenda

- 1. Call to Order and Moment of Silence – Steve called meeting to order at 7:03**
- 2. Safety Report** – Crime has decreased or remained the same except for robberies. There was a robbery at the Clifton Mini Mart this month. Arrest was made three days later and the case is closed. No major news to report. They are looking at overtime parking and encourage businesses to call in if this is an issue. Six car thefts this month. The number is the same as last month. Slow recall in progress. They do not have any wheel locks at this time but when they get more, please feel free to reach out to obtain one. No pushback on district consolidation. Consolidation should be October or November of this year.
- 3. Special Guest Speakers and Presentations**
 - a. Flat Iron Building Curb Cut** – Curb cut outside of entrance to Flat Iron Building disappeared during the reconstruction of the intersection. The city has been uncooperative in fixing this. Carol is seeking money for a study of traffic safety issues. The request is for \$50,000. Look at pedestrian safety, crosswalks, new traffic patterns in the intersection. Property is owned by the city. It is not owned by Neyer. Carol is making a motion for a safety and traffic impact study to look at traffic configurations, etc. \$50,000 has been promised from an undisclosed source. Money is not coming from a development interest. Money would be confirmed by July 1st. Cathy asked questions as to why the study was not done beforehand and if the study is needed. Alice asked how we got to this point that the intersection is not pedestrian friendly. Cathy requested a copy of the RFP to share with the African American Chamber. Questions were asked as to where the money is coming from Carol made a motion and Tami seconded. Motion passes. Cathy abstained.
 - b. City Gospel Way Street Renaming** – Ongoing conversations about this. We will hear more next month.
- 4. MACDC Report** – Nothing to report.

5. **Board Report (Steve Gibbs)** – No separate board report.
6. **Previous Month's Full Council Meeting Minutes** – Tami made a motion to approve. Carol seconded. Approved.
7. **Treasurer's Report** – \$11,399.13. \$218.96 check written to replace dead plants at Flat Iron Building. \$133.00 dues deposit. \$868 deposit from AIG. Ending balance as of 5/31/2023 is \$12,181.17. NSP Interim Report due July 8th. If anyone is working on projects and needs reimbursement, please contact Tami. \$500 for Five Points, \$500 for Spring in Our Steps, \$1,200 for benches on McGregor Pocket Park, \$800 for removal of bamboo on Main Street Steps, etc. Next interim report is due on October 7th.
8. **Old and Unfinished Business** –
9. **New Business and Announcements** – Kevin brought up a neighborhood garden clean up this Saturday morning at Kay's Garden off Liberty Street. Rozzi fireworks. Sunday July 2nd at 9 AM Spring in Our Steps is doing an annual alley bike ride with Queen City Bikes. It hits 100 alleys throughout the city and NKY. Christian asked for feedback regarding traffic calming improvements. Saturday Morning concerts at Inwood Park. 70 people showed up two weeks ago and 90 plus showed up last week. The upcoming concert will be a complete concert for children. William Howard Taft is having an Ice Cream Social Saturday July 1st. from 1 to 3 PM. Encouraged to bring your own chairs. The flyer will be forwarded to everyone.
10. **Adjournment** – Christian made a motion to adjourn, and Alice seconded.