

WHAC May 2020 VIRTUAL Meeting Minutes

Call to order

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Reports

- Treasurer

Expenses: \$16.04 Zoom payment

Balance \$11,692.60

- Police
- Fire

Membership

- Join remote with PayPal-low membership because of pandemic.
- Please check list to make sure that if you paid, you are on the list. There will be a space for the email for each family member. Age group to vote is 16 or older. Children are younger than 16 cannot vote.

Educational Campuses

- Schools-Jeff Hall reporting. Next Thursday is the last day of school for the district. He will update us on food distribution until the rec centers open back up. He will also keep us apprised of what will happen in the fall. Kathyne discussed the impact on how education will work going forward, noting that the costs of transporting children to school will increase, just to keep things clean, and kids separated.
- Karen Hordinski reported on Spencer School, they are staying at it, trying to do what they can. The schools are working on helping every child get an internet device so that they can keep up as best they can. Karen would like to organize outside of the box thinking around tutoring for kids, whether in person or online. They did not get approval to change the building, so they have to adjust the existing building to accommodate grades 3-12. Books are being distributed to children, along with food. Imagination Library will send a book a month to children up to age 6. Margaret and Laura Marsh are coordinating kid packets for distribution, including masks, bandaids, coloring books.
- Recreation-Vanessa Henderson reporting, Bush will not be closed, they are open from 2:00-4:30 M-F to pass out meals, outside, not in the building. Bush Rec might be used as a childcare facility. Only three staff people are on Staff. Vanessa will be going to Madisonville temporarily.
- Library-Ashley Barnhill reporting, Starting May 26 some drive thru locations will be opening up. June 1, curbside service in Walnut Hills will begin with their regular hours. This is all still in the planning stages, so is subject to change. Check the website for details and updates. The building/addition is still on target and is in the design phase. The funding has been committed and that has not changed. They will still be doing a summer reading program, but the details are still being worked out.
- Book drops are open for emergency returns. There are no current due dates for library books.
- Walnut Hills Resources Task Force-Margaret reporting. They are distributing period packs at Frederick Douglas from 11-12 on Friday. Also are helping folks who do not have online access. They are also distributing food along with other organizations in the neighborhood. Reach



area
council

Margaret at walnuthillsweekly@gmail.com. So far they raised over \$4,000. They've spent \$1,300. Wednesdays and Fridays are the days for food distribution.

Environment and Beautification

- COVID-19 – statistics, the number in Walnut Hills is now 14. Cincinnati has over 800 cases, up 200 in the last week. With the opening up of retail, etc, more people are being infected. Most people that have gotten sick enough to be hospitalized have been under 60, probably because the younger people are going out more. Keep washing your hands, wear a mask in public.
- Green Space-maintain social distancing. No cars are allowed in Eden Park. Toni Miller reported that drug dealing has all but stopped, lots of families are enjoying the park and the people are very diverse, which is great. Social distancing is of the utmost importance.
- Cincinnati Art Museum – Stairs Open
- Scholar House – Virtual Tours Available-Rainy Mooney reporting, still moving forward, hoping to start moving the first group of student parents on June 1. They are showing apartments to prospective tenants, responsibly.

45206 Civic Engagement Opportunities

- VIRTUAL Planning & Economic Development Public Meeting – 1st Thursday, June 4th 6:30p
- VIRTUAL Housing Resources – 3rd Thursday, May 21st 6pm-Mary Cabrini reporting, they will have a meeting on May 27. They will be discussing current developments around eviction. Past info is on the website under Housing Resources.
- Milhaus did not get the votes for their letter, but they are working with us and WHRF to make whatever changes need to be made to get the votes needed for a letter of support.
- TENTATIVE VIRTUAL Safety – 4th Thursday, May 28th

Planning and Economic Development

- WHBA-Samir Kilkarnie reporting, did a social distance clean up with a good turnout, up and down McMillan. Hope to do another one in the next week or two.
- WHRF-Samantha Reeves reporting, Building exterior and parking for Building 5 are the two focus groups. Gardens are open, let Gary know if you want to volunteer. Alexandra update: Call on May 8, Fairview proposed that instead of foreclosing, they might take the deed in lieu of foreclosure, which would mean having an out of state owner. Long term success is a concern if it is held as a profit motivated investment, instead of quality affordable housing as the main focus of the property. July 15 they will have more information. The residents are now included in the foreclosure. Kroger site has been officially closed, so now the land is owned instead of leased. A public parking lot will be developed, and planning will begin on what that site will turn into.
- Item for Vote
 - Cincinnati Birth Center 5/5

Recap: The Cincinnati Birth Center would like a letter of support from WHAC to obtain a zoning change for 841 Lincoln Ave. from RMX-Residential Mixed to RM0.7 Residential Multi-family. This zoning matches the zoning on the other side of Lincoln Ave, and it is a zoning category which will allow a medical office use. They would be simply extending the zoning from across the street to the one address.

No significant questions.

- May Square 5/5

Recap: Solica Development and Investing for Good are requesting a letter from the Walnut Hills Area Council in support of a zone change from the existing zoning to T5N.LS-O for the land and parcels bound between Crown St. to the South and Taft to the North and by I-71 to the West and May St. to the East. Will go from two and a half to four stories, and have larger setbacks. Change from the previous ask, no retail on either Phase 1 or Phase 2. This will be Solica's third project in Walnut Hills. The retail in his previous projects have been tenanted to minority vendors. Each garage will be under the apartments, no parking garage is included.

- Dumas & Gordon Meats 5/5

The Walnut Hills Area Council is being asked by Essence Gannaway to support her application for a grant to fund her butcher shop Dumas and Gordon Meats. The butcher shop will employ at least 20% of their staff from the Walnut Hills community, which she is willing to put in writing. Price point will be reasonable and will accept EBT.

Laura will post at the end a Survey Monkey, and you will note if you are a paid member. Then you vote. If you are not a paid member, you can pay via the link on the website.

New and Old Business

Go to the Walnut Hills Historical Society website and use it as a resource. Issue 7 passed, sales tax will increase, income tax will decrease and will get more transportation opportunities as well as infrastructure/roads which will be good for our community.

Hollander Alley is in terrible condition. There is a fixit Cincy report already in.

- Census 2020-Fill out your form and be counted so that Walnut Hills can get their fair share of resources.
- Voter Registration-if you moved, check your voter status!

Support our local businesses!

Adjourn