

WHAC May 2021-Minutes

Zoom Meeting ID: 87869725849 Passcode: 935343

Call to Order-6:33 May is mental health month! We did the 60 second breath.

Membership-Margar made a pitch for donations to the WHAC

Treasurer/NSP

- Vote to update PNC Signature Card, for switch from Clarence Taylor to Kathryn Gardette. Motion by Geoff Sutton, second by Toni Miller, voting done via a zoom button, motion passed.

• Account-

Opening balance	\$ 4,871.54
Zoom paid by credit card.	- \$16.16
Invest in Neighborhoods	949.85
NSP	7,987.00
Orchard Digital – website hosting	- 450.00
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	Balance: \$13,342.23

Motion to accept by Geoff Sutton, second by Margar, Motion passed.



**area
council**

Public Service

- Safety Committee – 4th Thursday, May 27th, 6:30p, crime stats were shared, WH has the most thefts from autos. Always lock your door, do not leave anything of value in view from your car windows. We have some hotspots in WH, and we need participation at the safety meeting to address it. Andrea Carter from the Police Partnering Center has been working with Ashland Park, which seems to have calmed down. Andrea gave some comments. They have had an impact but some of the activity just moved to another area down the streets. People who don't live in the neighborhood, come out and hang, then go home. They will continue to meet to find some new solutions. Please do not leave your car running, no matter what, even if you are getting food delivered.
- Police Department-reiterated the issues with theft from auto and how to make your car less appealing to thieves. He requested that people report crimes with make and model of car involved and as much detail as possible. Noted the issues at the Greenwich, most of which happen after the bar closes. There was some discussion whether there was an eviction of one of the people causing trouble. Kathryn noted when the safety meeting is and reiterated the importance of attending these meetings. Safety is the responsibility and for the benefit of all of us.

Planning and Economic Development

- Community Update: Easter Seals Tristate-Pam Greene, discussing the history of ES, and to tell us about some of their needs. They acquired the Melrose Y building and use it for office space as well as some of their programs. They have 70 employees and will enjoy having more room. They have lots of plans for new programs and new buildings, with more details coming. They are hoping to get some funding from the Covid relief bill funds allocated to Cincinnati for jobs. Cabrini asked how many of their Youth Build kids are from Walnut Hills. She didn't have the exact numbers but noted that many come from our community.
- WHBG-Samir reporting, nothing major to report. Flower pots are planted. Banners will go up designating when you come into and leave the Walnut Hills Business District. The Five K is going to go live in June, and will occur in October. It will go down through Eden Park, come up Gilbert. Music will be provided along the way. They are looking for volunteers, including musicians, and they are looking for sponsorships. They are asking all the businesses to form a team for the event, and they will donate some tickets to WHAC for distribution to schools and residents. They are hoping for a friendly competition, and will get a trophy for a year, designed by Coreclay.

- Transportation Committee Update-Samir also reporting, they are setting the vision and mission, and designating members. They are focused on addressing all areas of transportation in and out of the neighborhood. They are looking for community leaders in all the different types of transportation, and will be important for the second round of stimulus grants. They are putting together recommendations now.
- Community Update: UDF, Mark Wilson reporting on the Walnut Hills store, they are selling the store. They use four criteria, performance, security, associates, community impact. All of the four criteria went into the decision. They have a buyer but can't yet disclose, it is a small entrepreneur, and will keep the store open as well as sell gas. Business will be as usual through the transition. Florence asked if it would stay UDF, and it will not. It will be a different store. Samir asked him if UDF has recommendations for the new owner. They will share marketing, sales and product mix information. Is UDF planning on making any investments in Walnut Hills to offset the loss of the store?
- LoS Vote: WHRF
- WHRF-They are applying for funding for Business Development grants and Façade Improvements grants. 80% covered by the grant, 20% covered by the owner. They are applying through NBDIP. One contractor would manage the improvements for 10-15 identified businesses. It would be managed by the Working Group. They would like to add two blocks to the business district. The grant ask will be for about \$200,000. They would like a letter of support. Samir noted that the WHBG did support the letter but had a few qualifications to their approval, especially relating to changing the boundaries of the business district. Two votes will be taken, to support the ask, and then to support the expanded Business district as part of the ask. Kathrynne noted that way back when, the Monastery was included in the business district when they got their empowerment zone. The business district then was retracted, but no one knows why.
- Letter of support for NBDIP for the WHRF to apply for the grant, including the permission to include an ask to expand the business district. Second by Mona. Motion passed. Ric Hordinski expressed his appreciation.
- The Alexandra is making progress, and are looking for more funds.
- LoS Vote: The Model Group-Zach from the Model Group reporting. The project will be phased, including the Alexandra and Peebles Apartments. WHRF acquired the Alexandra, Model is now managing it. They are applying for 4% LIHTC rehab funds, and don't anticipate starting construction until March 2022. They need the letter of support to apply for HOME funds as well. This will keep rents at lower than 60%AMI. No displacement is anticipated.
- Peebles Apartment is a 9% LIHTC, HOME, Federal Home Loan Bank project with 42 units of 1,2,and 3 BR units affordable to 30%AMI, 50%AMI and 60%AMI residents. They are hoping to make it mixed use, but note that investors don't like that. They must have a letter of support to even apply for HOME funds, due on June 14th.
- Letter of support for the Alexandra for HOME funds-Vote passed.
- Letter of support for Peebles Apartments for HOME funds-Vote passed.
- Update: Former Kroger Community Engagement-Kevin Wright, Joe Nichol and Kathy Atkinson presenting on feedback for what will go in the old Kroger site. There is a digital survey, pop up events, and community ambassadors doing surveys. Four different types of property personality were described, Quiet, Humming, Active, and Buzzing types. Cabrini wondered which type of activity was anticipated in the retail, which is different for each type.

Educational Campuses

- Schools-Karen Hordinski reported an update on Spencer, which will have summer scholars, as will Frederick Douglass. She requested \$600 to split between Douglass, Spencer and Dohn, for teacher appreciation. She will communicate with Geoff offline to see if this is possible. Kathrynne made a motion to grant this request, seconded by Geoff, motion passed.
- Sheena reported for Frederick Douglass, they had a good teacher appreciation week last week, lead by Wes Crout and Sheena. They have full time music, art and PE next year!!!

- Recreation-Vanessa reporting, they need staff!! If you have ideas for programs at Bush or at Ashland Park, please talk to Vanessa. Yoga is back on!
- Library-Ashley reporting, gearing up for summer reading, watch the construction progress!

Environment and Beautification

- Health Committee-meeting perhaps on Friday at 11. Vaccinations are now available at the CVS.
- Green Space & Food Access-Concord almost planted, Gary has been really active with all sorts of groups.
 - Green Man Park Activation Committee
- Artistic – Performance – Cultural
 - Art & Culture Committee Carrie Adkins reporting from the Art Museum, hopes to see us all very soon at one of their events.
 - Art works is now in Walnut Hills, Sherman reported. Open house on the 28th. Murals are being worked on as we speak. Gallery opening as well.
 - Christina reported that WH Historical Society requested a historical marker by the Manse, Harriet’s birthday party is June 13, 1-4.
 - Kathyne noted that Action Tank will be at next month’s meeting.
 - Matthew Hulme introduced himself-from the City Transportation Department

45206 Civic Engagement Opportunities

- American Rescue Plan
- Hands-on Give Back
 - Full Circuit – Friday’s and Assembling Period Packs
 - Frederick Douglass & Spencer Center
- WHAC Committee Meetings
 - VIRTUAL Walnut Hills Business Group – 3rd Thursday, May 20th, 9:00a
 - Zoom Meeting ID: 896 6208 1192 Passcode: 138661
 - VIRTUAL Housing Resources – 3rd Thursday, May 20th, 6:30p
 - Zoom Meeting ID: 813 6960 0899 Passcode: 369713
 - VIRTUAL Safety – 4th Thursday, May 27th, 6:30p
 - Zoom Meeting ID: 89217457851 Passcode: 719423
 - VIRTUAL Planning & Economic Development – 1st Thursday, June 10th, 6:30p
 - Zoom Meeting ID 867 6486 0285 Passcode: 115156

Old and new business

Adjourn-8:50