

---

## Walnut Hills Area Council: Business Group

### Minutes

---

Minutes: January 19, 2022 - Walnut Hills Area Council: Business Group Meeting

Taken by Michael Rountree, Childress & Cunningham, Inc.

#### Attendance:

Christina Hartlieb  
Samir Kulkarni

Tim MacConnell  
Samantha Reeves

Michael Rountree  
Josh Smitherman

Greg Warner

#### Opening:

Meeting called to order by Samir Kulkarni at 9:09 AM.

Minutes from the December 15, 2022 full meeting were approved, Greg Warner 1<sup>st</sup>, Samir Kulkarni 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Treasurer's Report – Tim said that our account balances are \$6,600 for general operations, \$71 for the 5K Race, and \$714 for beautification. We have a bill for last year's planter maintenance, totalling \$6,000, as well as a contract for 2023.

#### Committee Reports:

*Membership* – general discussion, no formal report; a committee chair is needed.

There was further discussion about changing the meeting time/day. Mondays were not favorable since they coincide with some holidays like MLK day. It was suggested that a poll be taken, perhaps using Google Forms, and it was agreed that we should wait to vote until we have an actionable proposal.

Michael reminded all that we need a membership chair; Jerod will be helping to get out a renewal notice but has otherwise stepped down. Samir noted that solicitation for sponsorship of planters goes hand-in-hand with seeking new members. Samantha asked whether we could consider hiring a marketing person, as this had been brought up at a recent WHAC committee meeting. In the past, the WHRF has acted as a pass-through, and could support both WHAC and WHBG. East Walnut Hills has hired two persons, we could inquire as to what their rates are and how they are structured.

*Planning & Physical Development* – Samantha Reeves

The proposed 50 units at Lincoln & Gilbert still need gap financing. Peebles Apartments, 42 units on Gilbert with no commercial space, will be going forward, and 56 units on McMillan are under construction at the former Kroger site. Half of the 56 units will be market-rate, and it will include about 10,000 sf of ground-floor commercial space. The former Durner Building will be renovated as offices for Mortar, and the former Race Refrigeration will be taken over by ArtWorks. It was noted that CVS is now gone.

WHRF is working with SSRG to manage the small business improvement grants, for which 14 projects have qualified. They are getting some bids out for execution.

Samantha said she will bring a request for support of NBDIP project funding in March, which may be for streetscaping that is partially funded by Model Group. She noted that streetscaping proposals have not been popular in recent years though, as NBDIP projects get voted on by peers.

*Traffic & Safety* – no report

---

## Walnut Hills Area Council: Business Group

### Minutes

---

#### *Finance* – Tim MacConnell

Tim said that he spoke with Cindy Fischer, who submitted our request for CNBDU funds last year; we need to prepare a request for 2023. She does intend to resume attending meetings and representing us to that body in 2023. Samantha attends currently, which is a Zoom remote meeting at 8 AM on the second Friday of each month, or every 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting is in person.

#### *Communications & Marketing* – no formal report

#### *Events* – no formal report

#### **Other Matters:**

Christina reported that interior construction is continuing at the Harriet Beecher Stowe House, and they will be doing engagement activities outdoors while this is ongoing.

Josh said that he is looking to buy a home in Walnut Hills, but it seems like realtors tend to push towards listings in Over-The-Rhine. Samir said that he could put him in touch with more favorable realtors. There may be more inventory becoming available in the next few months.

Meeting adjourned at approx. 9:53 AM.