
Walnut Hills Area Council: Business Group

Minutes

Minutes: February 16, 2023 - Walnut Hills Area Council: Business Group Meeting

Taken by Michael Rountree, Childress & Cunningham, Inc.

Attendance:

Kim Coleman
Cindy Fischer

Samir Kulkarni
Meghan Nowland

Samantha Reeves
Michael Rountree

Greg Warner

Opening:

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

Minutes from the January 19, 2023 meeting were approved, Samir Kulkarni 1st, Greg Warner 2nd.

Treasurer's Report – No report, though Samir noted there should be no changes from last month. On the agenda for this meeting is to determine the spending categories for CNBDU operating funds, so that Cindy can present this request. Samir said that Tim has the executed contract for flower pot maintenance by the Parks Department.

Committee Reports:

Finance – Cindy Fischer

Michael and Cindy reviewed the proposed spending categories for operating funds, which will be requested from CNBDU. In lieu of a budget for a 5K Race, it was proposed to utilize those funds for Beautification in order to partially fund the neighborhood flower pots. The Parks Department will charge \$6,000.00 for maintenance of the pots, so at \$3,000.00 we will cover half and need to find matching donations or sponsorships for the rest. The spending categories are: \$3,000 for Beautification, \$450 for Overhead (such as web hosting), \$200 for Membership activities, and \$100 for reimbursement of CNBDU dues. Motion to submit these spending categories with our funding request was approved, Samir Kulkarni 1st, Michael Rountree 2nd.

Traffic & Safety – general discussion, no report

Samir noted that there have been a string of break-ins to retail storefronts recently, with about 8 in our neighborhood and another 4 in East Walnut Hills. One store in Over-The-Rhine even changed its locks and saw them get picked the next night. One suspect has been described as 6' tall, tan-skinned, with a non-distinct look, and another potential suspect may have been caught. Samir said that his company is considering hiring an off-duty cop to patrol during the hours of 2 AM to 5 AM. Samir is also installing glass break sensors into his buildings.

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

An online survey to poll our members regarding a preferred meeting time and day will be forthcoming, as was agreed to in the January meeting. Samantha said that Sean M. is helping to set up a Google Suite for WHAC, and that her understanding is that Jerod is still willing to help us out with technical issues, even if he is unable to serve as part of the Membership committee.

Planning & Physical Development – Samantha Reeves

Samantha said she will have a proposal to present at the next meeting, to seek a letter of support for NBDIP project funding. The application will be due on April 29th so a presentation in March and a vote in April will work.

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Communications & Marketing – no formal report

Events – no formal report

Other Matters:

Meghan mentioned Juneteenth and noted that Esoteric Brewing has come to WHAC to request a letter of support for partial street closure for an event. We may be asked to get involved as well.

Meghan asked whether there has been any update on new crosswalks in the neighborhood. Samir replied that there is a Transportation Committee within WHAC that can provide better information. If there are known or observable problem areas, we can bring our concerns up to the City's Department of Transportation Engineering, and Samir noted that the City has a minor budget to address issues. Greg recalled that about 5 years ago, when he tried to report some issues, the City told him that a traffic study would be needed along with a petition signed by over 100 persons.

Meeting adjourned at approx. 9:32 AM.