



**CTM Board Meeting Minutes  
April 1, 2019  
Clifton Recreation Center**

Present: Peter Block, Pat Borders, Joe Brunner, Christine Celsor, Brian Duffy, Stephanie Gilbreath, Buddy Goose, Brad Hawse, Rama Kasturi, Seth Maney, Kevin Marsh, Vince Metzger, Malcolm Montgomery, Joyce Rich, Peggy Spohr

Absent: None

A quorum is present. Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm by President Hawse.

**I. Community Engagement Discussion**

President Hawse began the community engagement discussion by providing an overview of the Neighborhood Support Program. NSP provides funding for activities that serve a public purpose. Previously, CTM has used the grant money for activities like the Clifton Chronicle, the development of the GoVibrant walking routes, and AV equipment for CTM's monthly meetings. The funds cannot be used for things like direct social services, operating expenses, hiring employees, direct cash awards, or endorsing political candidates.

NSP's budget cycle starts on July 1<sup>st</sup>, and CTM wants to have its goals for the grant money identified so there is a full year to implement them. The first step is to gather ideas and input on the community's goals and desires. The Board will then research the proposed projects, select eligible projects, and develop timetables and plans for implementation.

The community members in attendance divided into small groups to brainstorm ideas. Following that, each group presented their ideas to the Board and the community members in attendance. The ideas presented were:

- Repairs to bus stop benches on Ludlow Avenue and outside Rawson Woods
- Replacing flags on Telford Avenue outside Graeters
- Public art or murals (whether new or repairing existing murals)
- Developing a Clifton movie to show at the Esquire
- Beautification of CRC/CANS area
- Installing a water fountain on the Plaza
- Assisting Parks Department in efforts to remove invasive plant species

- Improving pedestrian experience on Ludlow Avenue, potentially through partnership with DAAP

The proposals were then listed on posterboard, and the Trustees and community members in attendance then indicated their preferences by placing marks on the posterboard next to the projects they were interested in. The votes will be tabulated by the Board, and the Board will then begin researching the projects with the most votes. The Board thanked the community members in attendance for their time and effort.

## **II. Clifton Market**

Trustee Maney reported on the status of Clifton Market's negotiations with Gurmukh Singh and the Market's lenders. All parties are still participating in negotiations, although there is no deal yet. Foreclosure and a sheriff's sale are still possibilities, but the Market's Board is hopeful that they will reach a deal. The Market's Board will send out updates as warranted. Should Mr. Singh purchase the Market, he plans to begin investing in the property by, for example, making updates to the parking lot.

## **III. CANS Playscape**

Trustee Metzger reported that James Zoller has been selected as the new CANS principal. He then introduced Josh Miller, leader of the CANS Advisory Group's Facilities and Playscape Committee, who gave a presentation on a planned outdoor playscape. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Discussion ensued among the Trustees and the community members in attendance concerning funding sources for and maintenance of the playscape, the selection of trees and plants, Fairview and community use of the playscape, and broader questions surrounding CPS's traffic plans for CANS. CPS representatives in attendance stated they would be glad to discuss these issues with the community.

## **IV. Juergens Avenue**

Trustee Maney reported on the current condition of Juergens Avenue. The street lacks curbs and enclosed stormwater piping, and CTM has been trying to secure improvements for the street since 2014. Although the 2017 capital budget allocated money for a design study, DOTE's grant application to the State was rejected and Juergens residents are concerned. Trustee Maney noted that capital budget recommendations will be put out in May, and reported that in conversations he has had with City councilmembers he was told that if people pushed for improvements to the street it might get somewhere.

Trustee Maney made a motion to create an ad hoc committee for the purpose of advocating for repairs and improvements to Juergens Avenue. Trustee Kasturi seconded the motion. Discussion ensued among the Trustees concerning whether requesting funds for Juergens Avenue would adversely impact other financial requests. Following discussion, a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Anyone who is interested in serving on the committee is encouraged to contact Trustee Maney.

#### **V. District 5 HQ Survey**

Trustee Duffy gave an overview of the results from the recently-conducted website survey regarding the future location of the District 5 headquarters. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Discussion ensued among the Trustees and community members in attendance concerning what to do with the results. Although the results of the survey indicate support for placing the District 5 headquarters on Central Parkway, many cautioned that the survey's methodology was poorly-designed. CTM's survey simply copied the questions presented in a survey conducted by the College Hill community council, but CTM has not seen the data gathered by that College Hill survey. President Hawse noted that he would contact the College Hill community council and request that they share the results of their survey.

Trustee Montgomery made a motion to present the survey data to the City administration, but without attempting to draw any conclusions from the data. Trustee Duffy seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Following discussion, a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **VI. ECAT**

Treasurer Goose reported on recent Engage Cincinnati Action Team meetings. ECAT is developing community training sessions, and is looking for community feedback on what content should be included. A survey will go out soon. A copy of the presentation is attached.

Discussion ensued among the Trustees regarding whether system reform is a part of ECAT's goals and planned future presentations. Treasurer Goose reiterated that he strongly encouraged anyone with ideas or feedback to contact him.

#### **VII. VegFest 2019**

Vice President Borders reported on continuing developments with VegFest 2019. Anna Ferguson presented to the Board in March, and since that time the CBPA has become a sponsor.

Vice President Borders made a motion to have CTM sponsor VegFest at the \$500 level. Trustee Block seconded the motion. Discussion ensued among the Trustees regarding CTM's total budget, lack of funding to CTM's committees, advance budget planning, and other events that CTM sponsors. Following discussion, a vote was taken. The motion tied

with 6 voting in favor, 6 voting against, and 2 abstentions. President Haswe voted in favor to break the tie. The motion passed.

## **VIII. NBDIP**

Vice President Rich reported on the current state of the NBDIP application. She noted that applications are more likely to be successful when the community contributes money to the project. CTM is asking NBDIP for \$75,000 to construct a gateway installation for the business district.

Vice President Rich made a motion to have CTM commit \$500 to the gateways project, to be spent only if the NBDIP grant application is successful. Trustee Duffy seconded the motion. Discussion ensued among the Trustees concerning whether the amount requested was adequate, whether there are other ways to show support for the NBDIP application, and whether other funding/sponsorship sources were available in Clifton. Following discussion, a vote was taken. The motion passed with 12 in favor and 2 abstentions.

## **IX. Proposed Executive Committee Standing Rule**

Trustee Marsh reported that the Bylaws Committee has not yet discussed the document, so the issue will be deferred for another month.

## **X. Officer and Committee Reports**

### **A. *Treasurer***

Treasurer Goose reported on the CTM balance sheet. CTM has total assets/reserves of \$84,116.23 with no outstanding liabilities. Income and expenses for the month were \$844.00 and \$ 66.42, respectively. Income and expenses were as expected. A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached.

Treasurer Goose moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Trustee Maney seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention.

### **B. *Education***

Trustee Metzger reported that there is a CANS open house on May 7<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 6:30. Tours of the new building will be offered.

### **C. *Parks***

Trustee Maney reported that the Parks Committee will meet this month. The Cincinnati Recreation Commission director is planning to come look at the Sacred Heart soccer field/parking lot. Additionally, the Burnet Woods Advisory Council will be meeting soon.

*D. Walking Routes*

Trustee Marsh reported that the Walking Routes Committee is working on the text for the brochure and hope to have it done by the May meeting. The Walking Routes Committee intends to have Memorial Day be the kickoff for the routes.

*E. Bylaws*

Trustee Montgomery reported that the Bylaws Committee has drafted a standing rule for financial matters that he will circulate, and requested comments. The Bylaws Committee will also review draft record handling and retention and whistleblower policies drafted by Secretary Brunner. Additionally Trustee Marsh's draft standing rule regarding executive committee responsibilities is a high priority. If anyone is interested in serving on the Bylaws Committee, please contact Trustee Montgomery.

*F. Housing and Zoning*

Trustee Montgomery reported that the Housing and Zoning Committee will meet soon to discuss several issues. The Housing and Zoning Committee spoke with CPS representatives regarding the CANS HVAC unit, and asked to be involved in testing noise levels.

Trustee Montgomery also reported that CPS has filed a conditional use permit to use the Rawson farmhouse, located next to the CANS building, for educational purposes. A hearing is scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup>. The Housing and Zoning Committee wants more time to review the permit and solicit neighborhood impact, and may request a continuance. Discussion ensued among the Trustees and CPS and community members in attendance concerning the impact of a continuance and whether the Board will take a position on the permit application. The Housing and Zoning Committee will meet and inform the Board of whether it has a recommendation on the permit application.

*G. Plants for Pollinators*

Trustee Spohr reported that as a Zoo partner in their Plants for Pollinators challenge, CTM will be hosting an event on April 6 at the Clifton Rec Center to promote participation in the program. Mark Plunkett, representing the Zoo, will be the speaker. It was also just announced that Clifton won the neighborhood challenge sponsored by the City of Cincinnati Department of Environment and Sustainability by registering 22 existing pollinator gardens by March 31<sup>st</sup>.

**XI. March Meeting Minutes**

Secretary Brunner moved to adopt the minutes of the March 4, 2019 Board Meeting. Trustee Duffy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **XII. Trustee Announcements**

Treasurer Goose will begin planning the Memorial Day Parade. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact him.

Trustee Spohr noted that she attended the Invest in Neighborhoods annual neighborhood summit and it was inspiring.

Vice President Borders noted that there is a lot of discussion in the community about improvements to the Plaza, and there is a need for a community engagement process. There will be a meeting in mid-May that Trustee Block will lead.

Vice President Rich noted that the uptown neighborhoods met last week. CUFNA has recently amended its bylaws to include Burnet Woods in the CUF geographical area, and there was a suggestion that other communities do the same so everyone gets notice of park activities.

Trustee Metzger thanked Vicki Black for her work on the Chronicle. Advertising rates recently increased. The deadline for articles is April 24<sup>th</sup>.

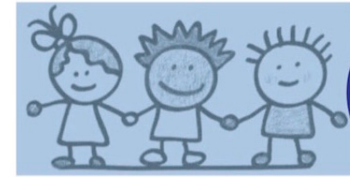
Catherine Hicks noted that there will be a meeting on April 11<sup>th</sup> where DAAP students will present ideas on how to improve Ludlow Avenue. Everyone is invited to come and listen to their ideas.

## **XIII. Adjournment/Next Meeting**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m. The next scheduled CTM meeting is at 7 p.m., Monday May 6, 2019 at the Clifton Recreation Center.

Respectfully submitted by Joe Brunner, CTM Secretary.

# CANS Playscape Update



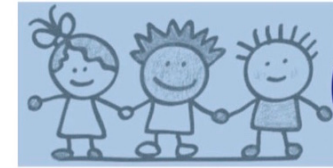
CANS Advisory Group  
& PTO



Arlitt Center  
Nature Playscape, UC

Josh Miller  
Chair, CANS Facilities  
Committee  
CANS Advisory Group & PTO  
[josh.miller@uc.edu](mailto:josh.miller@uc.edu)

# Pursuing a Playscape



CANS Advisory Group

## Goals of the CANS Advisory Group, Playscape Committee

- Understand best-practices in play area design that stimulate creative and physical play
- Generate play area ideas and establish community priorities
- Work with CPS to establish a play area that meets educational, community, and safety goals
- Seek funding necessary to achieve desired play area to meet the needs of the school and broader community





# Unstructured Play and Nature Playscapes

## Promotes:

- Imagination, creativity, & exploration
- Science inquiry
- Development of executive function; goal-setting, problem-solving, self-regulation, focus
- Cognitive flexibility
- Self-determination and autonomy
- Environmentally-Responsible Behaviors (appreciation and respect for nature, ecological sustainability)



Minnesota Waldorf School, MN



Jester Park Natural  
Playground, Iowa

Luchen et al. 2011, Kochanowski and Carr  
2014, Wight et al. 2015, Carr et al. 2017

# Nature Playscape

*“A designated, managed... outdoor environment where children of all ages and abilities play and learn by engaging with and manipulating diverse natural elements, materials, organisms, and habitats, through sensory, fine motor, and gross motor experiences.”*

Moore and Cooper 2014



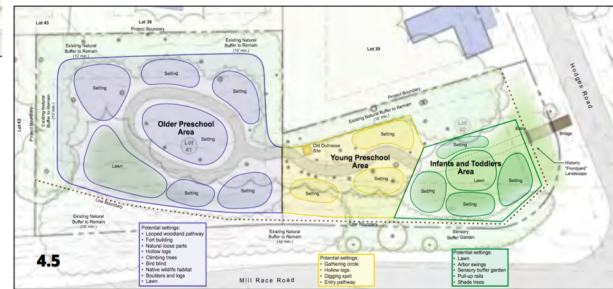
National Guidelines

## Nature Play & Learning Places

Creating and managing places where children engage with nature

ROBIN C. MOORE  
with ALLEN COOPER

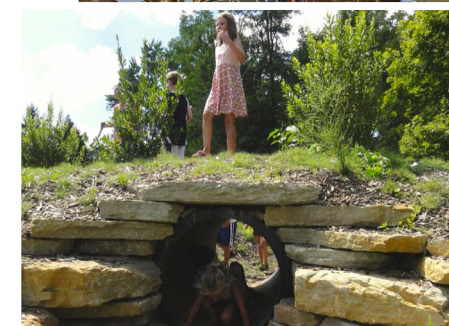
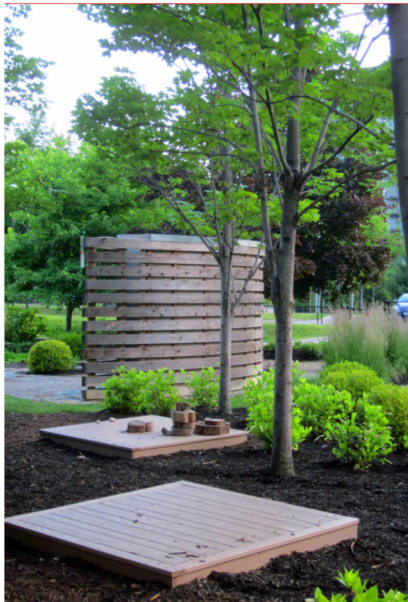
Foreword by HOWARD FRUMKIN



Built to encourage investigation, sensory experiences, child-directed play, and collaborative play

# Nature Playscape Elements

- Trees, grass, shrubs, flowers, herbs, etc.
- Gardens and/or edible landscape materials
- Sand, rocks, boulders
- Non-level topography
- Pathways and gathering spaces
- Hiding places, tunnels
- Digging pits
- Felled logs
- Accessible water feature: streams, fountains
- Nature-themed art or some play equipment may be included, but do not intrude or dominate the playscape
- Seating for adults to observe children
- Storage for child-size equipment



# Pursuing a Playscape

## Community engagement

- Individuals from the community contributed their play area priorities during the Ice Cream Social (Sept. 9, 2017)

Play Area Ideas



**SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE PLAY AREA**

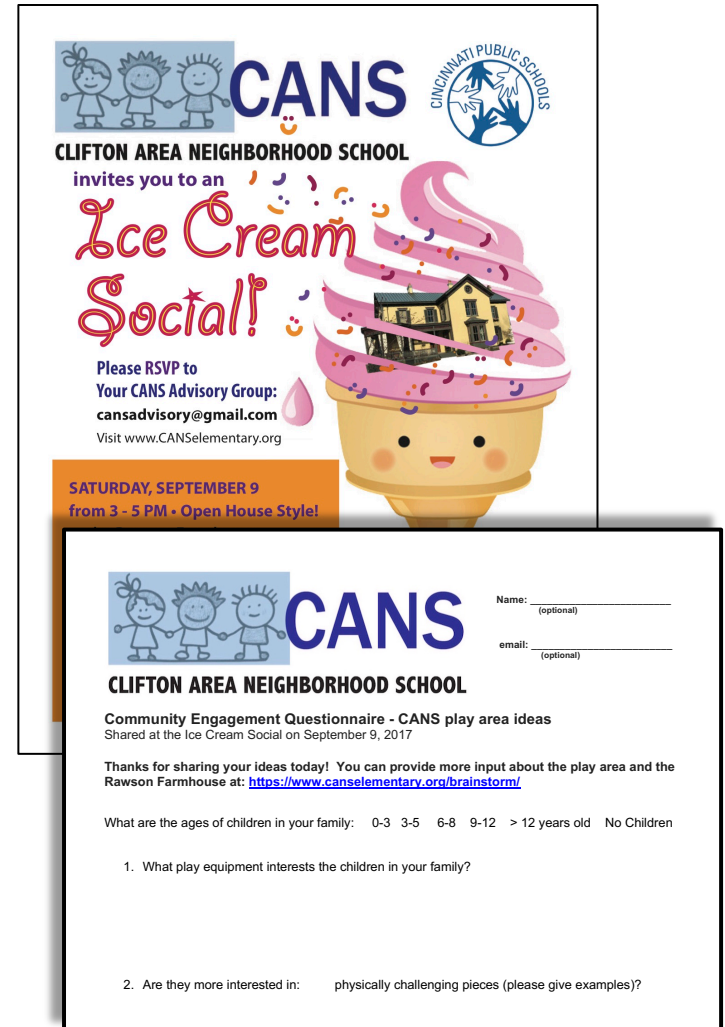
If you have thoughts about the CANS play area, please share them here. Whether your family has children that will join the school or you are a member of our community, we want to hear from you. What about the play area is important for kids to learn and play, and for adding a new space for broader community use.

Thanks for sharing your ideas!

**SHARE YOUR PLAY AREA IDEAS HERE!**

Website idea collection has been available ever since

<https://www.canselementary.org/play-area-ideas/>



**CANS** CLIFTON AREA NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL invites you to an **Ice Cream Social!**

Please RSVP to Your CANS Advisory Group: [cansadvisory@gmail.com](mailto:cansadvisory@gmail.com)  
Visit [www.CANSelementary.org](http://www.CANSelementary.org)

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**  
from 3 - 5 PM • Open House Style!

**CANS** CLIFTON AREA NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOL

Community Engagement Questionnaire - CANS play area ideas  
Shared at the Ice Cream Social on September 9, 2017

Thanks for sharing your ideas today! You can provide more input about the play area and the Rawson Farmhouse at: <https://www.canselementary.org/brainstorm/>

What are the ages of children in your family: 0-3 3-5 6-8 9-12 > 12 years old No Children

1. What play equipment interests the children in your family?

2. Are they more interested in: physically challenging pieces (please give examples)?

# Pursuing a Playscape



What features of the play area are important to you to promote creative and physical play for the children?

# Spring Charrette



CANS AG



Instructors:  
Ryan Geismar, PLA, ASLA, LEED-AP  
Barry Kew  
Virginia Russell, PLA, FASLA, LEED-AP, GRP

March 2-4, 2018

- Two pre-charrette meetings
- Final Showcase (April 14, 2018)

Academic exercise/brainstorm

VACANT LOTS: OCCUPIED

## NATURE PLAY WORKSHOP



DAAP 6090-003 | HORT 2042 | HORT 4092

Spring 2018 | Niehoff Studio

Goals (for CANS):

- Centralize information and best-practices on nature play (Precedent Research)
- Gather wide variety of ideas for potential CANS playscape
- Gather additional community input
- Provide jumping-off point for future discussions (community, CPS, School of Ed. (UC), etc.)