



CTM Minutes - Group: CTM Board Meeting

By Barry Gee, Secretary

Date: February 5, 2024, 7:00pm

Location: Hybrid Meeting – In-person at Clifton Recreation Center. Online using Google Meets

Board Members Present (13): In Person: Gerald Checco, Barry Gee, Leah Kottyan, Nestor Melnyk, Nick Gregg, Rachel Wells, Jayme Ritter, Steve Goodin, Mindi Rich, Tim Noonan, John Whedon Virtual: FD Harper, Genet Singh

Absent (2): Justin Ogilby, Jan Checco

A quorum is present. Meeting called to order at 7:07pm by Gerald Checco.

(U) below will represent a unanimous vote.

Public Attendance (12):

Public in Room – Brittany Havens, Mary Pat Lienhart, Maggi Atterbury, Bruce Bernard, Peggy Moses, Julia Bonfield, John Wulsin, Stephen Druffel, Lauren Cofrin, Bittani Ristau, Officer Shawn Dent, Sargeant Meister

Virtual Attendees (8):

Lauren Worley, Ruth Ann Bumiller, Kevin Marsh, Tom Lohre, Florence Parker, Margaret Reich, Michelle Schwenker, Chuck Lohre

Welcome to our meeting – Contact the CTM email at contactctm@cliftoncommunity.org

Police Report – Officer Shawn Dent, Cincinnati Police Dept. (CPD)

Officer Dent reported a decrease in auto thefts and thefts from autos. Thefts from autos are down 46% and auto thefts are down 66.7% compared to this point last year. He said that Capt. Burns has been able to utilize overtime in high crime spots such as the Clifton Colony Apartments and the Shell gas station.

Officer Dent introduced Sargeant Meister of the District 4 Neighborhood Unit. Sargeant Meister said that since the change in CPD districts he has been familiarizing himself with Clifton and stated that he has done overtime duty in the neighborhood to identify crime hot spots.

Officer Dent reminded us to continue to call in issues such as loitering and drug dealing.

Steve Goodin stated that he has noticed an uptick in patrols recently. He said that with the warmer weather we can expect an uptick in criminal activities and asked if the district has enough labor to cover extra details that the community would pay for. Sargeant Meister said that he will assist in getting the patrols set up.

Steve Goodin said that he discussed the crime issues connected to the Hookah bar with the city solicitor's office and said he would expect this issue will be moving to the solutions phase soon.

Gerald Checco mentioned the need for a specific plan to address the area centered around the Clifton Colony Apartments where we have seen an increase in crime. This area is the highest crime area in Clifton and includes people pulling off the highway to make drug transactions. Sargeant Meister responded that they have been in touch with the apartment owners and improvements are already underway that include better lighting and the possibility of closing off easy access to the complex.

Rachel Wells brought up an issue that residents on Lorraine are experiencing with a loud muffler on an idling car that they hear daily. She asked if this is an issue that the police can come and investigate. Officer Dent said that he went to the location but was unable to get in the locked apartment building door. He said to call when you hear the noise, and an officer will come and investigate.

Tim Noonan said that Clifton had 17 incidents of aggravated robbery last year using some type of firearm and asked if this is a trend that the entire city is experiencing. Sargeant Meister said these incidents are up city-wide and many can be traced to guns that have been stolen from cars.

Tim Noonan brought up the issue Clifton is experiencing with Duane Taylor who has a restraining order against him but is seen daily in the business district. Gerald Checco mentioned that Taylor has over 40 convictions in Cleveland, Columbus and now Cincinnati. Sargeant Meister stated that the city can no longer restrict anyone from being in a particular neighborhood if they are not committing crimes. Officer Dent stated that to arrest Taylor we would need a victim.

Genet Singh asked a question over the Google Meets call that was hard to hear. Steve Goodin paraphrased the question and asked if there is anything we can do to flag the "Frequent Flyer" offenders in their court cases and if there is anything else we can do. Officer Dent repeated that CPD would have to have a victim. Steve Goodin suggested that we create protocols to report these incidents that are actionable.

Tim Noonan brought up that we do not have visibility into drug arrest on Cincy Insights database. Officer Dent suggested contacting the Data Analytics department to get that information. He also stated that there are many offenses that are non-reportable and will not show up in crime reports.

Fire Report – Cincinnati Fire Dept. (CFD) Lt. Brittani Ristau

Lt. Ristau mentioned that the CFD Fire Cadet program is open to anyone currently in an Ohio high school or is a recent graduate (within the last 6 months). She also said that CFD will be conducting a blitz in five neighborhoods to spread the word about the need for smoke detectors. She said that anyone can request a smoke detector from CFD and that landlords are responsible for installing them in rental units.

Clifton Area Neighborhood School (CANS) — Julia Bonfield

Julia Bonfield said that the elevators that have been broken for a long time will be fixed within the next week. She then introduced the new CANS PTO President, Lauren Cofrin who told us that the outdoor food pantry is completed and will be placed outside the building by the colorful elevator shaft. They are working on protocols for what will go in the pantry and that should be resolved in the next several weeks. She thanked the CUF Community Council for donating toward the effort.

Rachel Wells asked about the impacts of upcoming budget cuts that are being discussed by the Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) Board. Julia Bonfield said that they are monitoring the discussions, but no firm decisions have been made. The CPS Board are discussing the potential combination of schools, and dividing up schools by east/west corridors, in addition to other cost-saving measures. The budget needs to be cut by \$90 Million.

There are two exciting events upcoming at CANS. One is Black Future Month during February. This will have several presentations, including a private book reading 2/24 from a book called Its Just Skin Silly. The author has donated 75 copies of the book that will be given to students.

The other event will be a Culture Fest on 3/9. This is going to focus on recognizing the diversity of CANS. They have created a survey for parents to determine what people would like to see at this event.

CANS is requesting a donation from CTM of \$465 for the upcoming events. Gerald Checco said he will personally donate \$250 of the amount requested. Steve Goodin said he will cover \$100, and FD Harper/Lauren Worley will cover the remaining \$115. Gerald Checco proposed budget motion to approve \$465 CTM donation to CANS. Rachel Wells seconded. Approved U.

Lauren Worley suggested that CTM form an Education Committee. This committee would serve as a mechanism to report issues that will be impacted by any proposed changes to the schools in our area. This would include information from the local LSDMC groups as well as issues concerning pedestrian safety, and traffic. Lauren offered to serve on this committee. Nick Gregg also said he is

interested and has discussed this issue with the CTM Executive Committee. Gerald proposed motion to for ad hoc committee, Nick Gregg seconded. Passed U

Historic Yew Tree at Fairview German School — John Wulsin

John Wulsin is the greenspace coordinator for Fairview German School. He informed us that a 140-year-old Yew tree on the Fairview grounds is dying and must be removed. He would like to have the tree live on so is looking for woodworkers that may be interested in helping to save as much of the wood as possible by reusing it for projects around the school. They would also like to plant a new tree in the same area and establish an outdoor classroom space.

Clifton Gaslights — Stephen Druffel

Stephen Druffel proposed that Clifton should investigate replacing the current fuel source used for gaslights in Clifton with a different type of fuel source, such as electric or solar. He says that today the current lights burn gas around the clock and are emitting greenhouse gasses that entire time, contributing to a warming planet. Rachel Wells suggested that this issue would require extensive community engagement and could be discussed as part of the Housing & Zoning Committee at their upcoming meeting on 2/12. Several people suggested looking into keeping the existing lights but using alternative fuels. This issue will be discussed at the committee meeting on 2/12.

Treasurer's Report – Gerald Checco

Financial reports have been provided to the Secretary.

Budget: Gerald Checco proposed a motion to approve the budget that was sent out prior to the CTM January meeting. Barry Gee seconded. Approved U.

Clifton Recreation Center (CRC) Report — Collin Fitzpatrick

No report for this month.

Clifton Branch Library — Jeanne Strauss-De Groot

No report for this month.

Committee Roll Call

Arts & Culture – Joyce Rich

Beautification/Caretaking – Jayme Ritter

Chronicle – Jan Checco

Clifton Boundaries – Mary Pat Lienhart

Clifton Community LLC – Gerald Checco

Clifton Soccer – Mindi Rich

Communications – F.D. Harper

Events – Barry Gee

Finance – Gerald Checco

The committee is discussing the need to have an independent review. With the small number of transactions, we may be able to satisfy this requirement through internal controls. More discussion will take place on this issue to make sure.

Governance – Nick Gregg

Nick Gregg will be looking into Ohio Secretary of State forms that will need updating by mid-March.

Housing & Zoning – Rachel Wells

Committee met on 1/27. They gave an overview of how the committee has worked in the past. They also discussed the impact and opportunities of the city's Connected Communities project. The committee will investigate posting info about that effort on CTM website. The city has provided an interactive map so that you can review what changes are being discussed that would impact on a particular parcel of land. Connected Communities is trying to increase density in Cincinnati, particularly along the new rapid transit routes.

Membership/Nominating – Tim Noonan

Neighborhood Support Grant – Gerald Checco

Gerald Checco stated that this year the NSP grants will be reduced to just under \$7500 per community. He suggested that we sit down with all groups requesting money to produce a plan so everyone gets some funding. We will know more about what groups will be requesting funds by the March meeting.

Parks - Rachel Wells

Public Safety – Tim Noonan

Tim will present in March as he has determined, based on information from CPD that we need additional information from the city on crime statistics.

Transportation – Justin Ogilby

Welcome & Connect – Mindi Rich

Liaison Roll Call

Uptown Consortium – Steve Goodin

Invest in Neighborhoods – Gerald Checco

Clifton Community Fund – Gerald Checco

Clifton Business Association – Jan Checco

Neighborhoods of Uptown – Rachel Wells

Golf Outing – John Whedon

Community Questions/Concerns:

Next CTM Board Meeting 3/4.

Motion to adjourn at 8:54 Steve Goodin, Barry Gee second. (U)

Respectfully submitted,
Barry Gee, Secretary

Attachments:
February 2024 CTM Agenda
Treasurer's Reports
Housing & Zoning Report



Agenda March 4, 2024 – CTM Meeting

Clifton Town Meeting – your community council –

will hold its next monthly Board of Trustees meeting on [Monday, March 4, 2024, at 7:00 pm]. The public is welcome to attend.

Location: Clifton Recreation Center – 320 McAlpin Ave.

| Start | Time | Topic | Topic Lead |
|-------|------|--|--------------------------|
| 7:00 | 1 | Welcome | President Goodin |
| 7:01 | 2 | Roll Call/ Approve prior month's minutes | Secretary Barry Gee |
| 7:03 | 3 | Treasurer's Report – Motion 1 | Treasurer |
| 7:06 | 15 | Police Report | P.O. Shawn Dent |
| 7:21 | 5 | Misc. Business Updates | President Goodin |
| 7:26 | 4 | Welcome Captain Alexis Mundy | President Goodin |
| 7:30 | 5 | Fire Report | |
| 7:35 | 5 | CRC Report | Collin Fitzpatrick |
| 7:40 | 5 | Clifton Library | Jeanne Strauss de Groote |
| 7:45 | 5 | Clifton Soccer Update – Motion 2/ Resolution | Mindi Rich |
| 7:50 | 5 | Clifton Golf Outing – Motion 3/ Resolution | Gerald Checco |
| 7:55 | 5 | Connected Communities – Motion 4 | Rachel Wells |
| 8:00 | 5 | Clifton Avenue Redesign | Justin Ogilby |
| 8:05 | 2 | Beautification Committee report | Jayne Ritter |
| 8:07 | 10 | NSP Discussion – List of requests | NSP Coordinator |
| 8:17 | 5 | Presentation: Citizens not Politicians | |
| 8:22 | 5 | CCAC Opening | Leslie Mooney |
| 8:27 | 18 | Committees Roll Call | President |
| 8:45 | 5 | Community Questions/Concerns | President |
| 8:50 | | Adjournment – Next meeting April 1, 2024 | President |

MOTIONS

| # | Sponsor | Description |
|---|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Treasurer | Budget Change |
| 2 | Executive Committee | Clifton Soccer |
| 3 | Executive Committee | Clifton Golf |
| 4 | Zoning & Land Use | Connected Communities |



Clifton Town Meeting - CTM

February
2024

Categories



[General Account](#)



[Chronicle Account](#)



[Art Account](#)



[Savings](#)



[Membership](#)

TTL Membership= 426
Year Membership= 219
LifeMembership= 207

Grants Administration



[NSP Grant](#)



[CCF Grant](#)



[Other Grant](#)

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Submitted by:

Gerald R. Chacco

Date

2/1/2024

Clifton Town Meeting

Budget and YTD



Budget and YTD

General Ledger

| | Budget | YTD | Difference |
|-----------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Income | | | |
| Membership | \$3,800.00 | \$134.00 | \$3,666.00 |
| Donation | \$200.00 | \$0.00 | \$200.00 |
| AIG Interest | \$900.00 | \$0.00 | \$900.00 |
| Interest CD | \$1,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,000.00 |
| Memorial Day Income | \$2,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| Total Received | \$7,900.00 | \$0.00 | \$7,900.00 |
| Expenses | | | |
| Administration | \$2,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| Committee Support | \$1,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,000.00 |
| Fees Square | \$50.00 | \$0.00 | \$50.00 |
| Fees PayPal | \$200.00 | \$5.62 | \$194.38 |
| House Tour | \$500.00 | \$0.00 | \$500.00 |
| Memorial Day | \$2,500.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,500.00 |
| Total | \$6,250.00 | \$5.62 | \$6,244.38 |

Chronicle

| | Budget | YTD | Difference |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Income | | | |
| Advertizing | \$16,500.00 | \$422.00 | \$16,078.00 |
| Other | \$200.00 | \$206.17 | -\$6.17 |
| Total | \$16,700.00 | \$628.17 | |
| Expenses | | | |
| Design | \$4,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$4,000.00 |
| Printing | \$8,100.00 | \$0.00 | \$8,100.00 |
| Mailhouse | \$1,600.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,600.00 |
| Mailing | \$2,600.00 | \$0.00 | \$2,600.00 |
| Total | \$16,300.00 | \$0.00 | |

Art

| Income | Budget | YTD Difference | |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Sale | \$15,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$15,000.00 |
| Other | \$200.00 | \$0.00 | \$200.00 |
| Grant | | \$0.00 | |
| Total | \$15,200.00 | \$0.00 | |
| Expenses | | | |
| Payment to artists | \$10,500.00 | \$0.00 | \$10,500.00 |
| Square Fees | \$750.00 | | |
| Expenses | \$3,750.00 | \$0.00 | \$3,750.00 |
| | \$15,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$15,000.00 |

Savings

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Starting Balance | | \$41,762.21 |
| Interest | | \$399.58 |
| Total in Savings | | \$42,161.79 |

POTENTIAL GRANTS

NSP Grant

| | Expected | YTD Remaining | |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|
| Grant Received | \$7,500.00 | \$0.00 | \$7,500.00 |
| Total | \$7,500.00 | \$0.00 | |
| Grant Disbursed | \$7,500.00 | \$0.00 | \$7,500.00 |
| Total | \$7,500.00 | \$0.00 | |

CCF Grant

| | Expected | YTD Remaining | |
|-----------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|
| Grant Received | \$7,500.00 | \$0.00 | \$7,500.00 |
| Total | \$7,500.00 | \$0.00 | |
| Grant Disbursed | \$7,500.00 | \$0.00 | \$7,500.00 |
| Total | \$7,500.00 | \$0.00 | |

Other Grant

| | Expected | YTD Remaining | |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Grant Received | \$10,000.00 | \$10,000.00 | \$0.00 |
| Total | \$10,000.00 | \$10,000.00 | |
| Grant Disbursed | \$10,000.00 | \$0.00 | \$10,000.00 |
| Total | \$10,000.00 | \$0.00 | |

Clifton Town Meeting

General Account



| Date | Description | Category | Income | Income | Category Debits | Debits | Notes/ Who | Ref/Check# | Bank | Balance |
|----------|------------------|------------|--------|---------|-----------------|----------|------------|------------|------|-------------|
| 01/01/24 | Starting Balance | | | | | | | | | \$51,827.89 |
| 01/02/24 | | Membership | | \$40.00 | | | | | | \$51,867.89 |
| 01/02/24 | | | | | Fees PayPal | \$1.78 | | | | \$51,866.11 |
| 01/08/24 | | | | | Grant NSP | \$206.17 | | | | \$51,659.94 |
| 01/29/24 | | Membership | | \$74.00 | | | | | | \$51,733.94 |
| 01/29/24 | | | | | Fees PayPal | \$2.95 | | | | \$51,730.99 |
| 02/01/24 | | Membership | | \$20.00 | | | | | | \$51,750.99 |
| 02/01/24 | | | | | Fees PayPal | \$0.89 | | | | \$51,750.10 |
| | | | | | | | | | | \$51,750.10 |
| | | | | | | | | | | \$51,750.10 |
| | | | | | | | | | | \$51,750.10 |

Clifton Town Meeting

Art Gallery



| Date+H51A | Description | Category Income | Income | Category Debits | Debits | Notes/ Who | Ref/Check# | Bank? | Balance |
|-----------|------------------|-----------------|--------|-----------------|--------|------------|------------|-------|-------------|
| 01/01/23 | Starting Balance | | | | | | | | \$14,172.89 |
| | | | | | | | | | \$14,172.89 |
| | | | | | | | | | \$14,172.89 |
| | | | | | | | | | \$14,172.89 |
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| | | | | | | | | | \$14,172.89 |
| | | | | | | | | | \$14,172.89 |
| | | | | | | | | | \$14,172.89 |

Clifton Town Meeting Savings



| Date | Description | Category | Income | Income | Withdraw | Amount | Reason | Ref/Check# | Balance |
|----------|------------------|----------|--------|----------|----------|--------|--------|------------|-------------|
| 01/01/24 | Starting Balance | | | | | | | | \$41,762.21 |
| 01/29/24 | | Interest | | \$399.58 | | | | | \$42,161.79 |
| | | | | | | | | | \$42,161.79 |
| | | | | | | | | | \$42,161.79 |
| | | | | | | | | | \$42,161.79 |
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| | | | | | | | | | \$42,161.79 |
| | | | | | | | | | \$42,161.79 |
| | | | | | | | | | \$42,161.79 |

Clifton Town Meeting

NSP Grant



| Date | Description | Grant Amount | Disbursement | Debits | Notes | Ref/Check# | Balance |
|----------|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-------|------------|---------|
| 01/01/23 | Starting Balance | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 02/04/23 | Grant Amount | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 02/05/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 05/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 05/02/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 02/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 03/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 04/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 05/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 12/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 11/02/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 05/12/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |

Clifton Town Meeting

CCF Grant



| Date | Description | Grant Amount | Disbursement | Debits | Notes | Ref/Check# | Balance |
|----------|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-------|------------|---------|
| 01/01/23 | Starting Balance | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 02/04/23 | Grant Amount | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 02/05/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 05/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 05/02/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 02/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 03/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 04/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 05/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 12/01/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 11/02/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 05/12/23 | | | | | | | \$0.00 |

Clifton Town Meeting

Other Grant



| Date | Description | Grant Amount | Disbursement | Debits | Notes | Ref/Check# | Balance |
|----------|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------|-------|------------|-------------|
| 01/01/23 | Starting Balance | | | | | | \$0.00 |
| 02/04/23 | Strader | \$10,000.00 | | | | | \$10,000.00 |
| | | | | | | | \$10,000.00 |
| | | | | | | | \$10,000.00 |
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| | | | | | | | \$10,000.00 |
| | | | | | | | \$10,000.00 |
| | | | | | | | \$10,000.00 |

Clifton Town Meeting

Proposed 2024 Budget

General Account

Income

| | | |
|---------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Membership | \$3,800 | |
| Donations | \$200 | |
| AIG Interest | \$900 | Administered by IIN |
| Interest CD | \$1,000 | Superior Credit Union |
| Memorial Day Income | \$2,000 | Sale of food |
| Total Income | \$7,900 | |

Expenses

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Administrative | \$2,000 |
| Committees Support | \$1,000 |
| Square Fees (Membership) | \$50 |
| PayPal Fees (Membership) | \$200 |
| Memorial Day Expenses | \$2,500 |
| House Tour | \$500 |
| Total Expenses | \$6,250 |

Art Account

Income

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sale of Art | \$15,000 | |
| Other | \$200 | |
| In-Kind contribution | \$6,000 | Payment of Rent/ Utilities by others |
| Total Income | \$21,000 | |

Expenses

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Payment to artists | \$10,500 | 70% sale to Artists |
| Gallery Expenses | \$3,750 | |
| Square Fees | \$750 | |
| Rent/ Utilities | \$6,000 | In-kind donation |
| Total Expenses | \$21,000 | |

Chronicle Account (Based on 4 publications)

Income

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Advertising | \$16,500 |
| Other (Donation..) | \$200 |
| Total Income | \$16,700 |

Expenses

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Printing | \$8,100 | \$2,025 per issue |
| Layout Design | \$4,000 | \$1,000 per issue |
| Mailing | \$2,600 | \$650 per issue |
| Mailhouse | \$1,600 | \$350 per issue |
| Total Expenses | \$16,300 | |

Note: Proposed budget does not include various grants that are applied to with corresponding expenses and are considered as liabilities

Housing & Zoning/Land Use Committee Meeting - January 27, 2024

The CTM Housing & Zoning/Land Use Committee met for an in-person kick-off session on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024. Joining the meeting were Rachel Wells (chair), Mary Pat Leinhart, Eric Urbas, Adam Hyland, Malcolm Montgomery, Ben Pantoja, Michele Murphy, Andy Meyer and Steve Slack. The committee discussed members' interest areas, how the committee has operated in the past, the need to recruit more committee members for broader community representation, and what might be the committee's top priorities in 2024. Identified priorities include:

- Understanding the impact to and opportunities for Clifton related to the city's [Connected Communities](#) initiative
- Mapping out paths for CTM to address urgent, time-limited housing, zoning and land use issues
- Understanding the status of the draft Clifton Neighborhood Plan and whether/how to move it forward
- Encouraging enforcement of and adherence to Clifton's Urban Design Overlay (UDO)
- Ongoing tracking of and response to housing, zoning and land use issues as they move through city government, and informing and educating the CTM board and neighborhood residents about these issues

The committee will meet next on Monday, Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. via Google Meets. Anyone interested in joining the committee should email Rachel Wells at rachel_wells@cliftoncommunity.org.