



**CTM Board Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2019
Clifton Recreation Center**

Present: Peter Block, Pat Borders, Joe Brunner, 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. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by President Hawse.

I. Neighborhood Reports

A. Police Report

Officer Nick Hageman reported on recent crime statistics and news from District 5. Police Memorial Week is the week of May 13th, and there will be an open house at the temporary District 5 headquarters and a parade downtown with speakers. Conversations continue regarding the location for the new District 5 headquarters, including the possibility of having a combined District 1 and District 5 headquarters at the Central Parkway location.

District leadership is aware of traffic problems in Clifton, particularly along Ludlow Avenue. There was recently a traffic enforcement blitz that resulted in officers issuing 189 citations in a two week time period. Regarding overall crime statistics, there was a small spike in violent offenses in April (4 compared to 0 in April 2018). Other crimes, such as burglaries, are down. Finally Officer Hageman introduced Captain David Fink as the new District 5 captain.

Link to STARS report - <https://cpdmobile.cincinnati-oh.gov/Neighborhoods/Reports/D5/Clifton.pdf>

There is also now a new online crime stats report for Clifton (and other neighborhoods). Link to the Clifton report showing data as of end of August - https://public.tableau.com/shared/QPFHCRSCY?:display_count=yes

Community Liaison Police Officer Hageman can be reached at 513.569.8527; email is nicholas.hageman@cincinnati-oh.gov. See the Clifton Community website for other police contact info on the Public Safety page.

B. Fire Report

Lt. Wright of Station 34 reported on recent fire statistics and news from Station 34. There were a number of runs in April, only one involved a fire in Clifton. There were also only three narcan runs.

With warmer weather approaching, the Fire Department wants to raise awareness about fire risks associated with grilling. The Fire Code requires outdoor grills to be operated at least 30 feet away from a structure. It also prohibits grilling on balconies. The Fire Department also reiterated that if anyone needs to have a smoke detector installed, you can call Fire Prevention at 357-7565.

Captain Ron Wilson is the leader of Engine Co. 34. He can be reached at (513) 352-2334; or visit the fire station on Ludlow Avenue.

C. Library Report

Clifton Branch Manager Lisa Hamrick reported on recent and upcoming events and news at the Library. The Library is beginning its second annual plant exchange. The Library is also starting its summer adventure program in coordination with the CRC, which will offer special programs for adults, teens, and kids. The Library is also starting its Next Generation library campaign, and there will be a survey going out soon and various community engagement sessions to solicit community feedback.

Information about the Clifton Branch, including links to various events & classes can be found online at <http://www.cincinnati.library.org/branches/clifton.html>

D. Recreation Center

Center Coordinator Tom Reese reported on recent and upcoming events at the Rec Center. The CRC will soon begin replacing membership cards with a keychain card. The CRC is also now hiring new child care employees. Finally, on May 11 the student films created as part of the Lights Camera Teens program will be shown at the Esquire Theatre beginning at 10:30.

The online Rec Center Calendar is at <http://cincyrec.org/search/basicprogram.aspx?k=Clifton%2BRecreation%2BCenter#results>

E. CBPA

Vice President Borders reported that the CBPA is working with CCAC to develop a summer music series for the Clifton Plaza. CBPA and CCAC are looking for local bands and musicians to fill out the schedule.

F. CCAC

Executive Director Leslie Mooney reported on recent and upcoming events at the CCAC. The 11th season of its summer concert series starts May 29th. There will be nature walks before some of the concerts and July 4th fireworks. There will also be a dog parade before the last concert on Aug. 7th.

CCAC is still working to secure a permanent home, but in the meantime CCAC continues to provide programming at its locations around Clifton/CUF area.

The online CCAC Events Calendar is at <https://www.cliftonculturalarts.org/events/event-calendar/>

G. Clifton Market

Trustee Block reported that sale Mr. Singh is anticipated to go through. It will include a right of first refusal given to CBPA. Trustee Kasturi also noted there is a shareholder vote scheduled for May 21 at the Masonic Lodge. More details regarding the meeting and voting options are available at the Market.

H. Preserve Burnet Woods

Cynthia Duval reported on recent and upcoming events at Burnet Woods. PBW is beginning a Kids for Birds program through end of May. It will be free on Thursdays from 4-5. There will also be yoga classes in May in conjunction with World Peace Yoga. All regular activities continue. Ms. Duval thanked the community for recent volunteer efforts at several cleanup and other activities. PBW is also working with the Burnet Woods Advisory Council, which meets once a month.

II. Community Discussion: CANS Update

Trustee Metzger introduced the topic for this month's community engagement discussion: Clifton Area Neighborhood School (CANS) and how its upcoming move to the former Clifton School building at the corner of Clifton and McAlpin.

Trustee Metzger, CANS LSDMC (Local School Decision Making Committee) representative Angela Potochnik, CANS Principal James Zoller, and CANS PTO Playscape Committee Chair Josh Miller then gave a presentation regarding CANS's current status and operations at its temporary location at Rising Stars Academy, CANS's plans for the future, and plans for dealing with anticipated issues regarding traffic, the playscape, and CPS's planned use of the Rawson Farmhouse property. Bill Moehring, representing CPS Facilities A copy of the presentation is attached.

Following the presentation, discussion ensued among the Trustees and community members in attendance. Community members asked about CANS' educational approach. CANS is developing a close partnership with the University of Cincinnati, and there will be

opportunities for co-learning with UC students and potentially space reserved in the building for adult education. Also, CANS will use an Expeditionary Learning educational philosophy, which emphasizes interdisciplinary, project-based learning expeditions into the surrounding community.

Traffic is a major source of community concern. CTM's Transportation Committee has been meeting with CPS and the Cincinnati DOTE regarding the McAlpin/Woolper/Clifton intersection and potential changes, but the DOTE's position is that no changes are necessary to prepare for CANS opening. The current drop off/pick up plan is to have buses line up on McAlpin, facing west, along the CRC lot, while cars run in a counterclockwise loop through the CRC parking lot before turning right onto McAlpin. Buses cannot be placed in the CRC lot due to space restrictions. Further details will have to be worked out regarding how buses traveling north on Clifton can get to McAlpin, as currently left turns onto McAlpin are not permitted. Fridays will present the greatest challenge, as services at the mosque just south of the Clifton/McAlpin intersection will end around the same time that CANS releases students for the day. Residents also expressed concerns about traffic issues spreading to surrounding streets such as Resor, which already has congested times due to Annunciation school. Representatives of the Fairview LSDMC also expressed concern about traffic safety and overuse of facilities. Several residents and Trustees expressed a desire to see a long-term traffic management plan for when CANS is at full capacity, as the current plan is designed for the first two-three years of operation. Ultimately traffic management will require constant attention, careful management, and clear communication of expectations and issues between CPS, CANS administration, and the community.

The playscape was also a topic of significant discussion. CPS is aware of drainage and stormwater management issues at the site, and is working with civil engineers, Greater Cincinnati Water Works' Stormwater Management Utility, and the Metropolitan Sewer District to design a plan. Drawings were not available at the time of the meeting, and in response to Trustee questions CPS stated it did not know when they will be ready or whether they will be submitted with the permit application. At this time the plan does not include a curb with storm sewers along Clifton Avenue. Members of the Rawson Farm Homeowners' Association expressed support for the concept of a playscape, but noted proper planning and execution are essential to mitigate the drainage issue and prevent it from adversely affecting their property.

Regarding fencing for the playscape, the entire parallelogram identified as the playscape on the site plan will be fenced, as opposed to just the play structure at the center. There will be plantings along the fence. There are no current plans to fence any other portions of the Rawson Farmhouse property. As CANS grows there will be a need for a large open area for older children to play, but currently there are no definite plans. The area in front of the school building along Clifton Avenue cannot be used as a play area because it is not set back enough from Clifton Avenue. Several Trustees expressed concern with focusing only on the immediate future and not proactively engaging in long-term planning for such issues.

The discussion ended with thanks to the presenters and community members for engaging in the discussion. If there are any lingering questions or concerns, please contact CTM and the Board will continue communication.

III. Results of April Community Engagement Session

President Hawse provided a brief update on the Board's progress with researching the funding priorities identified at last month's meeting. The Board needs another month to fully digest and research ways to fund a lot of the projects.

IV. Clifton Plaza Improvement Session

Vice President Borders reported on recent attempts to solicit community feedback on potential improvements to the Clifton Plaza. CBPA and CTM have been talking for about a year about ways to improve Plaza. There is now an informal working group that has developed a survey that was sent out via email and also posted on the CTM webpage. There will also be a community engagement session facilitated by Trustee Block. CTM and the CBPA want to hear ideas about what people do and don't want on Plaza.

V. Ludlow Avenue Benches

President Hawse reported that he received a communication from the City that one of the bus benches along Ludlow Avenue needs to be repaired, and asking if CTM would take care of the maintenance or whether Metro should replace the bench. Metro benches would contain advertising that most likely would not fit with Ludlow Avenue's aesthetic. President Hawse informed the city that CTM would like to retain control over the benches, and is awaiting a response.

Discussion ensued among the Trustees regarding seeking donors and sources of funding for the maintenance obligations, whether CTM or CBPA has the right to maintain the benches, and whether CTM or another entity could purchase any advertising rights. President Hawse indicated he will report to the Board when he has more information.

VI. Memorial Day Parade

Treasurer Goose noted that Memorial Day is fast approaching and that volunteers are needed to help with the parade and the cook-out at Mt. Storm. Please email or contact Treasurer Goose or CTM if you have time available. Following the parade, Clifton Community Fund will be making a presentation at Mt. Storm about plans for improving the landscaping and other aspects of Mt. Storm.

VII. ECAT Update

Treasurer Goose noted that ECAT will soon be sending out a survey asking for feedback on what kinds of topics community members want to see included in the ECAT brochures.

VIII. Officer and Committee Reports

A. *Treasurer*

Treasurer Goose reported on the CTM balance sheet. CTM has total assets/reserves of \$83,293.68 with no outstanding liabilities. Income and expenses for the month were - \$653.00 and \$311.55, respectively. Income and expenses were as expected. The negative figure for income is due to the dispersal of the Utility Box Artwork grant. A copy of the Treasurer's Report is attached.

B. *Arts & Culture*

Sean Mullaney reported on the Arts & Culture Committee's recent efforts to promote experiencing art in the neighborhood. The old post office on Ormond Avenue will become a pop-up gallery until a long-term tenant is found. It will be open to the public, and the Committee is looking for local artists interested in displaying their work. The Committee is also pursuing a plan to install murals on the side of the Ludlow Garage building, overlooking Ambar and the Merchants' Lot, of artists and bands that have performed at the Garage. The images, which will be up to 15 ft. tall, will be printed on aluminum panels and hung on the building's exterior. The Committee estimates the cost will be between \$12,000 and \$16,000, and has approached the CBPA and the CCF for funds. The Committee is asking CTM to provide \$2,000.

Trustee Block moved that CTM express its support for both the pop-up gallery on Ormond and the mural project. Vice President Rich seconded the motion. Discussion ensued among the Trustees concerning potential sources of funding, whether there have been prior Board approvals of this project and whether prior Board approval was necessary, whether the murals will add or detract to the historic character of Ludlow Avenue and the Ludlow Garage building, and confirming that CTM would not currently be dispersing any funds in response to this request. Following discussion, a vote was taken. The motion passed with one abstention.

C. *Plants for Pollinators*

Trustee Spohr provided an update on the Plants for Pollinators Ad Hoc Committee's work. The Committee having successfully finished its work, Trustee Spohr moved to dissolve the Committee. Trustee Duffy second. Discussion ensued among the Trustees thanking Trustee Spohr for her work on this project. Following discussion, a vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Committee's final report is attached

D. *Housing and Zoning*

Trustee Montgomery provided a report on the Housing and Zoning Committee's work regarding Cincinnati Public Schools' two permit applications for the Rawson Farmhouse property.

The two parcels in question, 3727 Clifton Avenue and 3731 Clifton Avenue, are currently zoned SF-20, a residential zoning designation. CPS has submitted two Conditional Use permit applications to the Zoning Board. The application for 3727 Clifton Avenue requests approval to construct and use an outdoor play area or playscape. The application for 3731 Clifton Avenue requests approval to use the Rawson Farmhouse for nonpublic meetings.

The Housing and Zoning Committee recommends opposing the application for 3731 Clifton Avenue (use of Rawson Farmhouse), and not opposing the application for 3727 Clifton Avenue (playscape). The Committee recommends opposing the Rawson Farmhouse application because it does not contain sufficient detail regarding important considerations such as parking, and because CPS did not adequately solicit community feedback and did not take community concerns into account. The Committee recommends not opposing the playscape application, contingent upon there being no changes to the site plans posted by the City on May 1, 2019.

Trustee Montgomery moved to accept the Committee's recommendations. Trustee Marsh seconded the motion. Copies of the motions are attached. Discussion ensued among the Trustees and the community members in attendance. It was confirmed that there are two separate motions, one pertaining to the Rawson Farmhouse and one pertaining to the playscape. The Committee has not had or scheduled any meetings with CPS regarding the applications. A CPS representative in attendance indicated that CPS had withdrawn the Rawson Farmhouse application.

In light of the representation that CPS had withdrawn the Rawson Farmhouse application, Vice President Rich moved to table the discussion regarding the Rawson Farmhouse application. Vice President Borders seconded the motion. Discussion ensued among the Trustees. Several Trustees opined that tabling the motion would allow the Board to gather more information and perhaps work with CPS to resolve the issue. Others opined that they doubted CPS's plans for the property had simply gone away, and noted that there was no confirmation that the Rawson Farmhouse application had actually been withdrawn. Several felt that it was important to take a public stance on violations of the zoning code. Following discussion, a vote was taken on the motion to table. The motion passed with 9 in favor, 3 opposed, and 2 abstentions. The motion to table passed. The motion to accept the Housing and Zoning Committee's recommendation regarding the Rawson Farmhouse property was tabled until the June meeting.

Discussion ensued among the Trustees and the community members in attendance regarding the motion to accept the Housing and Zoning Committee's recommendation not to oppose the playscape application. Several Trustees thanked the Housing and Zoning Committee for its work on the issue. A question was raised concerning why the recommendation was phrased as not opposing the application instead of supporting the application.

Trustee Metzger moved to amend the Housing and Zoning Committee's recommendation to indicate that CTM supports the playscape application. Trustee Marsh seconded the motion. Discussion ensued among the Trustees and community members in attendance concerning the motion to amend. It was noted that, for the purposes of the Planning Commission and the Zoning Board, "no objection" will be interpreted as support. It was further noted that CTM represents the community as a whole, some community members may not support the playscape application, and it would be inappropriate for CTM to affirmatively indicate it supports the application when portions of the community may not agree. Others opined that only opposing/not opposing, instead of supporting, applications presents a negative impression and hinders attempts to work collaboratively with CPS. It was further noted that CTM should be supportive of projects that improve the community and support Clifton residents who will send their children to CANS.

Following discussion, a vote was taken on the motion to amend. The motion failed with 4 in favor, 8 opposed, and 2 abstentions. A vote was then taken on the Housing and Zoning Committee's motion to accept its recommendation to not oppose the playscape application. The motion passed unanimously.

IX. Trustee Announcements

There were no Trustee announcements.

X. Adjournment/Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m. The next scheduled CTM meeting is at 7 p.m., Monday June 3, 2019 at the Clifton Recreation Center.

Respectfully submitted by Joe Brunner, CTM Secretary.

Clifton Area Neighborhood School

Community Engagement

5/6/2019

Purpose

- To discuss how the neighborhood will be affected by the school's move into the neighborhood

Who is here?

- Angela Potochnik – Middleton Resident and Member of CANS LSDMC
- James Zoller – Newly hired Principal
- Bill Moehring – Representative of CPS Facilities
- You –The Clifton Community

What is on the agenda?

- What's is CANS now
- What is CANS striving to be
- Synopsis of what CTM has been doing in regards to big issues
 - Transportation/Traffic
 - The playscape
 - The Rawson Estate –where are we now

What is CANS now?

- Angela Potochnik – Middleton Resident and CANS LSDMC member
- Other LSDMC Reps from Clifton: Krystn Metzger, Luke Blocher, Gina Marsh
- PTO Officers from Clifton: President Drew Schwetschenau, Vice President Joanna Contorno, Treasurer Jill Conway, Secretary Andres Perez-Simon
- CANS Playscape Committee Chair and Architect: Josh Miller, Clifton Resident & Adam Fosnaugh Clifton Resident
- <https://www.canselementary.org/>

What is CANS Striving to be?

- Will grow to be K-6, two classes per grade plus on Pre-K Class
- Expeditionary Learning (EL)
- In partnership with the University of Cincinnati
- Our principal, James Zoller

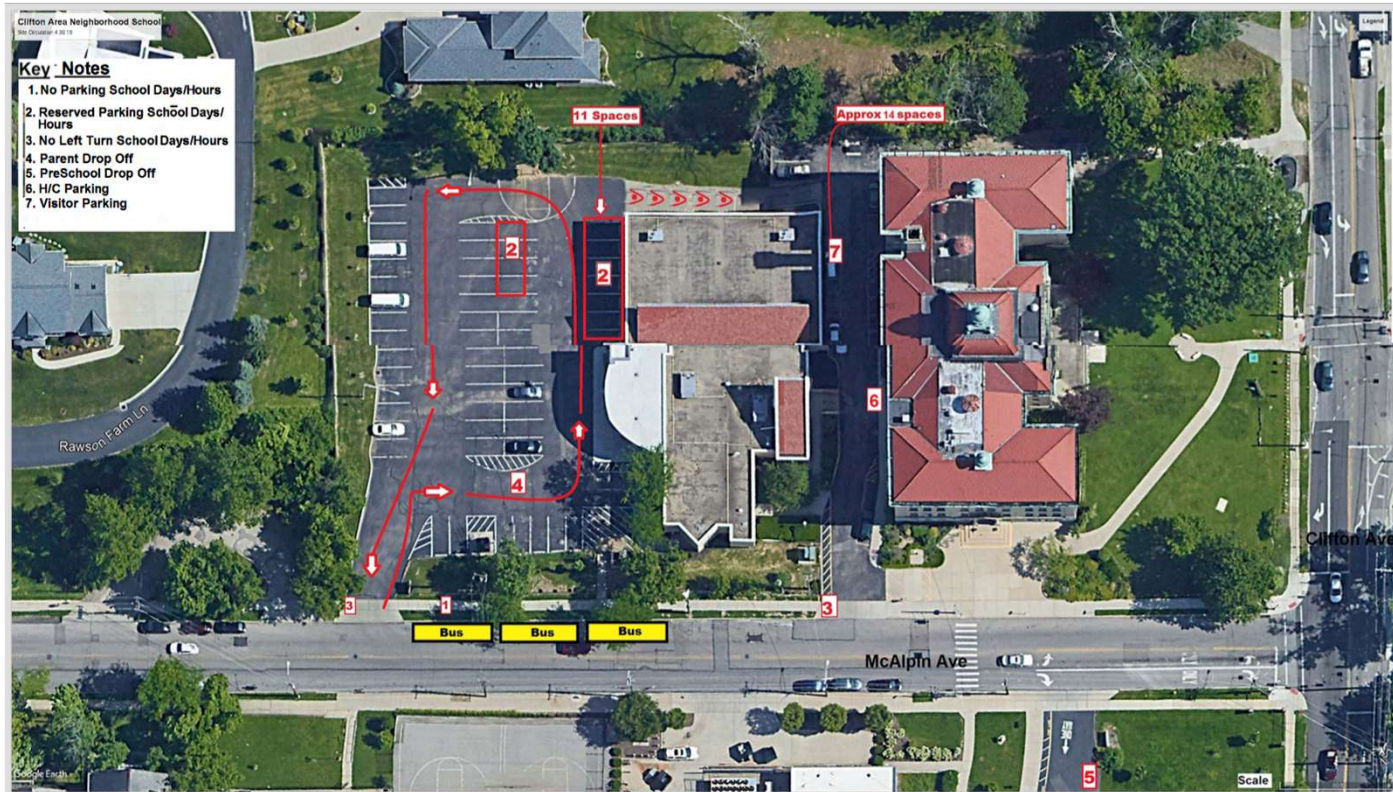
Transportation/Traffic

- Transportation Committee has been meeting with DOTE and CPS and reported in January that DOTE also discussed traffic planning for the McAlpin/Woolper/Clifton intersection, one of the most difficult intersections in the city, and issues with CANS opening. No follow-up meeting is currently scheduled.
- CPS met with DOTE in Jan 2019. The conclusion of that Jan 2019 meeting was nothing significant needed to be done to prepare for the CANS opening

Transportation- what we know

- DOTE communication with CTM after January 2019 meeting
 - “While we did not schedule a follow-up meeting, it was agreed that we should get back together to revisit their ideas for their current and future operations, particularly after they had a better understanding of the number of students and their addresses. I hope this is helpful in beginning to understand the impacts from the new school opening. City staff is concerned about the school travel, but we did not hear anything that would require significant changes to the street, traffic signals, or other traffic control besides signing. We would be happy to discuss further with you, or arrange a meeting with CPS if you prefer. “

Transportation – school drop off



The zoning variances - Playscape

CONCEPT PLAN SITE PLAN



The zoning variances - Playscape



Cincinnati Public School



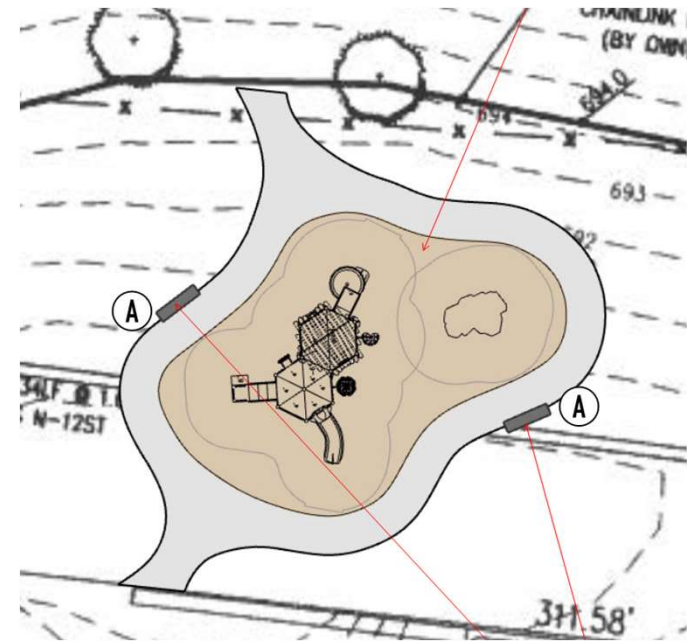
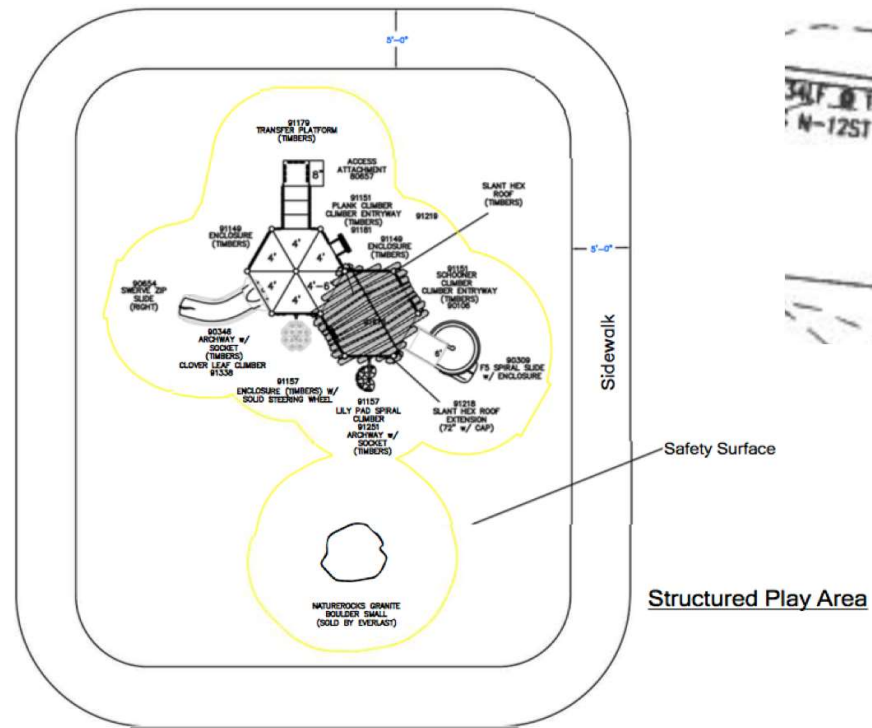
Playscape



Structured Play Area



Structured Play Area



Rawson Estate

- CPS bought the property in March 2017
- It has been used for various meetings by CPS since
- Zoning variance was applied for with hearing on March 22?
 - In the letter of support for the zoning variance CPS stated “the District does not propose any changes to the site at this time but asks that they be permitted to use the property for school purposes.”
- CPS is removing 3737 Clifton (Rawson Farm House) from the appeal process until they have done proper community engagement and had meaningful discussion about it's future use.

Soliciting ideas

- Are there issues that CTM has not addressed that the community thinks we should?

Clifton Town Meeting

BALANCE SHEET

As of April 30, 2019

	APR 2019		
	CURRENT	AS OF MAR 31, 2019 (PP)	% CHANGE
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
Cash on Hand	300.00	300.00	0.00 %
Cert of Deposit 33	14,219.26	14,219.26	0.00 %
Cert of Deposit 91	38,844.68	38,844.68	0.00 %
Checking	18,586.07	19,646.27	-5.40 %
CANS PTO	2,975.81	2,975.81	0.00 %
Total Checking	21,561.88	22,622.08	-4.69 %
PayPal Bank	150.03	117.38	27.82 %
Prepaid Postage	154.83	154.83	0.00 %
Total Bank Accounts	\$75,230.68	\$76,258.23	-1.35 %
Other Current Assets			
Clifton Market Loan	7,800.00	7,800.00	0.00 %
Prepaid Expenditures	0.00	0.00	
Uncategorized Asset	200.00	200.00	0.00 %
Undeposited Funds	63.00	0.00	
Total Other Current Assets	\$8,063.00	\$8,000.00	0.79 %
Total Current Assets	\$83,293.68	\$84,258.23	-1.14 %
TOTAL ASSETS	\$83,293.68	\$84,258.23	-1.14 %
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Credit Cards			
Reimbursements Owed	0.00	0.00	
Total Credit Cards	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Total Current Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Total Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00%
Equity			
Opening Balance Equity	75,914.77	75,914.77	0.00 %
Retained Earnings	8,463.46	8,463.46	0.00 %
Net Revenue	-1,084.55	-120.00	-803.79 %
Total Equity	\$83,293.68	\$84,258.23	-1.14 %
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$83,293.68	\$84,258.23	-1.14 %

Clifton Town Meeting

MONTHLY ACTIVITY

April 2019

	TOTAL	
	APR 2019	MAR 2019 (PP)
Revenue		
Clifton Chronicle Income		610.00
Donations	3.00	101.00
Event Income		
Uncategorized Event Income	30.00	
Total Event Income	30.00	
Grants		
Restricted Grants		
CANS PTO Income		319.00
Utility Box Artwork Grant	-750.00	
Total Restricted Grants	-750.00	319.00
Total Grants	-750.00	319.00
Memberships	64.00	172.00
Total Revenue	\$ -653.00	\$1,202.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$ -653.00	\$1,202.00
Expenditures		
Administrative Expenses	64.20	64.20
Committees		
Housing and Zoning Committee	56.00	
Total Committees	56.00	
Event Expenses		
Memorial Day Expenses	190.00	
Total Event Expenses	190.00	
Transaction Fees		
PayPal Fees	1.35	2.22
Total Transaction Fees	1.35	2.22
Total Expenditures	\$311.55	\$66.42
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$ -964.55	\$1,135.58
NET REVENUE	\$ -964.55	\$1,135.58

Plant for Pollinators Challenge – Partnership with the Cincinnati Zoo

Final Report – May, 2019

Ad Hoc Committee: Peggy Spohr, Joyce Rich, Alice Wilson, Mary Rita Dominic

At this time, Clifton Town Meeting has fulfilled the expectations of partnership with the Zoo on this project. Activities included:

Posted P4P Challenge on the CTM web page with link to Zoo web page, March 20, 2019

Hosted a public event on April 6, 2019 attended by 20 people (all 45220 zip code except for one family from Northern Kentucky)

Registered our organization's pollinator garden (Clifton Plaza) on the Zoo site and planted our official sign March/April 2019

Distributed P4P pocket-guides at SpringFest in Burnet Woods – reached 37 families in 21 different zip codes

Published a P4P article in our newsletter – Clifton Chronicle Summer issue 2019

Presentation planned for May 14, 2019 at Clifton Mom's group.

Not required by the Zoo, but a special note, that Clifton won the neighborhood challenge to register the most pollinator gardens by March 31 promoted by the City of Cincinnati Department of Environment and Sustainability.

Recommendations:

Lay down the ad hoc committee at this time.

Ask that the CTM Beautification Committee address this project next year if the Zoo wishes to continue.

It has been a delight to work on this project.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Spohr

Co-chair

Motion to Oppose Conditional Use Rawson Farmhouse Property 5/6/19

The President shall communicate to the City Hearing Examiner the following, by email no later than May 13, and by personal testimony by his designated representative at the scheduled public hearings on this matter:

Clifton Town Meeting, which is the community council recognized by the City of Cincinnati for representing the neighborhood of Clifton wherein the subject properties are located, finds that it is in the best interest of the neighborhood

- **To oppose the Conditional Use of the designated parcel for nonpublic meetings in the farmhouse** for these reasons:
 - The Application does not include sufficient detail, e.g., parking and a site plan, to permit the assessment of potential adverse impact on nearby neighbors and the community at large
 - Even though well aware of the community's explicit interest in the property and plans pertaining to opening the school, the Applicant did not inform neighbors, the community, or the community council of its intentions either before or since filing the application. Nor did Applicant follow the City's express advice printed on the second page of the application form:
 - *To help avoid delays, it is strongly suggested that you present your application to neighboring property owners and any interested neighborhood community groups prior to the hearing on your application. This will give you a prior opportunity to address your neighbors' concerns or objections and can facilitate the approval of your application.*
 - The Applicant shows a lack of awareness of and consideration for the neighborhood's just concerns. Applicant is in the practice of using the house and grounds regularly to hold both public and nonpublic meetings, during which automobiles are often parked off pavement in the front yard. Such practices are expressly prohibited in SF-20 by the City Zoning Code. The Applicant knows this full well, for he names the SF-20 prohibition against such meetings as the very reason for his application.
- **To advise the Applicant that in order to gain support for his plans, he must engage the community** as the City advises: to work with neighboring property owners and Clifton Town Meeting, with transparency and a willingness to hear and respond to all reasonable concerns.

Motion not to oppose Conditional Use for Playground 5/6/19

The President shall communicate to the City Hearing Examiner the following, by email no later than May 13, and by personal testimony by his designated representative at the scheduled public hearings on this matter:

Clifton Town Meeting, which is the community council recognized by the City of Cincinnati for representing the neighborhood of Clifton wherein the subject properties are located, finds that it is in the best interest of the neighborhood not to oppose the Conditional Use of the designated parcel for the creation of a playground to support the educational program of Clifton Area Neighborhood School (CANS) as described in the Application for these reasons:

- *The new school needs an appropriate space to construct the outdoor playground area required by law. This seems like the best option for the school and the community, given its location close to the north entrance to the building, and compared to the Clifton Recreation Center parking lot (which would hurt its programs), the front yard of the school (which would be visually objectionable and conflict with setback requirements), or sharing Fairview-Clifton German Elementary School's facilities (which is in heavy use already and would have the same front yard issues, plus it would have children crossing heavily traveled McAlpin throughout the school day).*
- *The City staff report and discussion with its author give us reasonable confidence that it will be set back from the street appropriately (placed beside the school), fenced attractively (black aluminum perimeter resembling ornamental wrought iron 4-5' high), some landscaping to blunt visual impact while retaining enough visibility for safety.*
- *Concerns about existing water pooling after rainstorms, and drainage affected by the level and fill operations to ready the site, will be addressed by MSD when CPS requests the permit required to perform such operations.*

This decision is contingent upon there being no substantial changes or additions to the plans as posted as of May 1, 2019 on the City's ProjectDocs website.