

Kennedy Heights Community Council

Minutes of the Community Council meeting of January 15, 2008

The meeting began at 7:10, with at least 23 residents present. Ernie Barbeau (President) led the Pledge of Allegiance, reviewed the agenda, and introduced the recently elected members of the Board.

The minutes of the November meeting of the Council will be distributed at the Council's February meeting.

Kevin Holt, Treasurer, presented the financial report for January 1. A **motion** was made, second, and adopted to approve the report. Kevin then presented the Board's proposed 2008 budget for \$27,200, including the NSP and NBDU proposals. After some discussion, the following **motions** were unanimously adopted (23-0):

To approve the budget for 2008

To approve the NSP grant proposal for 2008

To approve the NBDU grant proposal for 2008

Ernie recognized Dr. Cinder Miller, Vice President of the Board of Directors of the Kennedy Heights Montessori Center. Cinder was invited to discuss the Center's current status and future. The Center has been in our neighborhood for more than forty years. Currently about 30% of the Center's students are residents of KH. Due to the fact that the Center will not be a part of the new Woodford School, Cincinnati Public Schools has recently committed itself to finding a home for the Center until the lease with CPS ends in 2012. Ernie noted that the KHCC Board recently adopted a motion to actively support the Center's first goal of remaining in our neighborhood.

Ellen Muse Lindeman, the recently appointed Executive Director of the KH Arts Center, was introduced. Ellen made a few remarks, including a reminder about KHAC's Open House on February 6.

The report from District Two was provided by three of the five officers in attendance: Capt. Doug Wiesman (District Commander) who made some introductory remarks; Officer George Engleman (Liaison Officer) who gave a detailed report and cautioned neighbors about leaving a car running and unattended while warming up; and Detective Brown who reported about a recent shooting in Pleasant Ridge.

Ernie's report as President was as follows.

- Since the Council's last meeting, he attended nineteen conferences and meetings.
- The Council needs to be active in identifying and recruiting neighbors to undertake leadership and active roles with and for the neighborhood, especially with KHCC.
- Ernie noted a two-page document of 32 proposed KHCC goals for 2008.
- If we are to have a boy scout troop in KH, the first essential step recruiting two adults to serve as leaders. We have yet to identify or recruit two adults.

Natalie Boyer's report as Vice-President for Administration was as follows.

- The 25th Progressive Dinner will be held on Saturday, September 27, 2008. This will be a very special event.
- We are looking at changing the format and date for the 2008 Sap Run. Details will be available at the February meeting of the Council.
- We have recommended a neighbor to be recognized by Invest In Neighborhoods as our neighborhood's nominee for the Good Neighborhood Volunteer Award. The award will be given at the 6th Annual City-Wide Neighborhood Summit.
- The Neighborhood Summit will be held on February 16, Cintas Center, XU, 8:30-4:30. Further information will be available at the Council's February meeting.

Michelle Dillingham, Chair of the Outstanding Citizen of the Year Award Committee, distributed a two-page document about the criteria and process for nominations. The document was recently approved by the Board. Nominations can be submitted by mail or by access our web page, no later than August 23, 2008.

Clete Benken's report as Vice-President for Planning included the following items.

- On February 9 there will be a meeting to discuss if and how the KHCC logo should be updated. Eric Brown, President of Brownstone, a graphic design company, will be present. Any and all neighbors are welcome to attend.
- Ernie noted the two-page report about foreclosure, and the fact that KH ranks as the fourteenth neighborhood with the highest number of foreclosures.
- Clete provided a overview of recent developments with the Montgomery Corridor Arts Collaborative. Initial stage of developing an online business directory of businesses in KH, Pleasant Ridge, and Silverton, and, development of a joint proposal by KH and PR for City funding of signage, and impending conference with Chris Monzel, Chair of City Council's Arts, Tourism, marketing and Technology Committee; and, of the appointment of Ernie and Clete to the MCAC's recently established Board of Directors.
- Clete reported that the Council's Urban Design Plan and Urban Design Overlay District plan was recently approved by the City Planning Commission, and referred to City Council's Economic Development Committee, chaired by Chris Bortz. A presentation was recently made by Ernie and Clete to that committee and they unanimously approved our request; a few days later the plans were adopted by City Council.
- Ernie reported on KHCC's Board decision to reestablish the KH Urban Redevelopment Corporation, and of the first meeting of the Interim Board in early December. More details will be provided at the Council's February meeting.
- Duane Holm reported that the Education Committee convened a conference with Eve Bolton, who was recently elected to the Board of Education and subsequently elected to be its President. The conference was hosted by KH Arts Center, with approximately 12 representatives in attendance.
- Duane also noted that the Woodford School community engagement meetings concerning the new Woodford School and the development of a community learning center are as follows: January 28, February 25, and March 10. All meetings are open to residents, and are held at Woodford, 6:30-8:00p.m.

Rick Boyer, webmaster and coordinator of e-News noted that the web page has been updated. A resident asked if any consideration has been given to having advertisements on our webpage. The question will now be referred to the Board.

A variety of informational items were noted, such as: death of long-time resident Ernest F. McAdams, resident Lamont Taylor appointed as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Authority, resident Al Gerhardstein recognized as a Top Lawyer in Ohio, resident Carrie Scott-Taylor is a member of Nick Lachey's winner Choir that was recently aired on NBC's "Clash of the Choirs".

At the registration table were copies of a recently published article written by a neighbor about the neighborhood and the Community Council: "Creating a Multiracial Community in Post-World War II in Cincinnati. The Kennedy Heights Experiment." Ohio Valley History, Fall 2007, by Jim Cebula, Professor of History at Raymond Walters College, University of Cincinnati.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05p.m.

Ardell Barkley
Secretary