

Kennedy Heights Community Council  
Meeting of the Community Council

Minutes of the Meeting held on April 15, 2008

In attendance were sixteen residents and five guests, including two police officers, two representatives from Citizens for Civic Renewal, and a Lieutenant from the Fire Department.

The meeting was called to order at 7:40p.m. by Ernie Barbeau, President. Ernie welcomed every one, led the Pledge of Allegiance, and reviewed the agenda.

The Police Department's District Two report included the following.

- Police Officer Love, substituting for vacationing Officer Engleman, gave the neighborhood's crime statistics. There has been a significant increase in burglary and theft. Officer Love gave an update of the recent shooting at Northdale and Kennedy. There was some discussion of the landscaping scam that developed over the weekend.
- Lt. Williams reported on District Two's intention of sponsoring a KH resident to participate in this year's Soap Box Derby; the registration fee of \$750.00 will be covered by a Department fund, and KHCC has agreed to cover the insurance fee of \$5.00 per person. We applauded Lt. Williams and Officer Engleman for their initiative and leadership.
- Lt. Williams also reported on special neighborhood police activities and patrols that will be provided during the summer. Those additional services are made possible by special funding.

Lt. Lepedra of the Fire Department provided statistics.

Kevin Holt, Treasurer, provided the financial report for April 1; copies were available at the Registration Table (RT). A motion was made and seconded to accept the report; the **motion was unanimously approved.**

Ardell Barkley, Secretary, noted that Minutes of the March meeting of the Council were available at the RT. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes; the **motion was unanimously approved.**

Ernie introduced Steve Johns, Director of Citizens for Civic Renewal, and noted the purpose of the group facilitation activity that would ensue for the next thirty or so minutes. Steve introduced his colleague from CCR, and the process that has already been utilized with eight community organizations. Thirteen organizations are participating. Attendees were then organized as two separate groups, with a facilitator for each group. At the end the thirty-minute discussion, each facilitator reported on the findings from each group. In a few days a summary report of the discussions will be provided by CCR to KHCC.

Ernie's report as President included the following:

- List of eleven meetings and conferences he has attended since the March meeting.
- Gave special thanks to Michelle Dillingham and her son, Michael, who serve as Greeters at meetings of the Council, and who also provide refreshments.

- We need more volunteers to serve as volunteers for the development of a Boy Scout troop in KH; Chair or Coordinator for several committees, such as Beautification, Park and Recreation, and Litter Magic; need volunteers for Citizens on Patrol, Sap Brunch, Progressive Dinner, etc.
- Over the next few months several segments of streets near KH, will be rehabilitated (such as Duck Creek and Red Bank).

Natalie Boyer, VP for Administration, is recovering from surgery. Her husband, Rick, gave a status report about Sap Brunch, which will be held on April 15. At the present time we expect 50-75 persons; Bob Kamp has been working on his door-to-door fundraising effort. There is a need for a few more volunteers to assist with preparing and serving the Brunch.

Clete Benken, VP for Planning, provided the following report. The Art and Economic Development Committee has been rather active:

- At the Registration Table was a two-page copy of our neighborhood's building code violations in a recent twelve month period.
- At the Brunch we will have on display the various design concepts for our logo. Eric Brown, our contracted designer, will be present. Attendees will be asked to provide us with some feedback.
- On March 26, City Council approved our Montgomery Business Corridor's UDOD Development Standards. This is a very significant decision, especially in providing us more quality control.
- Invest in Neighborhood recently announced the time-frame for community councils to apply for the annual \$1,000.00 Merit Grant. After consultation with the Board and some individuals, we will be proposing either a signage or business directory. No opposition to those two possibilities was expressed at our meeting.
- We recently submitted two Community Priority Requests to the City for consideration in developing the '09-'10 budget.
- The City recently announced the availability of funding through the Neighborhood Business District program. Josh Swain, Clete, and Ernie, recently met with Mike Wagner and John Price, the City's representatives; we toured our business corridor, and received suggestions from them on how to proceed. We will be submitting a proposal.
- We have also submitted to Local Initiative Support Corporation two proposals for technical assistance.
- Ernie reviewed recent activities that he has been directly involved with concerning potential developers of the K-M property. Both of those developers would be very significant and long-term assets for our neighborhood.

Ben Pipkin, Chair of CPOP, indicated that we need more neighbors to volunteer with Citizens on Patrol, and that a schedule for Night Out will be announced in a few weeks.

Josh Swain reported on the April 14 meeting of District Two's Resource Committee. He identified an important funding source.

Duane Holm, on behalf of the Education Committee, reported on the following:

- A joint letter from KHCC and Woodford School's Local School Decision Making Committee was sent to the Board of Education. The intent of the letter was to urge an increase in the enrollment for the new Woodford School. The Master Facilities Plan projects a new school for 450 students, even though 550 students currently attend Woodford; we urged enrollment be set at 650.

- Woodford's engagement meeting of April 1 had 20 or so persons in attendance; the discussions were very fruitful.
- The engagement group, and any one else, are invited to participate in a tour of Bond Hill's new school. The tour will be held on April 28.
- The engagement group's next meeting will be in mid May.
- Cincinnati Public Schools has appointed Josh Swain as a member of the Ad Hoc Superintendent Search Committee.

Ernie gave a brief report about the March meeting of the Interim Board for the KH Urban Redevelopment Corporation.

- Jody Barkley and Valerie Butler have been appointed as Co-Chair of the Nominating Committee.
- John Williams has been appointed as Vice-Chair of the Interim Board, and Chair of the Code Review Committee.
- The City has declared the property at 6229 Beechview Circle as a public nuisance, and is scheduled to be demolished. We have expressed opposition to demolition, and are exploring options with the intent to find 'good hands' to care for that property.
- Habitat for Humanity recently informed us that they wish to build a new house at 3717 Standish. Late last week, Ernie had an on-site conference with five representatives from Habitat. The four-bedroom residence will definitely be an asset for Standish and our neighborhood. This is the first residence to be built by Habitat in KH. Construction will begin next January, if not sooner. (In 2008 they expect to build 13 residences in Hamilton County. Of the 125+ local residences built by Habitat only three are in foreclosure.)

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10p.m.

Ardell Barkley  
Secretary