
Walnut Hills Business Association

Minutes

Minutes: August 20, 2009 - Walnut Hills Business Association Meeting

Taken by Michael Rountree of Childress and Cunningham Inc., Architects

Attendance

Tim MacConnell, Co-Chair
Michael Rountree
Officer Wiley Ross
Sgt. Thompson

Kathy Atkinson
Winston Folkers
Donna Wolf
Jan Cameron

Kate Walker
Vickie Agbakaba
Cindy Fischer

Meeting called to order by Tim MacConnell. Minutes from meeting on 07/16/09 approved as presented, Kathy Atkinson 1st, Winston Folkers 2nd.

Financial Report not presented.

Committee Reports:

Safety – Officer Wiley Ross

Crime stats were handed out to members. Also, members were given information pertaining to CitizenObserver.com, where one can sign up to receive real-time crime alerts from the Cincinnati Police Department.

There was a robbery at the barber shop near Lincoln and Stanton; one suspect was identified and a second is being sought. Police are trying to be more visible at Peebles Corner, and recently arrested a street vendor who was found to have marijuana on him. Kathy suggested that a new building inspector might be helpful in dealing with street loiterers. A bench was removed from in front of the Marathon station, which seems to have moved loiterers to west of Gilbert instead. Kate Walker asked about an apartment building near Lincoln and Ashland, whether it has been closed by a bldg. inspector. People are still living there, and auto repairs going on; Officer Ross said that he will get the proper inspector to look into it.

Kathy reported that we did get a grant from the City to cover the costs for any City services such as security and street closing, which means the Festival will go forward. Sgt. Thompson said that they may be able to juggle some regular schedules to cover the event, but they may not have much flexibility and they cannot pay time and a half or PVO. They may only assign an officer during busiest part of the day. Last year's line item for security was \$2300 for one day, and there were few issues other than some harassing by those upset by the interruption to their business.

Planning / Development – Tim MacConnell

There has been no recent news on the proposals by WHRF and Campus Management regarding redirection of NRSA funds. Winston agreed to help prod for response and action by the City.

CNBDU – Kathy Atkinson

The contract has been amended to pay for the Market Study, though they need to redo the contract using the WHAC's name and tax ID. The bus trip will be on Sept. 27, and all CNBDU reps should participate regardless of whether they have a submission up for review. There will be a meeting prior to the bus trip, to learn how the peer scoring system works. Avondale did a similar Market Study once and it opened them up to lots of big dollar projects later.

Promotions – No Report

Other Matters:

Walnut Hills Festival is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 12, 2009; members were encouraged that it was not too late to sign up for a booth.

Tim stated that they got final word that GM will retain Thompson-MacConnell Cadillac as a dealer, although of the 1400 Cadillac dealerships nationwide only 500 are being retained. Of the 70 dealers in Ohio, only 12 will remain. They will be letting the discontinued dealers "wind down" rather than announce all at once. The

selections were made by a scoring system; the savings to GM will come from fewer service reps and less incentive or bonus programs, plus not having to subsidize as much inventory.

The WHAC has voted in favor of adoption of the amended WHAC By-Laws & Constitution, with the understanding that further amendments will come later as details of merger with WHBA get established. The WHBA shall vote on these By-Laws at its next meeting; attendance at present meeting deemed too light to cast a meaningful vote.

Candidate's Night will be held Thursday, Oct. 1 at 6:30 PM, in the Douglass School cafeteria. This will be organized and hosted by the League of Women Voters.

Meeting adjourned.