

OAKLEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Minutes of Board Meeting, October 2, 2006

Call To Order

Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m. All Board members were present with exceptions of Dave Schaff, Katie Carroll, and Dan Bennie, who were all excused.

Welcome and Announcements

- Speaker cards can be found on a table at the rear of the meeting room. Anyone wishing to speak needs to complete a speaker card and give to President.
- The OCC website has information as to how to report an incident to the appropriate City of Cincinnati department.
- Comments received on recent membership forms asked about an annual Oakley yard sale, OCC minutes being available on the website and publishing meeting agendas on the website.

Senior Citizen Liaison Report

- No report.

District 2 Police Report

- Jim Assum reports that the shooting that occurred on Robertson is being investigated by District 2 officers. Jim has spoken with someone at the railroad regarding the 'tent city' created by vagrants on the railroad property.
- Police are working with building owners on and around Robertson/Appleton. Drug activity and prostitution make this area a "hot spot". Crime stats for Oakley are about the same as the stats for Hyde Park.
- Two different crime rings have been broken up. The criminals were from northern Kentucky.

Cincinnati Recreation Commission/CNAS

- Jim Garges, Director of CRC, spoke about the improvements that are ongoing at the Oakley park. The old shelter house is gone and new equipment is being installed. The master plan for the community center is in progress.
- Stephanie Gerth presented information regarding "Make A Difference Day" and how it will be observed by the Oakley Community Center staff. On October 21 anyone who wishes to volunteer to plant bulbs and clean up should meet at the community center at 9:00 a.m.
- On October 28 the Halloween Fall Fest will take place at the Hyde Park Plaza with a parade of children in their costumes. Anyone wishing to donate a costume, can drop it off at the community center.

Standing Committee Reports

- Shannon Adams reports that the flower pots in the Madison Road business district will be re-planted by the end of October. Shannon is also in the process of obtaining bids for holiday lights to be displayed at Oakley Square.
- Brent Van Lieu reported that the City of Cincinnati is asking for the OCC to support the completion of improvements that were to be done at the end of Camberwell when Brookstone apartments were built. Resident, Mary Anne Lee, was requesting that the OCC send a letter to Steve Kurtz, Cincinnati Planning Department, supporting her request for a variance. She was told the OCC does not get involved with neighborhood variance requests as long as the

surrounding property owners are not objecting to the variance request.

New Business

- Katherine Keough-Jurs presented information regarding a zoning change involving the properties located along Ridge and Ibsen Avenues that are adjacent to PetSmart and Circuit City. The proposed zoning is being referred to as Planned Development 32. Without this proposed zoning change, this area of Oakley would be left without appropriate zoning in February 2007. Vince Schirmer made a motion, seconded by John Heilman that the OCC support the proposed zoning change. Motion approved unanimously.
- A presentation was made by Xavier University students that are partnering with Invest in Neighborhoods to encourage people to get out and vote in the November mid-term election. In 2004, during the Presidential election, 71% of the registered voters in Oakley participated. In 2005, during local elections only, 33% of the registered voters in Oakley participated. The last day to register to vote in the upcoming election is October 10.
- Steve Thomas from Circle Development presented information regarding the development plans for the area between Red Bank and the Oakley Drive-In site along Madison Road. They are currently looking at possibly building an assisted living facility, medical offices, condominiums and some retail.
- Becky Stephens offered information regarding the guidelines for the election of 4 positions to the Board of Trustees for the OCC. Expiring terms are for Dave Schaff, Bob Luthy, Shannon Adams and Beth Dziech, who recently resigned as Vice President. To be eligible to run for one of the trustee positions an individual must be a member of the Oakley Community Council, be a resident, business owner or property in Oakley, and must have attended at least 3 meetings over the past 12 months. A brief bio/resume must be submitted via email to oakleycouncil@oakleynow.com or by mail to P.O. Box 9244, Cincinnati, OH 45209 by Friday, November 3, 2006. To request an absentee ballot you will need to send a self addressed stamped envelope to the same P.O. Box or via email to oakleycouncil@oakleynow.com. Absentee ballots must be returned no later than December 1, 2006.
- Craig Samuels provided a report detailing the success of the event known as "Final Fridays" where Oakley businesses are open for extended hours the last Friday of each month from May through September. It has been decided to extend this event through the last Friday of October. There is a conflict with the Over-The-Rhine Pendleton Business District about the name Final Fridays being using in connection to the Oakley event. The name of the event will be reconsidered before beginning again in May 2007.

NSP

- No report since Katie Carroll, the treasurer, was not present.

Treasurer's Report

- No treasurer's report in Katie's absence.

Minutes

- Bob Luthy made a motion to approve the September 2006 minutes. John Heilman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Michael Patton, and Oakley resident, spoke about Issue 12 in the upcoming election. Issue 12 addresses the request of an increase in Hamilton County sale tax to support the building of a new jail facility.

Oakley resident, Kim Foley, asked about a CPOP team for Oakley.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Becky Stephens
Secretary