

COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP BOARD OF TRUSTEES
5686 KENWOOD ROAD CINCINNATI, OHIO 45227

Board of Trustees
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2019
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The Columbia Township Regular Board meeting was called to order by Trustee David Kubicki at 6:00 p.m.

In attendance

Those Trustees in attendance were David Kubicki, Susan Hughes and Chris Kritikos. Township Administrator Michael Lemon, Fiscal Officer Caroline Heekin and Police Lt. Enderle were also present. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Approval and Signing of Minutes

Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes to approve Regular Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2019 and Special Meeting Minutes of April 25, 2019. All present voted yes.

HCDC Quarterly Update

Dustin Montgomery's report is on file for public inspection.

Open Forum

Teresa Osborne addressed speeding issues on Monning Place. Mr. Lemon will investigate the functionality of the speed sign as well as explore additional signs for the area.

Mark Payne wanted to commend the Sheriff's office for their handling of a car break-in situation on Buckingham Place.

Mary McMannis followed up on earlier conversation with Mr. Lemon regarding lot on Vinewood being sold to a builder and the issues of drainage and parking that could be exacerbated. Mr. Lemon discussed solutions such as street widening, parking on one side only or purchasing a lot to create a parking lot, among others.

Jen Bryant inquired about the Woeste Group's plans for expansion. Based on input from residents Mr. Lemon and Mr. Kubicki met with Mr. Woeste to encourage a plan that takes everyone's interests into consideration and does not erode the character of the neighborhood. The plan we favor would keep the Porsche dealership where it is currently with a screen of landscaping and parking where the four Cambridge residences used to be. The Alfa Romeo dealership would go into the Dollar General location with a footprint similar to what it has now. Jen suggested that meetings where plans are presented should be held publicly and Mr. Kubicki agreed but also pointed out that anyone can call the dealership with concerns or questions. The Trustees expect drawings to be presented in the next few days.

Stacy Bryant Rose asked if new plans will go through the entire process again. Mr. Lemon was unsure if they would be required to start the process over with public meetings as that is a county issue. The township has asked to see plans as soon as they are available. Jen suggested using the available social media outlets to notify residents. Stacy asked if with Dollar General closing there would be an environmental survey of the soil. Mr. Kubicki explained that it is a landowner issue and we cannot demand the owners to do so. Mr. Lemon further explained that it is a legally oriented question of "clear and present danger"; if that were the case it would have to be public right of way. Stacy also noted that the four Cambridge properties were not being well maintained. Mr. Kubicki will investigate.

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Open Forum (cont.)

(Please forgive the lack of last names – the remaining residents were not signed up to speak) Stan asked if Dollar General had any plans to relocate. Mr. Kubicki spoke with Dollar General management and did not learn of any such plans. He further explained that it is a private business initiative and not the township's place or expertise; they need to seek their own space.

Robin shared that the Dollar General has been the heart of Madison Place. Mr. Kubicki assured her that the trustees are trying and are committed. Mr. Kritikos added that he empathizes with the loss but hopes something better will come out of it and that the Trustees are working to amplify the communities' potential with township social events like the summer kick-off party and St. Patrick Day party that are staged in Madison Place purposefully.

Peter raised concerns about re-zoning. He suggested email blasts to increase community awareness. Mr. Kritikos suggested adding a link to the website as we have done in the past.

Doug asked if the Woeste expansion needed to be 28 feet and Mr. Lemon agreed that it seemed excessive which is why he and the trustees pushed back on that plan.

Department Reports

Road Superintendent Report

Mr. Servizzi's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection.

Police Report

Lt. Enderle's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection. Lt. Enderle added that he is working on adding two detail officers for the car wash during Saturday's event. He also noted that he will be on vacation during the next meeting. We hope he has a great time.

Fiscal Officer Report

Ms. Heekin's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Lemon's report was included with the meeting packet and is available for public inspection. Mr. Lemon also noted that there needs to be discussion regarding changes to deadlines for the newsletter; if we change the meter to first class it will double our postage cost. Mr. Lemon also commented on low voter turnout in the township which contributed to the Fire Levy narrowly passing. Mr. Lemon also noted that the township is working with a Wooster Pike property owner to obtain a grant to remove gas tanks and clean up a parcel of land that has impeded progress along the corridor.

LMJF&R Report

Mr. Lemon reported that the Little Miami Joint Fire and Rescue District is seeking a grant to cover the cost of three new fire fighters/EMTs. The board voted unanimously to apply for the grant; however, Mr. Lemon and Ms. Hughes abstained from voting only because LMJF&R administrators did not give the board members time to review the grant application and determine the financial accountability of the district.

Trustees Reports

Ms. Hughes reported that Columbia Township was awarded Tree City status for the 11th consecutive year. Ms.

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Hughes also reminded residents the importance to “call before you dig” as property owners are held financially liable for damage to any lines.

Mr. Kritikos provided details regarding the Summer Kick Off Party on Saturday; the weather looks promising!

Communications

- Cincinnati Enquirer: Article “Duke gas pipeline decision months away” (4/18)
- Business Courier: Article “Cincinnati brewery owner acquires craft distillery” (4/23)
- Business Courier: Article Here’s why Fifty West’s Bob Slattery wanted to buy a distillery” (4/24)
- Wendi VanBuren, ODNR: Email - Ohio’s 2018 Tree City USA Communities (4/29)
- Business Courier: Article “Milford pays settlement related to FC Cincinnati meetings” (5/3)
- Cincinnati Enquirer: Article “‘Secret meeting’ lawsuit will cost Milford \$37K to settle” (5/6/19)

Resolutions

Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kritikos to Take Off the Table a Resolution Approving Design, Development and Payment of Township Boundary Signs. All present voted yes. Mr. Lemon provided the 2nd reading of the **Resolution 19-12**. Mr. Kubicki made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kritikos to adopt the Resolution. All present voted yes.

Approve Payment of Bills, Bank Reconciliation and Financial Reports

Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Ms. Hughes to approve payment of bills, Bank Reconciliation and Financial reports for April, 2019. All present voted to approve.

Announcements – Please support the township event on Saturday. Mr. Kritikos had a baby!

Signing of Minutes and Resolutions – Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Ms. Hughes to sign the Minutes and Resolutions. All present voted yes.

Adjournment – Mr. Kubicki made a motion seconded by Ms. Hughes to adjourn the meeting. All present voted to adjourn.

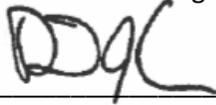
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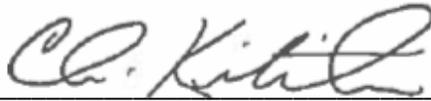
Susan Hughes



06/11/2019

Date

David Kubicki



06/11/2019

Date

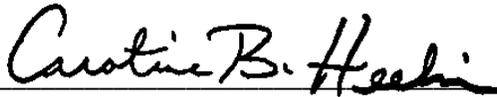
Chris Kritikos



06/11/2019

Date

Caroline Heekin



06/11/2019

Date