

CORRYVILLE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MINUTES

November 11, 2008 Meeting called to order at 6:15 pm.

Approval of Minutes: The Oct minutes were approved as written.

Police & Safety Report:

- Officer Paul Graves discussed stats showing increased arrests for Part 1& 2 crimes this year over last. He distributed a list of safety tips and stressed the importance of constantly being aware of your surroundings.
- Tom Rotte reported the vagrants appear to have abandoned the vacant house at 2802 Euclid, but he has observed drug dealing in the back yard. Officer Graves said the CPD was involved in resolving the vagrant problem.
- A discussion about the procedural difficulties in dealing with squatters and pan handlers indicated there are no definitive solutions, and each situation must be handled on a case by case basis.
- Capt Issac reported a joint Dist 4/Dist 5/UC task force has been organized. He also indicated the CPD and Mayor's staff are scheduled to meet with the landlord of 2719-2721 Euclid on 11-12.
- Mike Ealy attended the 10-22, Dist 4 Safety meeting and reported development of a Code Enforcement Response Team (CERT) is underway.
- Kay Weeks reported on the 11-1, Invest in Neighborhoods meeting. Only 2 neighborhoods will be selected for 2009 Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP) because organizers want to follow-up with previous NEP communities. Corryville's selection for the program is not affected by crime stats being reported in 2 districts. It was emphasized that in addition to the stats, widespread community participation is requisite for selection.

Treasurers & Neighborhood Support Program (NSP) Report:

- Clyde Nowlin announced that Dan Plofchan will be teaching on Tues nights, and no longer able to attend the CCC meetings. Dan has said he would be able to continue as a CCC rep to CCDC (Corryville Community Dev Corp), and offered to keep the CCC's books and administer the NSP.
- A discussion about the dire need for community members to become accessibly engaged volunteers for CCC positions followed. Several members expressed interest in helping, and it was agreed the CCC would distribute a list/description of all volunteer positions during Dec, and an election would be arranged at the Jan meeting.
- Peter Dryer briefly explained the reason for the delayed NSP gateway restoration, and moved the CCC approve using the proposal's entire \$2,900 to fund Recreation Center beautification. The motion passed unanimously.

Vine St Com Urban Re-Dev Corp (VCURC) & University Village Bus Assoc (UVA) Report:

Scott Enns reported:

- On 2 recent 'heavily booked' weekends, a team of 4-5 volunteers stood outside the University Plaza lots to warn about the towing policy. He estimated they saved 70-100 tows, but noted they encountered belligerent behavior by towing co employees. Volunteers are needed to assist in continuing this initiative.
- The Florence apt building in the 3000 block of Vine has been razed.
- An update on the proposed 2600 Sht Vine bowling alley, cinema, restaurant, parking lot redevelopment includes:
 - The Uptown Consortium has arranged a field trip to Baltimore/Wash DC to see similar developments.
 - At the 10-29 Corryville Revitalization Team (CORT) meeting, the City's Bill Fischer reported that if the Economic Stimulus Package currently being considered by Congress is funded, a parking garage for the business district is on the City's priority list.
 - The very preliminary site plan proposes a deck over the Van St lot for a total of 200 spaces. More are needed, but a sewer under Van St is problematic.
- Bogart's is in the process of getting a second estimate for their proposed expansion.
- The UVA's surveillance camera settlement needs to be executed by Feb '09.
- A VCURC/UVA website and the Short Vine banners should be in place within the month.
- Development discussions continue with several restaurants, an office supply co, and a fitness center.
- The World Changer's group has indicated interest in revisiting Corryville this summer, however bringing the program here will require banking partners willing to commit to \$10-20,000.

Corryville Community Dev Corp (CCDC) Report:

Mike Ealy reported that due to the current credit situation, Great Traditions is exploring alternative financing options for the next phase of condos.

Uptown Crossings Community Urban Re-Dev Corp (UCCURC) Report: No report given.

Corryville Recreation Center (CRC) Report:

Bryan Servizzi reported:

- Rec Center attendance has been a record 10,000+ for each of the last 2 months.
- A Matrix functional trainer is on order and should be delivered within 6-8 weeks.
- A women's self-defense class will begin shortly.
- A work order for the fence damaged during the Sept windstorm was submitted to FEMA the next day.
- The community is encouraged to suggest program ideas they think would be beneficial for the community.
- To allow for a timely 6:00 start for CCC meetings in the future, the meeting room will be partitioned in two parts.

Old Business:

Peter Dryer reported that his and Nathan Ruggles discussions with City personnel and Council member Roxanne Qualls indicated the apparent need for the CCC to send City officials a letter advocating a Corryville streetcar route, and clarifying their position on a Short Vine route. He noted that despite responses to a CCC questionnaire identifying the communities' top revitalization priority as a more visionary University Plaza site with potential accommodation for a Vine to Short Vine streetcar reconnection, they have learned that many City officials have the erroneous impression that the community is 'fine' with no streetcar on Short Vine. Peter explained their understanding of the streetcar 'hot zone' indicates benefits extend within 3 blocks in either direction, and he pointed out that Corryville stands to lose 3 blocks of benefit in the event of a Jefferson route. He relayed that they had been advised to urge the CCC to be proactive in advocating development of a creative solution to potentially get the streetcar through University Plaza to Short Vine.

- It was noted CUF (Clifton Heights/University Heights/Fairview) has sent a letter to the City advocating a route up Clifton Ave.
- Clyde Nowlin noted there is also consideration of a route up Gilbert, then across town on Taft and McMillan.
- Kay Weeks reported that at the 10-29 CORT meeting, the City's Michael Moore said analysis to determine the optimal route for an Uptown loop is expected to be complete in about 6 months, and until then nothing is ruled out. She noted appreciating, and wanting to see follow through, with Mick Ricke's statement that he would be open to meet with the City's Traffic and Engineering Division to discuss how a potential streetcar connection on the site could be accommodated, and to insure the site design does not preclude a connection at some time in the future.
- Beth Robinson noted Mike Ricke had confirmed this statement.
- Mike Ealy stated he supports a streetcar in route in Corryville, but does not want to jeopardize redevelopment of the University Plaza site by forcing the issue.
- Peter Dryer emphasized that the community was advocating consideration of a creative solution, and though some would prioritize Kroger above the streetcar, or vice versa, the community doesn't want to be forced to choose between the two.
- Scott Enns recommended use of the wording that we are seeking a plan "that does not preclude" the possibility for a future Vine to Short Vine streetcar reconnection.
- Peter's motion to send a communication to City officials stating "the community strongly advocates a creative solution for a more visionary University Plaza redevelopment with assurance the plans will not preclude the possibility for a future Vine to Short Vine streetcar reconnection" passed with 16 in favor, and 1 opposed.
- Scott Enns suggested it would be a good idea for both the CCC and VCURC/UVA boards to sign the letter.
- Kay Weeks offered to compose a draft for review.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

As recorded by Kay Weeks

Please encourage your Corryville neighbors and associates to visit the communities' new www.Corryville.org website, and sign up for the CCC's CorryvilleCC@hotmail.com electronic mailing list.