

South Fairmount Community Council Meeting 11-14-23

7:00 pm President Jim Casey called meeting to order and introduced ground rules

1. Elections: Bill Heimbrock was elected vice president of the council. Heather Sayre was elected secretary.

2. Updates from Dunham Recreation Center by Jim Moore: 513-251-5862

- Childcare: There are openings for after school daycare. The center will be closed for Thanksgiving Nov 23-24. Winter camp for kids will be M-F 12/18-12/22 and W-F 12/27-12/29 7:45 am-6 pm.
- Shar-a-thon: Cincinnati Recreation Foundation is raising funds for equipment and scholarships. Donations can be made through cash, card, check, Venmo, or any other form of donation.
- Senior programs are offered all day every weekday. Only in-house due to staffing- home visits are not available. Council on Aging is an organization that provides in-home support. Many seniors use Metro Access Transportation- public curb to curb delivery. Senior programs include a diversity of programs that are designed to keep seniors engaged and stimulated throughout the whole day.

3. Pumpkin Fest Review by Jim Casey: Turnout exceeded previous year. The council gave out over 200 snacks and purchased 180 pumpkins. Working in Neighborhoods gave out hot chocolate and had activities. Thank you to everyone involved. Next year, we want to recruit more volunteers so that we can have more booths and more supplies.

4. Traffic update by Troy: South Fairmount traffic meeting will be at San Antonio Church 1950 Queen City Monday November 20, 6:30 pm to discuss current traffic related concerns and decide what realistic changes we can ask for. Westwood Ave speed cushions between Harrison and Grand and between Kebler and Vanhart are approved for funding but postponed until spring 2024 due to delays in other projects. Harrison Ave street diet has funding, and the council is waiting for an update from the city.

5. Farmers' Market update by Heather: The first Beekman Community Market will be next Saturday November 18, 1-3 at North Fairmount Community Center. Ohio CAN has purchased food from three farms for free distribution, and 6 neighborhood makers will be selling crafts and baked goods. Troy suggested that we plan a market in South Fairmount that we can walk to. Heather will explore options for a South Fairmount location.

6. Housing Study update by Ernestine: Ernestine is a longtime resident and new to the council because of retiring recently. Working In Neighborhoods is completing a housing study of the neighborhood to find out what people need so that we can come together as a neighborhood to tell the city what we want. Odessa and Brenden are knocking on doors; give them your input now while we have a chance. UC students are walking on the sidewalks, not knocking on doors, but documenting structural needs visible from the street. The housing study will not result in code violations.

7. District 3 update by Officer Uteck:

- Statistics are similar to last month. There were 23 reports in 28 days. Majority of the reports were auto thefts. Stop by District 3 to pick up wheel locks for free.

- Citizen reports: 1676 Queen City dumping has increased. People are pulling from dump for fire material. People have been breaking into Lunkenheimer. Individuals confirmed changes in traffic patterns.

8. New participant: Jonathan Love is new to the neighborhood as of 2021 December. He shared a vintage photo of his house on 2208 Grand Ave with the South Fairmount Exchange running past (train). He likes the historical nature of his home and neighborhood. He is interested in utilizing adjacent vacant property for agriculture or development and wants to paint a mural of the train on the retaining wall. Jonathan is concerned about neighbors parking on the vacant lot. He is concerned about traffic speeds on Grand Ave at 65 mph. Requests improved traffic signage from the department of transportation, potentially utilizing a billboard on the street. Additionally, he is concerned about litter in the neighborhood.

9. Engine 21 update: 183 calls in the past month, including calls out of the neighborhood. Focus on safe cooking habits. Don't leave the house with the oven on and be careful with kids around the stove. Fire Prevention: 513-357-7585 Call for officers to come out and install fire detectors.

10. NSP update by Bill: We need to spend up \$800 beautification dollars. Do we want to purchase bulbs for the corner garden, so we have a continuous display of color? Do we want more native plants? Do we want luminaries? Plan to decide at next meeting. MSD has granted us lots along Lick Run that have no water access, but opportunities worth exploring.

Adjourn.