

South Fairmount Community Council Meeting

September 9, 2025, 7 pm

Dunham Recreation Center

Attendance: In-Person 13, on Zoom 0

Online access to Zoom was not available due to no WIFI at Dunham and Jim Casey's phone hotspot was not available.

Bill Heimbrock presiding

Pledge of Allegiance

Cincinnati Police Department District 3 Update by Officer Gottman: Thefts are up; lock your cars, dumping continues (officer putting in 311 requests), working on getting abandoned vehicles off the streets

Fire Department Engine 21: 168 total calls (ems, fire, other). Reminder: no open burning in the city of Cincinnati. Make sure you have a working CO detector

Councilwoman Anna Albi:

Pilot Program for residential sidewalk repair in Beekman Corridor- Pilot program set aside \$100,000 for residential sidewalk repair (about \$500 per sidewalk square). City Council selected neighborhoods that have increased reliance on walking and are geographically proximal. Call 311 to sign up. About \$50,000 already spent.

Questions:

- Can I submit repair requests at properties I don't own? Yes.
- Can I submit multiple requests at once? Report the addresses in a 311 call rather than the app
- How can I determine the address of a vacant lot? The easiest way is to use Google maps app to identify address.
- The purpose of this program is for residential. If a commercial property is reported, will they be fined? The property owner will be alerted. If the damage is catastrophic, the city will repair it and bill the owner through property tax bill.
- When the 100,000 runs out, how will we know so that we don't report broken sidewalks to the detriment to our neighbors. We will make 311 operators aware so they will tell you. If it goes well (money is spent), that supports continuing the program.

New funding for public safety: lighting and cameras, drones will cover most of the city. Some is specific to downtown, Outreach for kids congregating, 3cdc ambassadors. Installation of street lights will follow DOTE evaluation of data.

Ohio State Patrol is going to help with specific operations. Crime Gun Intelligence Center (local, state, federal collab in Cincinnati). Track what gun was used where based on shell casing. Working to get guns

off the streets. Questions: what is being done about “community guns?” Crime prevention through environmental design (mow grass to remove gun hiding spot). State of Ohio has very lax gun laws. Some of our local gun crimes are prosecuted at the federal level because state laws would not incriminate. Giving away gun lock boxes for free at Bengals game. Increasing regulations around parking garages to increase lights and cameras. Working on parking garage rating system to show gun safety level of that location.

Cincinnati police now has a fleet of drones that they are using for first responders. They will send out the drone before the first responders arrive. City Council will work with ACLU to prepare a “State of Surveillance” to inform residents about the changes, following City of Dayton as a model. The drones have lights and recording capacity, but are not armed. What is their response time? They are brand new, and we don’t have data yet. The drones are operated by a human who will evaluate if a human responder is necessary. The purpose is to make the police force more efficient. It’s hard to recruit enough police. Skepticism with new tool is understandable. Good news: on the whole, shootings across the city are down 20%.

Discussion about homelessness. City was sued a few years ago and works to address homelessness as humanely as possible.

City of Cincinnati approved \$20 million for repaving roads this year.

Announcements

Beekman Community Market is this Saturday at Lick Run Headwaters. Stop by to visit and support new entrepreneurs.

Community Garden at Lick Run: meeting with Healthy Communities department of the Health Department. Bill and Pam are planning new beds for next year, and hoping to get funding from this source.

Pumpkin Fest October 24. We need volunteers. Lick Run Greenway 6-7 pm.

Beekman Corridor Coalition: (Mary Metzmeier)

Beekman Corridor Coalition is working to bring people together around the things we care about

Traffic Plan- 35 point plan, getting headway, city likes the plan. The traffic team is working to identify funding sources Next meeting is September 23 at 6 pm at WIN

Housing team: working to decrease property taxes and make them more fair. Trotting Ohio State representatives on tours to ask for state funding for a home repair program in the Beekman Corridor. Next meeting October 2 at Working In Neighborhoods

Sidewalk program identifies the Beekman Corridor because we have organized. This is the bone they threw us. Show them that we’ll use it.

If you are a homeowner who lives in the identified area of South Fairmount on the pink flyer and are 65 or older fill out an application for home repair assistance. We are doing a program to help seniors get homes repaired. We have funding to do five homes in south Fairmount and five in north Fairmount, and are asking for funding to do more.

Beekman Coalition September 25

Block Parties: Endaknorr Block Party October 5, 2-4 pm on Fairmount between Knorr and Mandery. Food: Potluck competition with gift card prizes. Decorations: mums/ straw bales double as door prizes. Sound: Bring an Instrument to play, poster board to record music interests. Activities: Ice breaker games, signup for Saffin Cleanup event, vote for potluck winner, paint used tire trash cans for the street. Setup: might use tables and chairs from the tool bank, or order some to distribute as door prizes. Outreach: Planters for corners with laminated flyers to advertise. Door to door invite on Knorr, Mandery, Hansford, Ley, and Bickle. Everyone is welcome. Heather will make purchases and send receipts to Bill. Event doubles on membership recruitment and neighborhood beautification. Still working on recruiting block party hosts for 2 additional blocks.

Dunham CRC: Still have spots in afterschool program. Very affordable. Dunham Singers (choraleers) practice Thursdays at 10 am, looking for more members. Bingo is becoming very popular September 17 at 11:15am is next game. Sign language class starting Mondays at 11:15. Ceramics is Wednesdays and Fridays. Pottery is Wednesday and Friday. Chair volleyball. Senior trips include lunch and shows, luncheons, business meeting too. Summer camp went well. No ambulance calls.

Jill will ask Jim Moore to identify locations for painting on sidewalk.

Little free library: Please donate books and place sticker inside. Stickers have a link to Community Council website- hopefully a membership recruiting activity.

John Love suggested a greenhouse at the community garden. Compared to Madisonville community garden.

Bill: if we had the next lot over, we could have room for a greenhouse.

Adjourned at 8:07