

South Fairmount Community Council Meeting Minutes September 10, 2024

Attendance: 15 in-person, 3 on Zoom, plus 1 CPD and 1 Fireman

District 3 Update, Officer Utecht

- Stats in auto theft down in SF, not overall in city.
- Thefts from auto up in SF and around city. Don't leave stuff in car. Hoping kids will be busy now that school is back in.
- Speeders everywhere and spread thin on speed control officers. Communicated with traffic control trying to get speeders off Beekman. People are avoiding construction and speeding on side streets. Speed humps are having an effect in morning traffic on Queen City and Westwood.
- Working on Wickham Alley. Not seeing progress. Other departments seem to be backed up like everyone else. Trying to get urban forestry to come in and clean up trees hanging over road. Looking into more street lights. Jackie and Jill: people are trying to take banister off stairs

Engine 21 Fire Department update

- Runs are about the same 207 total responses, 15 fire related calls
- Ambulance assigned here last month 10 am-10 pm. Only rumors as to how long it is stationed here. Running numbers as to where it is most effective. Most likely will move on.
- September fire prevention: smoke detectors, getting ready to turn furnaces on. See checklist for fire prevention. Bill will post on website. Use qr code to see how to get smoke detectors in your house. Have a smoke detector in every bedroom, test monthly. Lifespan of 10 years. Change batteries every time clocks change with daylight savings. Plenty of batteries at firehouse. Just knock on door.

Jasmine Nobue, Knox St. Resident: Reporting on development possibilities

- See handout on website
- Proposed community wellness center on Knox street that provides stable housing for renters, offers third space to the community, increases bio diversity of the land, models sustainable living practices, supports entrepreneurial enterprises, fosters community around nature, gardening, food, art, music, and well-being
- Purchased and moved to property
- Working to rezone as community development district
- Changes do not require to cut down trees
- Working with architect on infrastructure changes to the property: 3 additional residences, in-ground all natural fresh water pool, orchard, food forest, community gardens, storm water management and rainwater collection, green house, outdoor kitchen roof, play areas including activity deck and treehouse, nature trails, meditation gardens, stage and communal areas to share art and music.

- Here to ask for letter of support from community council, get feedback, and gather signatures of support for city planning department.
- Community engagement event on Labor Day. Good turnout. Dropped flyers at 75 houses closest to property 5 days before event. Good educational opportunity. Kids loved it. Good feedback.
- Lorain: suggests looking into RainPlan website for eligibility for grants.
- Bill: great that you are thinking about benefiting the community with your property.
- Jill: what are the three additional residences? Jasmine: tiny houses that are affordable for people who want to make a home but don't have means to purchase
- Entrepreneurial enterprises: spa, fitness, cooking classes. The more entrepreneurial enterprises participate the more we will offer the community.
- Instagram @community_junkyard or email Jasmineobue@gmail.com
- Intended to be build over time, organically and with input of the community.
- Would like to reorient stage to face the house for better sound control in the neighborhood.
- Jackie: do you get enough people there to use a little library. Jasmine: yes. We could have a library.
- Heather proposed motion to write a letter to support proposed Junkyard community wellness center. 11 yes; 0 against. Jim will draft a letter of support.

Beekman Community Market, Dorothy Bush

- Up and running. Third Saturday of the month at Carll Street Family Center, 11 am-2:30 pm

Beekman Corridor Coalition, Mary Metzmeier

- Meeting with Jill Schiller, Hamilton County Treasurer last week. Property taxes have increased. There is a flaw in the formula for the taxes. County outsources algorithms for property tax assessments. Even people in county do not know how the algorithm works. TOP program to divide property taxes into increments and pay throughout year. Program to help you catchup on back taxes. Not many tax lien sales. If your house is \$75k or less will not be sold in a tax lien sale. Asked to double to 150K. Next step is to talk to Ohio State Legislature. Next meeting at working in neighborhoods to prepare.
- Traffic committee. Meeting with devou good foundations at san Antonio church to learn about resources for traffic calming. Traffic plan in college hill was designed by devou good foundation.
- Lead Safe program for Hamilton county: do not have to have a child living in home, house built before 1978, go online or call Working In Neighborhoods for initial screening. Habitat for Humanity will come out and do inspection, and complete work. Can include window replacement, soffet repair, door repair. Great Program. Use it.

Jim Casey: Community Budget Request proposal (presented by Bill)

- Raised cross walk on queen city avenue between orion academy and St Fancis Court (Van Hart). Raised crosswalks have been used in other communities to make pedestrians more visible. Cars can drive over it. Estimated cost \$250k
 - Questions: would the raised crosswalk interfere with a future complete street install on Queen City
 - If safe schools budget that Landsman refers to can fund a raised sidewalk outside the school, could the CBR request be something else.
 - DOTE thinks it would be a good use of the funds.
 - 4 in favor. 0 opposed. (out of neighborhood also support)
- Solar panels to power an electrical connection at W. Lick Run Parking lot. Opportunity to have food trucks and vendors there. Will include a car charger. Solar panels provide shade like an awning over the parking lot. \$90k
 - Questions on misuse/abuse of electricity... sunlight is free so it will not cost us if it is used by public
 - 11 for; 0 opposed
- Water connection: new water meter and hose connection to use for the community garden West of Extreme Sound. 3 raised beds not used because lack of water. \$50k
 - 13 for; 0 opposed

Pumpkin Patch Oct 25, 6-8 pm. Need volunteers.

Adjourne.