



Bond Hill Community Council

Meeting Minutes

January 6, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M.

(ZOOM) Council Meeting

Meeting Started at 7:03 P.M.

Moment of Silence

Updates

Cincinnati Police Department- Officer Bazile reported no change in crime stats for Bond Hill this month. She commented that there were a few thefts from auto's which was expected during the holiday season. Speeding continues to be an issue but Officer Bazile states that she tries to be present and is patrolling the neighborhood.

Cincinnati Fire Department- No update

Bond Hill Recreation Center- Michelle Miller reported that the Bond Hill Recreation Center in partnership with the Cincinnati Police Department has instituted Teen Nights on Friday. The gym is reserved for teens 12 ½ years to 17 years old on Friday's. The Cincinnati Police Department are covering the cost of membership. The program is a pilot program that was supposed to begin in January but started early and has been active throughout December. Free or discounted meals have been provided by Hook's Fish & Chicken, LaRosa's, and Gold Star Chili for the youth. Activities have included basketball, video game tournaments, etc. A camp will be available for youth on Monday, January 10th, 2022. The cost for the camp is \$25 per child. CPS will be closed on January 10th, 2022, for a Staff Professional Development Day.

It was also reported that the senior population is growing at the Recreation Center despite Covid. Seniors have been engaged in classes such as jewelry making (very popular) and beginner's sewing using kits to make items such as pillowcases.

Guest Presentations

Jill Schiller- Hamilton County Treasurer

Jill Schiller is new to the role of Hamilton County Treasurer and assumed office in September. She shared that Hamilton County is now overseeing its own money, that tax collections start this week (bills will be mailed, online, or you can phone the treasurer's office). It was mentioned that the treasurer's office works closely with Legal Aid, the Community Action Agency, and JFS who all have Covid emergency funds available. Residents are urged to contact the treasurer's office if they are unable to pay or have fallen behind on their bill. The treasurer's office has delinquent payment contracts and an option to prepay in installments to avoid a large bill. The treasurer's office hopes to work with the Landbank to fix and provide affordable housing and plans to present financial literacy programs.

Anita Boseman- Roselawn Community Council Youth & Education Department

Contact Information: nitab7849@gmail.com

Anita was not present initially, but Community Council President Edmerson shared that Ms. Boseman contacted her and requested volunteers to tutor at Woodward and Bond Hill Elementary. Ms. Boseman's information was shared via chat after being requested by Principal Crawford from Bond Hill elementary school.

Ms. Boseman joined the meeting near the end and shared more information with the council regarding her tutor request and youth department role on the Roselawn Community Council. She shared that the Roselawn Community Council is concerned about Woodward students and would like to collaborate with the Bond Hill Community Council to meet student's needs. The first request was for volunteers to tutor. Interested persons would need to complete a background check at the Board of Education. Tentative tutoring hours are 4:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m. and are subject to change due to Covid.

After speaking to the resource officer at Woodward High school, she advised the council that clothing for inappropriately dressed youth, supplies for the construction program, and outside jobs in the construction trade were needed. It was suggested that jobs be found in the neighborhood for students to complete. Also in attendance was Carol Smith, the Vice President of the Roselawn Community Council who spoke on the importance of regaining our youth and showing them love, and Rodney Thompson who is the chairperson of the organization.

Sean Brown- Cincinnati Reds

Contact Information: (513) 765-7061 SBrown@reds.com

Mr. Brown is trying to recruit a more diverse workforce reflective of the Cincinnati Community and spoke about seasonal summer job opportunities available at the Great American Ballpark. Job opportunities include but are not limited to security, ushers, and ticket takers. He is looking for places to put the word out about these jobs and will provide flyers and would love to attend in person job fairs when possible. Flyers were requested from Principal Crawford.

Sarah Kent- Great Parks (Nature Center @ the Summit)

Contact Information: skent@greatparks.org / greatparks.org for scheduling

Sarah Kent attended the meeting with her co-worker Connor Cunningham who also works for the Nature Center and will be attending future meetings. The Nature Center at the Summit is located behind New Prospect Baptist Church and all programs are free to the public. They have two events occurring this month. On 1/9/22 @ 1:00 p.m. they will present New Year's Newton, and on 1/24/22 @ 7:00 p.m. participants will make Faux Stained Glass.

They have also partnered with the Landbank to create a community garden 10/2021. The Roselawn Community Council oversees the garden, and twenty plots are available. Please contact Ms. Kent if you are interested in one of the plots. They plan to offer cooking and gardening courses.

Deque Hussain Wetzel- Black Sites Researcher for Cincinnati Preservation Society

Paul Muller-Executive Director for Cincinnati Preservation Society

Contact Information:

<https://cincinnati-preservation.org/resources/site-of-black-history>

Urban Roots Podcast- <https://urbanistmedia.org/lost-voices-of-cincinnati>

Deque explained that her job is to research black sites and that the Cincinnati Preservation Society is looking for ways to preserve black sites that communities find important. The desire to help communities identify and preserve important sites that may hold significance for the community. They would like to create a narrative of black sites that

people don't know about. In Bond Hill, the Bella Vista Historic District won an award for its preservation work.

Ghassan Alansi- Program Director Inner City Tennis Project

Contact Information: <https://www.innercitytp.com>

Established in 1981, the Inner-City Tennis Program has been looking for places to expand its program and feels that Bond Hill is a match because it needs renovation in the recreation department. They believe that the youth in Bond Hill should have access to Tennis for recreational, high school, or international purposes. They are interested in Bond Hill and Losantiville Triangle sites. Mr. Alansi's experience includes playing at Xavier University and internationally. This program has been working with The Bond Hill Recreation Center since December 2021 to present an indoor tennis program. The current hours for the program are 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays and 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturdays.

The organization stated that they want to provide programming free or at a minimal cost. President Edmerson asked specifically what type of support the organization was requesting. Michelle Miller from the Recreation Center stated that the support included a push from residents stating that they want this activity in the community. President Edmerson again asked what that support looked like. Would it include sending a letter or scheduling a meeting? Michelle stated that she would get back to the council with a response. She also shared that she had spoken to USTA and they have promised new nets and help with tennis court restoration.

Susan Schiller- Chief Executive Officer Bethany House

Susan Schiller from Bethany house provided an update on construction. The site is taking on the appearance of a new shelter. Roof decking is being installed, inspections are ongoing, and progress is being made despite supply chain issues. Ms. Schiller expressed her thanks to those who brought gifts to Bethany House. She is also retiring at the end of May. Thank you, Susan, for being a great partner.

There was a review of voting procedures,

Vote on December's Minutes

Susan Schiller made a motion to approve December minutes as written

Tammy Lunan seconded the motion to approve December's minutes as written

The motion was put to a vote with six yes votes, zero no votes, and no abstentions

Vote on December's Financial Report

Dorothy Brundidge (Treasurer) shared the financial report

A question was raised regarding the purpose of the file cabinet purchase, and it was explained that the cabinets were for storage.

Keevin Lee made a motion to accept the financial report for December

Charles Holmes seconded the motion to accept December's financial report

The motion was put to a vote with ten yes votes, zero no votes, and no abstentions

Old Business

- a) A discussion was had regarding the usage of the Neighborhood Activation Grant for \$10,000. The grant was applied for and received but must be used for community engagement and had to be written in such a way. The council stated that we need more of our residents engaged in activities.
- b) Update on Community Garden by Phil Waller Beautification Chair

Phil Waller applied for an Urban Agriculture grant and received \$1500 of the \$2500 he requested. He plans a collaboration with the Bond Hill Recreation Center. He has also spoken with Our Harvest who agreed to help with planting seed that Phil will obtain. Phil is requesting that the community reach out with ideas and would appreciate volunteers. He is also looking for people to join the beautification committee.

- c) Open Secretary Position

The Council saluted outgoing secretary Celeste Wonson for her excellent work. Celeste has decided not to run for secretary which leaves an open secretary position. If you know anyone who is organized, efficient, dependable, and interested, please contact president@bond-hill.org.

New Officers- Please welcome Marcia Boyd who was elected as Vice Chair and Pastor Jeff Davis who was elected as Member At Large.

A question arose from Keevin Lee regarding Pastor Davis membership status.

President Edmerson advised that this is a matter resulting from the ambiguity of the by-laws and that a committee will be formed to resolve issues with by-laws.

Chair Reports

- Beautification – No report. Chairperson will connect with executive board.
- Membership- Chair stated that only eleven memberships have been renewed for 2022. She requested that everyone renew their membership for 2022.
- Safety- No report
- Youth- No report. Chair stated that she will review progress of the previous chair, connect with past committee member to request their continued membership, connect with the executive board, and present and updated report at a future meeting.

New Business

The council hired the city to help with plants this year.

Open Agenda

The Bond Hill Market is waiting on permits from the city.

The President and Vice President will tour a space from the Port next Thursday at 2:00 p.m.

Sue Isabel asked the council if the police were still issuing speeding tickets? Council responded that the speeding sign is moved amongst communities, but Officer Brazile was still trying to maintain a presence.

The council does not anticipate returning to in-person meetings anytime soon due to Covid. Right now, the school board is considering school closures on a case-to-case basis and is requesting feedback from parents via survey due by 1/10/22.

Motion to Adjourn Meeting

Dorothy Brundidge made a motion to adjourn the community council meeting.

Sue Isabel seconded the motion to adjourn the community council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.