

Thursday, October 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. St. John's Congregational Church 1235 Highway Avenue

Botany Hills Minutes

President Ray Kingsbury opened the meeting at 7:03pm.

Board Members present: Ray Kingsbury, Melissa Einhaus, Dick Burg

Approve minutes from last meeting: Moved by Ron Einhaus, seconded by Pam Smith

Treasurer's report: No report. Pam Smith has accepted to become our new treasurer.

Guest: Jackson Kinney, Director of Community Development

Mr. Kinney has been with the city for 3 months now. He has only talked to one other neighborhood group besides ours. Jackson has made some recommendations to the City Commissioners about some changes. The approach that he has taken is to continue what has been going well and he is putting together a community development team. With the development team they will see what development has been done in the city and see what still can be done within the city and make processes more user friendly for people to do developments.

First recommendation is to make one vision on what needs to be done for downtown development; with a plan on what changes need to happen that will be the best fit for Covington. Second recommendation is to put together an economic development implementation strategy for what we need to look at to continue to make changes to help Covington. Third recommendation is to keep updated on the Kenton County Regional Comprehensive plan; we want to be included in what is happening around us. The Community Development team will give the commissioners a monthly report on what the team is doing to help Covington.

We hope that they look at the Zoning code; they need to look at each neighborhood individually because it doesn't fit for each neighborhood the same. He wants to make the zoning code user friendly.

The neighborhood is important to the city, but the downtown is the heart of the community. Businesses will look at the downtown to see how it has developed and how attractive it is for their employees. We need a comprehensive approach to both the downtown and neighborhoods. He likes the look of 19th Century homes. We just need find the right mix of business on Madison Avenue. We need to find out what will fit for our city.

Facebook/Website Update: Agenda and minutes are always added. Ray is very active on Facebook. How often is the website being visited? Do we want to put more input on facebook instead of a website?

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Safety: Officer Tucker showed us on his computer how our neighborhood compares to other neighborhoods in Covington and we have less crime. However, we have a sex offender that has moved in the area on Alberta and we had some break-ins, burglars, thief, etc.

Covington Neighborhood Collaborative (Howard McGurty): Larry McSweeney has mention that he has offered to possibly make up a website to have all the neighborhoods have a link for their site. It will cost each neighborhood around \$15. Meeting announcement sign is being manufactured.

Social/Membership: Neighborhood Halloween Party will be held in St. Ann's parking lot on Sunday, October 31st from 4-6pm. We will have games for the kids, hotdogs, candy, etc. The Firemen will come over to judge the kids costumes. We need a motion to spend \$100 for the Halloween Party, for food and prizes. Motion was made by Howard McGurty, seconded by Frank Gilbert, motion carried

Neighborhood Development/Local: The one house that had couches and other garbage was fined. The burnt house on John Street was purchased by a group.

Beautification: Deb Hennings has resigned and we need a new chairman. If anyone is interested, let us know.

Water for 3rd & Crescent Traffic Islands, we need to find someone to dig the hole to put in the water spout for us. K&W has agreed to donate the plumbing labor

NEWS SHARING: What do you do if there is a light that is shining in someone's house? You have to call Duke and they will put a shield on the light or dim the light. Who do you call to get a traffic sign fixed because it is falling down? Call Public Works and they will fix it. Halloween party at the VFW on Saturday, October 23 starting at 8pm. Jerry has tickets for Bingo on November 13.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 18 at 7pm. Meeting adjourned at 8:20pm. Howard McGurty is in charge of inviting Larry McSwiney to the next meeting.