



Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, October 11, 2022

7:00 pm

Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church

Agenda

Subject to change

1. Welcome

Location of future meetings:

- November 8th: Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church, Little Theater

2. Guests (10-14 minutes)

- Cincinnati Police Department, Officer Christine Barry
- Cincinnati Fire Department, Lieutenant Dan Coletta
- Hyde Park Library, Ben Lathrop
- Cincinnati Recreation Center, Blake Williams
- Hyde Park School, Jull Sunderman
- Hamilton County Mental Health Levy
 - Meredith Poynter, Southwest Ohio Hub Director, Mental Health & Addiction Advocacy Coalition (MHAC)
- Hamilton County Elderly Services Program and Renewal Levy
 - Stephanie Seyfried, Director, Council on Aging
- Other Guests

3. Approval of Consent Agenda (Minutes, Officer Reports, Committee Reports)

4. Officer Reports

Reports have been posted to the HPNC website as part of the meeting packet.

5. Committee Reports & Representatives

Reports have been posted to the HPNC website as part of the meeting packet.

6. Old Business

- Library Renovation Update – Request for Variances in Parking Lot
 - Presentation by Brett Macht, *emersion* DESIGN
 - Consideration of recommendation from HPNC Zoning Committee
- UDOD Sandwich Board Text Amendments
 - Review highlights from Zoning Committee report
 - Have we received requests from businesses in Hyde Park Square or Hyde Park East? If so, discuss next steps.

- Neighborhood Activation Fund (NAF) Update
 - **Thank you to the organizers, participants, and attendees of both of Hyde Park's fabulous NAF events!**
 - 9/17 Hyde Park Square's Circus on the Square
 - 10/1 Hyde Park East's Fall Family Fest
 - Review of NAF funding
 - Funds awarded to HPNC: \$12,844
 - Updates to be provided on Tuesday:
 - Funds allocated by HPNC
 - Funds used by two events (approx. \$4995 for HP event and approx. \$4485 for HPE event).
 - Remaining funds (approx. \$2800)
 - Discuss potential uses of remaining funds, including Halloween on the Square
- HPNC Membership Drive
 - Update on Membership Drive
- Updates to HPNC Committees
 - We are seeking **trustee** and **non-trustee** committee members for
 - Finance
 - Zoning, Vice Chair
 - If you would like to join a committee, please email hpncpres@gmail.com.

7. New Business

- Traffic & Safety Updates
 - Observatory Ave.
 - Linwood Ave.
- Communications / Website / Membership Management
 - Discuss existing situation and desired future state
 - Discuss alternatives
 - Discuss budget and relative priorities

8. Adjourn



This report includes three sections: Quick Updates, Nonpartisan Voter Engagement Resources for your Neighborhood, and HPNC's 2022 Community Budget Request (CBR) Submissions

Quick Updates

Community Budget Requests

- All 3 requests were finalized and submitted by deadline.
- Final requests are included at the end of the President's Report.

Neighborhood Support Program (NSP)

- Background: NSP is largest source of public support for community councils within the City of Cincinnati.
- In August, Norm submitted an informal amendment to *Invest In Neighborhoods* to account for minor changes since our original application. The amendment was accepted. Thank you Norm!
- Norm just submitted our final NSP report. Thank you Norm!

HPNC Committee Needs

- We are seeking **trustee** and **non-trustee** committee members for
 - Finance
 - Zoning, Vice Chair
- If you would like to join a committee, please email hpncpres@gmail.com.

Liquor License application at 3672-74 Erie Avenued

- A 9/28/22 letter informed HPNC that *Indus LLC* has applied for a new D5 liquor license at 3672-74 Erie Avenue. This is the location of the former Big Bull Burger Bar and Saigon Café.
- D5 permit allows "Spirituuous liquor for on premises consumption only, beer, wine and mixed beverages for on premises, or off premises in original sealed containers, until 2:30am."
- If we wish to raise any concerns, we must do so by in writing prior to 10/17.

Cincinnati Updates Mobile Customer Service App to "311Cincy"

- The Fix It Cincy mobile app is now 311Cincy, to coincide with the City's overall customer service program. You have 24/7 access to the City of Cincinnati through the 311Cincy app, the www.311Cincy.com website, or by calling 311.
- This app name change should have occurred automatically for existing Fix It Cincy app users recently as part of an app update.

Sign up for emails from City of Cincinnati Office of Environment & Sustainability (OES)

- The City's Office of Environment & Sustainability (OES) sends our occasional emails with helpful content. If you are interested, sign up at https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=001uIM2HFQzzSYzjxLZsVMC0XnEaggRZOkguXRx2DVEKnmuu1jyOEMV2qxTPT3t3pQDCOMR_ZMrtLRwHilvurT4fItz_87aTgyP8_4iNTJAUF8%3D

Invest in Neighborhoods 40th Anniversary

- 2022 Night of the Neighborhoods
Tuesday October 11, 2022 5:30 pm
20th Century Theater, Oakley Square
[Tickets Available Now](#)

Cincinnati Edition focused on pedestrian safety, including in Hyde Park

- The September 20th episode of *Cincinnati Edition* included a segment entitled “As roadways become more treacherous for pedestrians, neighbors and city leaders seek solutions”.
- Panelists included Hyde Park's own Jim Howe speaking in his capacity as the organizer of the Committee for Linwood Ave Pedestrian Safety. Other panelists included City Council Member Mark Jeffreys who spoke at HPNC Annual Meeting in May.
- At the end of the session, Jim recognized HPNC and Todd Roe. And Council Member Jeffreys encouraged citizens to work through their community councils and to contact City Council.
- You can listen to the 24-minute story at <https://bit.ly/3dwfgVe>

Nonpartisan Voter Engagement Resources for your Neighborhood

As the 2022 general election approaches, the partners of the [Greater Cincinnati Voter Collaborative \(GCVC\)](#) would like to ensure that you and your neighbors have everything you need to vote and to help others vote.

We offer free rides to vote (early and on election day) as well as [nonpartisan voter tools and resources](#).

Cincinnati Rides to the Polls

Since 2020, GCVC has been offering free rides to vote during early voting and on election day. Anyone who needs a ride to vote can **text RIDECINCY TO 513.281.9955, call 513.204.9743, or visit our website at CincyVotes.org**. Here's a direct link to the ride request form: [Cincinnati Rides to the Polls \(google.com\)](#). Early voting begins October 12th.

If you or someone you know would like to **volunteer to offer rides to voters, here's the link to sign up to be a driver: [Greater Cincinnati Voter Collaborative: Cincinnati Rides to the Polls - 2022 General Election Driver Sign Up \(signupgenius.com\)](#)**

Voter Engagement Toolkit

We also offer digital and print-ready [resources](#) for voter registration, education, and turnout available to print. National Voter Registration Day is quickly approaching on September 20th and the deadline to register in Ohio is October 11th.

Do you know anyone who'd like to volunteer with us?

Join with other nonprofits and community groups to support ongoing voter engagement efforts: register voters, engage with other civic organizations, and help plan events and services. [Sign up here](#).

About GCVC

GCVC works to advance non-partisan civic and electoral engagement in Greater Cincinnati through a collective-empowerment model. We are a growing volunteer-led collaborative partnering with many of the city's civic-focused nonprofits, including the NAACP, League of Women Voters, ACLU Ohio, Women's City Club, Delta Sigma Theta, Urban League, Action Tank, and [many more](#).

In line with our core [principles](#), the resources above seek to enhance voter registration, education, and ultimately turnout. Our hope is that you share these resources and opportunities with your neighbors, councils, and local businesses, encouraging everyone to participate. Your vote matters!

Thank you for all you do to improve civic and electoral engagement in your neighborhood. If you have suggestions for us or would like a resource you don't see here, please contact us at cincinnati voter@gmail.com. We'd love to hear from you!

HPNC's 2022 Community Budget Request (CBR) Submissions

Project Name: Gateway signage for Hyde Park and improved wayfinding signage for parking in Hyde Park Square

Project Description: This CBR requests gateway signage for Hyde Park and improved wayfinding signage for parking in Hyde Park Square:

- Hyde Park shares borders with six Cincinnati neighborhoods (Oakley, Mount Lookout, East Walnut Hills, Evanston, Columbia Tusculum, East End), as well as the municipalities of Norwood and Fairfax. At present, visitors have little awareness of when they are entering Hyde Park due to a lack of gateway signage. This CBR requests the design, construction, and installation of gateway signage into Hyde Park. A preliminary set of recommended locations is included in the Google Map located at <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1qzA6OiBBNuV2nhsxMcSqQ9FBqIkFDZ4&usp=sharing>. Hyde Park Neighborhood Council wishes to work with the City of Cincinnati's Department of Transportation & Engineering to refine these preliminary recommendations based on their expertise. Preliminary recommendations shown in the corresponding map call for 3 large gateway signs, 3 totems, and 3 pole-mounted signs comparable to other neighborhoods.
- In addition, this CBR requests improved wayfinding signage (that would include the style elements of the gateway signage) for parking in Hyde Park Square. Improved signage is important because the number of parking spaces along Erie Avenue is limited and these spaces are sometimes unavailable for extended periods during peak business hours, including when the Square is closed for events, such as the Farmer's Market which runs on Sunday mornings until 2pm for much of the year. The closure of the Square means that patrons to businesses on Hyde Park Square may have difficulty accessing the stores during the Farmer's market due to the loss of parking. Improving wayfinding signage to the public parking lot on the North side of the Square will help make the Square more accessible to people traveling by car year-round.

Project Estimated Cost: \$99,000 (\$8k Design & Construction; \$20k/each for 3 large signs; \$7k/each for 3 totems; \$1000/sign for 10 pole-mounted welcome or parking signs).

Street address, parcel numbers or closest intersection (if possible): Gateway signage at entrances to Hyde Park; Wayfinding signage for parking in Hyde Park Square.

How does the requested project relate to existing neighborhood plans? How is the project consistent with Plan Cincinnati? i.e. list the Initiative Area(s), Goal(s) and Strategies that it is consistent with.

This CBR supports both Plan Cincinnati and the existing draft of Plan Hyde Park. Each is described below:

- Plan Cincinnati: This proposal supports the Live initiative by advancing the following goals:
 - Build a Robust Public Life: This goal calls for two strategies which would both be advanced by gateway and wayfinding signage. These strategies are “Develop and maintain inviting and engaging public spaces that encourage social interaction between different types of people” and “Create a welcoming civic atmosphere”. Welcoming people to Hyde Park and making it easier for people from across the City to use the existing parking on the north side of Hyde Park Square will allow for a more robust public life.
 - Create a more livable community: This goal calls for two strategies which would both be advanced by gateway and wayfinding signage. These strategies are “Become more walkable” and “Support and stabilize our neighborhoods”. Improved signage will help remind visitors they are entering a walkable community and should be prepared for pedestrians (i.e., obey traffic laws and watch for pedestrians, bicyclists, etc.) and ensure that all citizens can access the businesses on Hyde Park Square 7 days a week and year-round.
- Plan Hyde Park (draft): Hyde Park began working with the City Planning Department on Plan Hyde Park in 2017. The effort was nearing completion prior to the pandemic, at which point City Planning put the plan’s preparation on hold and it remains on hold as of September 2022. The current version of the draft plan is organized into goals and strategies. Gateway signage welcome people to Hyde Park and improving wayfinding signage for parking in Hyde Park Square will advance the following goals and strategies:
 - Quality of Life: Goal 1: Create a vibrant neighborhood where all people feel welcome and connected; Goal 2: Hyde Park will continue to be safe, clean, and visually appealing for residents and visitors; Goal 4: Establish parks, green spaces, and recreation areas and centers that are accessible, well- maintained, and meets the needs of the community
 - Hyde Park Square: Goal 1: Increase parking availability in and around Hyde Park Square; Goal 3: Beautify and improve the infrastructure of Hyde Park Square; Goal 5: Promote events on Hyde Park Square that build community and enhance commerce

Project Name: Lighting at crosswalks in Hyde Park Square

Project Description: Improve lighting at the four pedestrian crosswalks entering the park in the middle of Hyde Park Square.

Project Area: The center of Hyde Park Square consists of the block of Erie Avenue bounded by Edwards Avenue on the West and Michigan Ave on the East. Shops are located on the north and south sides of Erie Avenue. Within this block, the vehicular on Erie Avenue is divided into separate lanes because an elevated public park is located in the middle of the divided roadway. There are two sets of pedestrian crosswalks that allow pedestrians to move from the south side of Erie into the park and then from the park to the north side of Erie. One set of crosswalks is on the East side of the public park. The other set of crosswalks is on the west

side of the park. These crosswalks each have a single street light near the cross walks on the north and south sides of Erie with the shops.

Request: HPNC requests that the four cross-walks be investigated to determine options for increasingly the lighting to better illuminate the crosswalks so that pedestrians are more visible to drivers at night. This includes improving the illumination at both edges and the middle of the crosswalk. HPNC requests that DOTE assess whether lighting could be improved using the existing streetlight, or if additional lighting may be required to be installed on one or both sides of each of the four crosswalks.

DOTE Recommendations. To ensure consistent lighting throughout Hyde Park Square, DOTE recommends that all of the street lights in and around the Hyde Park Square be upgraded to LED. DOTE has prepared a schematic and budget recommending the replacement of 28 bulbs and fixtures.

Project Estimated Cost: \$55,000 (\$20k for 28 Globe Replacements; \$25k for 28 LED Fixture Replacements, and \$10k in Labor). Schematic prepared by City DOTE is available upon request.

Street address, parcel numbers or closest intersection (if possible): Four pedestrian crosswalks leading to the public park in the middle of Erie Avenue bounded by Edwards Avenue on the West and Michigan Ave on the East.

How does the requested project relate to existing neighborhood plans? How is the project consistent with Plan Cincinnati? i.e. list the Initiative Area(s), Goal(s) and Strategies that it is consistent with:

This CBR supports both Plan Cincinnati and the existing draft of Plan Hyde Park. Each is described below:

- **Plan Cincinnati:** This proposal supports the Live initiative by advancing the following goals:
 - **Build a Robust Public Life:** This goal calls for two strategies which would both be advanced by improved lighting. These strategies are “Develop and maintain inviting and engaging public spaces that encourage social interaction between different types of people” and “Create a welcoming civic atmosphere”. Improved lighting will make Hyde Park Square safer for pedestrians from across the city, which will allow Hyde Park Square to provide for a more robust public life.
 - **Create a more livable community:** This goal calls for two strategies which would both be advanced by improved lighting. These strategies are “Become more walkable” and “Support and stabilize our neighborhoods”. Improved lighting will improve the walkability of Hyde Park Square and will ensure all citizens will feel safe and want to live, work, and play in Hyde Park Square.
- **Plan Hyde Park (draft):** Hyde Park began working with the City Planning Department on Plan Hyde Park in 2017. The effort was nearing completion prior to the pandemic, at which point City Planning put the plan’s preparation on hold and it remains on hold as of September 2022. The current version of the draft plan is organized into goals and strategies. Improving lighting in Hyde Park Square will advance the following goals and strategies:
 - **Quality of Life:** Goal 1: Create a vibrant neighborhood where all people feel welcome and connected; Goal 2: Hyde Park will continue to be safe, clean, and visually appealing for

residents and visitors; Goal 4: Establish parks, green spaces, and recreation areas and centers that are accessible, well- maintained, and meets the needs of the community

- Mobility: Goal 1: Promote pedestrian, bicycle, and traffic safety; Goal 4: Promote walkability and other non-automotive transportation;
- Hyde Park Square: Goal 3: Beautify and improve the infrastructure of Hyde Park Square; Goal 5: Promote events on Hyde Park Square that build community and enhance commerce

Project Name: Eliminate chronic drainage problem on the sidewalk, on northern side of Erie close to Bayard on way to Victoria

Project Description: For more than a decade, HPNC has worked with the City of Cincinnati's DOTE and the Stormwater Management Utility (SMU) to eliminate the chronic drainage problem from the uphill side to the North of Erie Avenue. During and after rainfalls, the water pools on the sidewalk creating wet and slippery conditions year-round, with wet leaves and ice being a serious hazard for City residents and families that are walking or running along this sidewalk which is the only pedestrian connector between the east and west sides of Hyde Park.

For more than a decade, HPNC, DOTE, and SMU have collaborated on multiple fixes that were believed to be able to collect the water on the uphill side of the sidewalk and allow it to drain under the sidewalk to eliminate this hazard. During the summer of 2022, the problem recurred and DOTE and SMU investigated solutions. Due to the chronic nature of this hazard and a lack of understanding of the primary cause and how best to resolve it, HPNC is submitting a CBR to investigate and fix this long-term hazard.

Project Estimated Cost: \$75,000

Street address, parcel numbers or closest intersection (if possible): Sidewalk on northern side of Erie close to Bayard on way to Victoria

How does the requested project relate to existing neighborhood plans? How is the project consistent with Plan Cincinnati? i.e. list the Initiative Area(s), Goal(s) and Strategies that it is consistent with:

This CBR supports both Plan Cincinnati and the existing draft of Plan Hyde Park. Each is described below:

- Plan Cincinnati: This proposal supports both the Live and Sustain initiatives by advancing the following goals:
 - Live: Create a more livable community: This goal calls for two strategies which would both be advanced by making this sidewalk safe for pedestrian usage. These strategies are "Become more walkable" and "Support and stabilize our neighborhoods". Fixing the source of this long-term water drainage will improve the walkability of Hyde Park Square and will ensure pedestrians will be able to safely walk between east and west Hyde Park.
 - Sustain: The Sustain initiative calls for "preserving our natural and built environment" and "managing our financial resources". Identifying the cause of and fixing this long-term hazard now before the problem worsens (as climate change leads to increasing rates of precipitation) is key to ensuring that the hillside remains stable so that the sidewalk and even Erie Ave is not

subject to landslides or other hazardous conditions. Fixing the problem now before it worsens will help protect the natural environment, the built environment (sidewalk and road), and fix the problem now before it gets worse and requires more resources to fix in the future as precipitation rates increase.

- Plan Hyde Park (draft): Hyde Park began working with the City Planning Department on Plan Hyde Park in 2017. The effort was nearing completion prior to the pandemic, at which point City Planning put the plan's preparation on hold and it remains on hold as of September 2022. The current version of the draft plan is organized into goals and strategies. Fixing this year-round hazard to walkability between Hyde Park's two business district will advance the following goals and strategies:
 - Quality of Life: Goal 1: Create a vibrant neighborhood where all people feel welcome and connected; Goal 2: Hyde Park will continue to be safe, clean, and visually appealing for residents and visitors; Goal 4: Establish parks, green spaces, and recreation areas and centers that are accessible, well- maintained, and meets the needs of the community.
 - Mobility: Goal 1: Promote pedestrian, bicycle, and traffic safety; Goal 4: Promote walkability and other non-automotive transportation.



Communications – Tommy McEvoy

We are still working through options for new web hosting. We are talking with other community councils about their approach to membership management and communications as we work toward a decision.

DORA – Tommy McEvoy

The team within HPSBA is still working on the legal agreement with the city. It sounds as though the required insurance is one of the key discussion topics. I have asked for a more significant update regarding the open items, as well as a new target opening date. I hope to have that by our next meeting.

East Hyde Park Community Event – Tommy McEvoy

The Fall Family Fest was a very successful event! Many businesses reported higher than average lunch/afternoon traffic that day and we distributed all gift cards within the first hour. Thanks again to all that helped with planning and execution! We would like to consider making this an annual event and will bring the topic up next spring.

Halloween on the Square – Annie Rusche, Sybil Mullin, Blair Whitney

This year's Halloween on the Square event will be held on Saturday October 29th. The event committee is finalizing the details, but this year's event will feature a Spooky Storytime (and craft) on the Square from 10:30-11:00 a.m., hosted by the Hyde Park Library. Afterwards, children and parents will be invited to tick-or-treat at businesses on and around the square during regular business hours. We are still working to determine whether Knox Church will help with the craft. We will email Eddie Walter and Mark Walters of HPSBA this week once we have details finalized so that they can communicate them to the businesses. A Facebook event will be posted by the end of this week with signs to be printed and distributed around the neighborhood.

Hyde Park School – Val Woodham

The annual Hyde Park School Pumpkin Chuck is scheduled for Saturday November 5th! Signs will be put out both at the school and around the neighborhood to advertise the event.

Membership – Annie Rusche

- We have had 32 members (8 are board members, which puts us at halfway through goal of 50 new members). We've had donations from \$20-\$100.
- A reminder to all new members to check their email for their membership card and to confirm their address so their car decal can be delivered

Treasurer Report and Neighborhood Support Program – Norm Lewis

- Janet helped me learn enough computer skills to complete and submit the HPNC Neighborhood Support Program 2022 Final Report. Only 58 pages. Not likely they will accept it as submitted, but you have to start somewhere.

- We spent all the \$7658 allowed. Once our report is accepted, we can submit our 2023 proposal, covering the period from Jan thru December 2023. This leaves our Halloween event unfunded. NAF could be a funding source for that (if we are having the event, and the board votes to spend the money).
- HPNC received \$448 in memberships.
- HPNC spent \$2095 NAF funds last month for Hyde Park Square event for a running total of \$4995 (vs budgeted \$2900 from Aug and \$400 from September) There was talk in the meeting minutes about approving gift cards, and HPS bought \$1494 plus \$200 decorations plus \$400 liability insurance, but I don't find that approval in the meeting minutes.
- HPNC spent \$2957.44 NAF funds last month for the Hyde Park East event on 10/1 for a running total of \$4485 vs \$6300 budgeted) I expect more expenses will dribble in for the HPE event
- NAF income was \$12844 and HPNC has spent about \$10000 of it. That leaves about \$2800 NAF funds to spend through the end of the year

**HPNC Financial Report
September 14, 2022 – October 11, 2022**

RECEIPTS

9/14/22	Membership	19.11
9/15/22	Membership	19.11
9/16/22	Membership	19.11
9/19/22	Membership	76.44
9/20/22	Membership	38.22
9/21/22	Membership	19.11
9/22/22	Membership	38.22
9/23/22	Membership	24.01
9/28/22	Membership	19.11
9/30/22	Membership	99.11
10/3/22	Membership	38.22
10/5/22	Membership	38.22
TOTAL		\$447.99

DISBURSEMENTS

9/22/22	1499	Juggler Dave and friends (HPE-NAF)	900.00
9/22/22	1500	Paul Rudolph (HPS_NAF decorations)	200.00
9/22/22	1501	Paul Rudolph (HPS-NAF gift cards)	1494.70
9/22/22	1502	Hyde Park Square Business Association (HPS-NAF-Insurance)	400.00
10/1/22	1503	Tommy McEvoy(HPE-NAF-GiftCards,Lowes,Harden)	590.49
10/10/22	1504	Alex jSchulte (HPE-NAF-HomeDepot,Coffee Emporium,ChinaGormet, St.Francis Apizza	1016.95
10/10/22	1505	Blair Whitney (HPE-NAF-tips for performers)	150.00
10/12/22	1506	Tommy McEvoy(HPE-NAF-BalloonArtist)	300.00
TOTAL			\$5052.14



September topics:

- 1) Observatory Ave.
- 2) Linwood Ave.

Observatory Ave.

- **Good news!...** DOTE informed me that a new pool of dollars has recently become available, specifically to help w/ traffic/safety improvements adjacent to schools.
- Every neighborhood will receive a portion of this funding, estimated to be around \$40K per neighborhood.
- **HP's allowance will be used to restripe Observatory from Madison to Edwards** (and ideally extended all the way to Linwood). No further documentation or approvals are required.
- Timing will most likely be spring (at the earliest) due to declining temperatures and lack of available capacity. Lines can't be striped after end of October. Striping will start up again in April
- DOTE is exploring options for an exception to possibly get the work done in October (would require an exception from City Manager and finding a vendor w/ immediate-term capacity to complete the work). Unlikely to happen, but it's definitely worth exploring. More to come.
- As follow-up to the above, I am working w/ DOTE to extend the current Observatory striping plan to also include the stretch from Edwards to Linwood. As part of this we will also revisit the striping at the intersection of Edwards/Observatory... hoping to improve lane delineations and add dedicated turn-lanes.

Linwood Ave.

- Linwood is currently part of evaluation process for 2023 DOTE competitive funding
- All submitted locations across the city are being evaluated in Sep/Oct/Nov on a number of factors, including speed of auto traffic (using DOTE approved method of laying speed measurement hoses across roads)
- Unfortunately, there is an issue w/ many of the speed evaluations currently underway b/c the hoses are being ripped up... b/c traffic is moving too fast (can't make this stuff up).
- DOTE is exploring new speed measurement capabilities but this will likely slow down the evaluation/decision process

Separately, I spoke w/ DOTE about the possibility of combining any Linwood interventions w/ the Observatory interventions (outlined above) in hopes of finding cost efficiencies. Unfortunately, this does not appear to be a significant cost savings and, because it would be from 2 different funding sources (and on potentially very different timings), DOTE doesn't believe it is possible from a process standpoint.



New Zoning Business

UDOD Sandwich Board Text Amendment – Gary Wollenweber attended a Planning Department Staff Conference on September 5, 2022 where an Ordinance that will permit sandwich board signs in the Mount Washington Urban Design Overlay Districts (UDOD) was discussed. The following is a summary of the discussion.

1. The City considers sandwich board signs temporary signs, and currently they are not permitted in any UDOD by S1 in Cincinnati Municipal Code (CMC) §1437-09.
2. For background, about one year ago, someone complained about a Mt. Washington sandwich board sign, and the owner was fined by city. (Why someone complained was not discussed)
3. The proposed Ordinance modifies S1 and adds S6 to §1437-09 which would allow sandwich signs in UD #8 - Mt. Washington Business District, but it does not modify §1437-09 to permit sandwich signs in any other UDOD. Planning Commission discussed Ordinance as Item 6 at 9 am on September 16, 2022. The Ordinance was approved and is now before City Council.
4. Neither multiple Mt. Washington business owners, neighborhood council members participating, nor City administrators wanted to talk about any other neighborhood except Mt. Washington.
5. There is a \$2500 application fee for each UDOD unless sponsored by a City Councilperson. The Mt. Washington was sponsored by Councilmember/Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Kearney.

The above and the current and proposed UDOD sandwich board sign Development Standards were communicated to the HPSBA. Hyde Park Square Business District is in UDOD#4 and Hyde Park East Business District is in UDOD#11.

More recently, at my suggestion, Councilmember/Vice Mayor Jan-Michele Kearney offered to sponsor an Ordinance to modify Schedule 1437-09 for the other fourteen UDOD in the City (to permit sandwich board signs) if requested by respective neighborhood community councils (see her message below).

Janet Buening plans to discuss the issue at the HPSBA meeting at 8:30 AM, October 11. Business representatives have been encouraged to attend the HPNC meeting to make their request for sandwich signs in UDOD#4. Sandwich board signs have not been observed in East Hyde Park Business District so there have been no attempts to notify business owners in UDOD#11.

The Zoning Committee does not have a recommendation regarding sandwich board signs. We suggest asking business representatives if Sec. 723-9. - Sandwich Board Signs and §1427-26. Sandwich Board Sign Regulations) are reasonable and if HPSQBA will self-enforce. Key regulations:

1. Only one sandwich sign and must be in front of business (E+O, Patty's Popcorn, Casa Loca currently violate this regulation)

2. Max size 3' high x 2' wide
3. Within 3'-6" of curb or next to building (some currently violate this regulation)
4. Remove when business closed (many businesses currently violate this regulation)

Public Library Parking Lot - Associated with HP Flats, the Falling Leaves project, Terrex (contractor) is relocating a portion of the combined sewer in Library parking lot. The Zoning Committee (ZC) was contacted by Brett W. Macht, RA of Emerson Design LLC, 310 Culvert Street Suite 100 | Cincinnati, OH 45202 | P 513 841 3901 | M 513 725 6407 | to discuss a new parking lot design as reported last month.

The ZC met a second time with Mr. Macht and library representatives on October 5. The sewer has been replaced and a new access hole in the parking lot shows the new parking surface elevation. More than 4000 sq. ft. of current greenspace including nearly all trees will be replaced by paving. The improvement will add about 50% more parking spaces but two variances will be required.

- 1423-13 Required Buffer Yards
The library property adjoins RM 1 & 2 along the east and south property lines.
There is no existing buffer, nor is one planned with the proposed development.
- 1425-29 Parking Lot Landscaping
The proposed development is bringing the parking lot closer to the property lines, and will be less than 3' landscape perimeter in some areas.

Zoning Committee recommendation on the two variances:

1. § 1423-13 Required Buffer Yards – Currently there is no buffer yard and parking lot is not in buffer yard compliance. We have no objection to variance due to unique nature of retaining walls and garage surrounding the proposed parking lot.
2. § 1425-29 Parking Lot Landscaping – The current parking lot is in compliance, and applicant proposes to remove more than 4000 sq. ft. thus creating the need for the variance. We suggest a variance allowing the required eastern greenspace, approx. 3' x 170' (rear yard to rear property line), in an alternate location even if 1 or 2 spaces lost. The greenspace on the abutting lot to east may not be counted. We recommends at least one tree, minimum caliper 6" diameter, in a space suitable for future growth.

The Zoning Committee considered the following text from the zoning code in our recommendation for § 1425-29 Parking Lot Landscaping variance:

§ 1445-15. - Standards for Variances.

Subject to the other provisions of this Chapter, the Zoning Hearing Examiner may grant a variance from the requirements of the Cincinnati Zoning Code or the Land Development Code, provided the condition giving rise to the request for the variance was not created by the owner or any predecessor in title.

New Applications/New Hearings

2243 Grandin Road (corner Weebetook) - RWA has notified HPNC of a residential project requesting a zoning variance for a projection 16 feet into the side yard for an accessory structure (an at grade sport court). Applicant has 10 out of 14 approval signatures of the property owners within 200 feet who answered the door. Chris Grosser, AIA with RWA is the architect. Unlikely the Zoning Committee will have comment.

2561 Grandin View Ln (ZH20220056) - Applicant is seeking hillside overlay district approval to construct a single-family home that exceeds height, cut/fill, and retaining wall height restrictions and any other relief required under the Zoning Code. The hearing was October 5, 2022. The Zoning Committee did not comment.

2686 Grandin Road (ZH20220132) and 2684 Grandin Place (ZH20220129)

A locational variance - Proposed variance to allow an accessory structure in the front yard of a residential property. An in-ground pool is considered an accessory structure and is proposed in the front yard (north side) of the parcel. The Zoning Committee did not comment. The hearing was September 7, 2022.

3101 Victoria (ZH20220130) Proposed variance of 4.2' from the 10' minimum SF-10 side setback requirement to allow a 5.8' east side setback to an existing garage; and a 31.5' variance from the SF-10 rear setback requirement of 35' to allow a 3.5' rear setback to an existing garage. The Zoning Committee did not comment. The hearing was September 7, 2022.

2881 Ziegle (ZH20220128) Two dimensional variances – Proposed variance of 0.7' from the minimum side setback requirement of 5.75' (5'9") for a 40' wide SF-6 subminimum lot width and a proposed variance of 15.2' from the 35' minimum SF-6 rear setback requirement to allow a 19.8' rear setback to the deck to allow a 5.1' east side setback of new deck with pergola. The Zoning Committee did not comment. The hearing was September 7, 2022.

3543 Vista (2022P04929) - The applicant is seeking a location variance to place a garage/accessory structure in a front yard. It appears the property may have two front yards. The zoning committee reviewed documents and offered no comment because the variance is consistent with abutting and other properties on the same block. The hearing was August 31, 2022. No decision has been issued.

Old Business

Hyde Park Flats 3460 Michigan (2741 Erie) – demolition is complete, sewer relocation underway.

Hyde Park School (3401 Edwards) – Construction has started, there is a hole where new classroom addition will be.

Urban Design District Contributing Structure Review – HPNC Recommendations

While there has been some clarifying communication with Maria Dienger-Planner, and she hopes to complete this fall, there has been no date or time proposed for the meeting to discuss the City's evaluation and recommendation.

Virtual Zoning Hearing Instructions

In accordance with orders issued by state and local officials and applicable guidance concerning COVID-19, this hearing will be conducted using video-conferencing technology. This hearing will be closed to in-person attendance to comply with social distancing requirements. The link above will allow you to join this hearing using the Zoom website. It is important that each participant familiarize themselves with the Zoom video-conferencing technology **BEFORE** joining the hearing. Participants are strongly encouraged to visit the following link to join a test Zoom meeting - <https://zoom.us/test>. The test Zoom meeting will allow

participants to ensure that all audio and video components are working properly on your computer or device. All desktop/laptop computers, tablets, and smartphones with internet access can join and participate in the hearing. Participants may also visit the Zoom Support Center to learn more about Zoom video-conferencing – [link](#).

Important Disclaimers

- Applicants and/or Owners may choose to **opt out** of the video-conferencing option. If an Applicant and/or Owner elects to opt out, the hearing will be placed on hold until in-person hearings resume. If you are an Applicant and/or Owner that would like to opt out of the video-conferencing option, please reply to this email immediately.
- Please be mindful of your environment when participating in the hearing. All participants must ensure that they eliminate background noise and distractions during the hearing. All participants are required to dress appropriately.
- Please avoid using virtual backgrounds during the hearing. If you have used virtual backgrounds in previous Zoom meetings, please ensure that they are turned off prior to joining this hearing.
- In the event of any technical difficulties or unforeseen circumstances, the Hearing Examiner reserves the right to continue or postpone this hearing at their discretion.
- The Hearing Examiner reserves the right to remove any participant from the hearing at their discretion.

If you have additional questions or would like more information about these process changes, please reply to this email or visit www.cincinnati-oh.gov/boards.



Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

Meeting Minutes

Meeting at Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church called to order by President, S. Hassell at 7:05 p.m.

In Attendance: J. Buening, A. Edwards, B. Frappier-Schirmang, D. Hapner, S. Hassell, S. Mullin, N. Lewis, A. Schutte, B. Smyth, B. Whitney, G. Wollenweber, and V. Woodham.

Advance Notice of Absence: T. McEvoy, T. Roe, and Annie Rusche.

Guests:

Cincinnati Police Department, District 2 Officer Christine Barry distributed the neighborhood crime report for the period. She noted that thefts are down by 60% from this time last year. B&E's are up with packages being stolen from mail rooms in condo and apartment buildings. District 2 will be focusing on enforcement of speeding and traffic regulations in school zones to ensure pedestrian safety. Officer Barry can be reached at 979-4480.

Christine.Barry@cincinnati-oh.gov. Captain Danita Pettis can be reached at: 979-4444

Danita.pettis@cincinnati-oh.gov. Police non-emergency line 765-1212.

Cincinnati Fire Department-Lieutenant Dan Coletta introduced himself and shared that the station's open house is scheduled for October 15th from 1-4 p.m. (kids and dogs are welcome). In August, the station had 127 fire runs and 421 ambulance runs. September is National Preparedness month and October 9-15 is Fire Prevention Week.

Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church-Suzanne Allen, Senior Pastor introduced herself, welcomed the HPNC to the church, and expressed her interest in partnering with the Council on community events.

Cincinnati Recreation Commission-Oakley Rec. Center Director Blake Williams introduced herself as the director for the Oakley Center; she has been on the job for the past year. She shared that the summer program is full with 80 kids enrolled. CCRC is looking for staff for the after-school programs at Kilgour and Hyde Park School; a total of 105 students are enrolled currently (with a 60-person waiting list). All in-person programs are back post-COVID including tai chi and fitness classes, check the website for class offerings.

Clark Montessori—Joyia Johnson introduced herself as the new Resource Coordinator for Clark. A native of Louisville she is excited to get involved in the Cincinnati community and the students at Clark.

1. **Approval of Consent Agenda**

N. Lewis moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by Brianna Frappier Schirmang. All in favor. Motion carried.

2. **Old Business**

a. **Plans for the new Oakley Recreation Center**

Blake Williams provided the update on the plans for the new Center building. The total cost for the project will be \$6 million. The project is open for bid starting today and closing October 3 and expected to break ground in November. The Center will be constructed on Paxton Avenue and the tennis and basketball will be removed. Eventually the current center will be demolished and the plan is for the tennis and basketball courts to be rebuilt on the site of the “former” center. The new name will be the Eastside Recreation Center. The new building will include a gymnasium, have two entrances, and 60-80 parking spaces behind the building.

b. **Hyde Park Library-Renovation Project—Manager Ben Lathrop and Brett Macht of Immersion Design**

Ben and Brett shared that the Library had conducted engagement sessions with the community about ideas and input from citizens. The city-wide focus for library branches has been to improve accessibility. The renovation was supposed to happen at a later date, however with the ongoing work at the neighboring Terrex/Falling Leaves mixed use development, including the relocation of the sewer line and raising of the Library parking lot to be at grade with the sewer was the impetus to do the project sooner. In addition to the parking lot grading, the bricked-over windows on the back of the building will be uncovered, the elevator will be moved to the front of the building, there will be three fully accessible restrooms (2 public 1 staff), and there will be a glass vestibules in both the front and back of the building. The branch will be closed from September 29 and is expected to reopen in the Spring of 2023. In the interim, the library will have a temporary space in Hyde Park Plaza in the former Remington and Rose storefront.

c. **Community Budget Requests**

S. Hassell has been in communication with DOTE for 3 ideas: 1. Gateway/improved wayfinding and signage for parking in Hyde Park; 2. Improved lighting at crosswalks in Hyde Park Square (all 4 into the Park in the Square) and at crosswalks on Erie bordering the Square; and 3. Addressing the persistent water seepage on the North side of Erie across from District 2. J. Buening moved, ***“That the HPNC approve the submission of the 3 community Budget Requests as presented by S. Hassell and detailed in the meeting agenda.”*** Second by V. Woodham. All in favor. Motion carried.

d. **Residential Tax Abatement Study**

S. Hassell shared that only two neighborhood councils and 4 individuals have provided feedback via the RTA survey. S. Hassell encouraged residents and Trustees to weigh in with their thoughts on the survey.

e. **Neighborhood Activation Fund Update**

N. Lewis shared that additional Round 1 funds are available and as a result the HPNC has received an additional \$2,844.00. The Council has until 1/31/2023 to expend the funds. The Trustees discussed allocating some of the additional funds to the Hyde Park East Family event and the HPSBA Circus event. N. Lewis moved, ***“That the HPNC allocate \$1,700 of the additional NAF funds to the HPSBA for gift cards and decorations as requested for the Circus in the Square event and \$1,144 for the Halloween events to be planned.”*** Second by A. Schutte. All in favor. Motion carried.

f. **Membership Drive Update**

S. Hassell (on behalf of A. Rusche) reminded residents and Trustees to renew their memberships. The membership entitles members to join our mailing list and participate in the Hyde Park Perks program (discounts and special offers at local businesses in Hyde Park). The Committee is looking into software for membership rosters and email/ mailing addresses.

g. **Committee Chairs**

S. Hassell reminded Trustees that we are still in need of a Finance Committee Chair and the Zoning Committee would like an assistant Chair.

3. **New Business**

- a. **Zoning** G. Wollenweber reported that at the September 5 Staff Conference the subject of sandwich boards was covered. The Zoning Code covers the use and development of private property and does not allow for sandwich board advertisements in any Urban Design Overlay Districts (“UDOD’s”). The proposed ordinance would allow for sandwich boards only in the Mt. Washington neighborhood. There is a \$2,500 application fee for each UDOD unless sponsored by a City Council person (Mt. Washington was sponsored by Councilwoman Kearney). HPSBA is not happy about the limitation to specific neighborhoods. Trustees agreed to let the HPSBA lobby the city about their position. G. Wollenweber shared that he is concerned that banners and other temporary signs may violate the zoning code and incur significant fines if the City decides to pursue enforcement of the Code.

Adjourn: Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Sybil Mullin, Recording Secretary

HPNC Financial Report - 2022

HPNC report for 2022		Budget	Jan/Feb	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
	Revised July 10, 2022													
BEGINNING OPERATING BALANCE		22910.78	22910.78	22,833.43	32,852.54	32,809.09	31,128.03	28,207.53	28,045.53	27,264.64	24,981.81	20,377.66	20,377.66	22,910.78
RECEIPTS														
	NSP - 2022	rec'd 2021												0.00
	Membership	500	57.33	19.11	95.55	38.22	19.11	20.00	19.11	133.77	447.99			850.19
	Halloween Event	300												0.00
	Fundraiser	500												0.00
	Invest In Neighborhoods	630			861.00									861.00
	Miscellaneous Donations	500							100.00					100.00
	NAF funding	12844		10,000.00						2,844.00				12,844.00
	TOTAL RECEIPTS	15,274	57.33	10,019.11	956.55	38.22	19.11	20.00	119.11	2,977.77	447.99	0.00	0.00	14,655.19
DISBURSMENTS														
	<i>To Be Submitted to NSP</i>													
	<i>Newsletter</i>													
	- Mailing	0												0.00
	- Printing	0												0.00
	-membership	450								342.60				342.60
	<i>HPNC Expenses</i>													
	- Intern	600								600				600.00
	- Web Domain Fee	600	20.98							440.00				460.98
	- Post Office Box	146						182.00						182.00
	- D/O Insurance	0												0.00
	- Halloween Event	300	113.70											113.70
	- Annual Meeting	300				277.28	39.61							316.89
	<i>Community Grants</i>													0.00
	- covid school supplies	500								500.00				500.00
	- Wasson Way	750								750.00				750.00
	- Hyde Park East	500								500.00				500.00
	- Hyde Park School	1,000			1,000.00									1,000.00
	- HydeParkChurch IHN	500							500.00					500.00
	- Knox Church covid relief	0												0.00
	- HPCOA (55 North)	1000								1,000.00				1,000.00
	- Ault Park Fireworks	1,442				1,442.00								1,442.00
	NSP Subtotal	8,088	134.68	0.00	1,000.00	1,719.28	39.61	182.00	500.00	4,132.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,708.17
	<i>Not Submitted to NSP</i>													0.00
	<i>HPNC Expenses</i>													0.00
	- Ault Park Advisory Council	50												0.00
	- Meet & Greet	100												0.00
	-Halloween Event													
	Miscellaneous Expenses	200												0.00
	NAF projects	12,844												0.00
	HPS NAF	3,300					2,900.00				2,094.70			4,994.70
	NAF HPE	6,300							400.00	1,128.00	2,957.44			4,485.44
	TOTAL DISBURSMENTS	21282.00	134.68	0.00	1000.00	1719.28	2939.61	182.00	900.00	5260.60	5052.14	0.00	0.00	17188.31
ENDING OPERATING BALANCE		16,903	22,833.43	32,852.54	32,809.09	31,128.03	28,207.53	28,045.53	27,264.64	24,981.81	20,377.66	20,377.66	20,377.66	20,377.66

Cincinnati Municipal Code – UDOD Sandwich Board Sign Ordinance Info Sheet

Current §1437-09. - Development Standards in Urban Design Overlay Districts

(a) Signs and Signage Standards:

S1. Prohibited Signs:

- All blinking, flashing, rotating or moving signs, except barber poles and theater marquees,
- Neon signs,
- Banners, portable or *temporary signs*,
- Rooftop signs, signs or awnings extending above the roofline of the building, or signs or awnings that extend above the windowsill line of the second floor of the building,
- Any advertising sign on or about an unoccupied building, except those related to the sale or rental of that building,
- All signs, handbills, or flyers on utility poles, except those installed by the city and state.
- All outdoor advertising signs, as that term is defined in Cincinnati Municipal Code [Chapter 895](#).

(§1437-09 is applicable to UD #4 – HP Square Business District and UD #11-HP East Business District)

Proposed §1437-09. - Development Standards in Urban Design Overlay Districts

(a) Signs and Signage Standards:

S1. Prohibited Signs:

- All blinking, flashing, rotating or moving signs, except barber poles and theater marquees,
- Neon signs,
- Banners, portable or temporary signs except sandwich board signs where permitted pursuant to Schedule 1437-09.
- Rooftop signs, signs or awnings extending above the roofline of the building, or signs or awnings that extend above the windowsill line of the second floor of the building,
- Any advertising sign on or about an unoccupied building, except those related to the sale or rental of that building,
- All signs, handbills, or flyers on utility poles, except those installed by the city and state.
- All outdoor advertising signs, as that term is defined in Cincinnati Municipal Code [Chapter 895](#).

S6. Sandwich board signs are permitted, subject to the provisions of Sec. 723-9 and §1427-26.

(Sec. 723-9 and §1427-26 are on the next page. The complete text and schedules of §1437-09, Sec. 723-9 and §1427-26 can be viewed using the links at the bottom of this page.)

<https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/planning/about-city-planning/city-planning-commission/sep-16-2022-packet/>
https://library.municode.com/oh/cincinnati/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIXIZOCOCI_CH1437URDEOVDI
https://library.municode.com/oh/cincinnati/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIXIZOCOCI_CH1427SIRE_S1427-26SABOSIRE
https://library.municode.com/oh/cincinnati/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TITVIIGERE_CH723STSIUSRE_S723-9SABOSI

Sec. 723-9. - Sandwich Board Signs

(a) The owner or operator of a retail business or service is permitted to place one (1) free-standing sandwich board sign on the public sidewalk or sod strip in front of his business premises. Sandwich board signs shall not require a revocable street privilege, provided they adhere to the following requirements:

1. Sandwich board signs shall be placed either immediately adjacent to the building, or so that the sign's most distant point is no farther than three (3) feet six (6) inches from the curb. Notwithstanding the aforementioned, each sign must permit adequate pedestrian access;
2. The owner or operator of a retail business or service displaying a sandwich board sign on the sidewalk shall maintain a policy of general liability insurance, naming the City of Cincinnati as an additional insured, in an amount of not less than \$500,000.00 to cover claims for injuries arising from or related to said sandwich board sign;
3. Sandwich board signs shall be placed on the sidewalk or adjacent sod strip only during the business hours of the establishment and shall be removed at all other times;
4. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the owner or operator of a retail business or service maintaining a sandwich board sign on the sidewalk or in the adjacent sod strip shall immediately remove said sign from the sidewalk upon notice given by any Cincinnati Police Officer or authorized employee of the city that the sign is unreasonably obstructing pedestrian traffic or has otherwise created a dangerous condition;
5. The sign shall be constructed of sturdy material, so as to prevent damage during heavy winds or other inclement weather; and
6. The sandwich board sign shall be no larger than two feet six inches (2'6") wide and four feet six inches (4'6") tall.

§1427-26. Sandwich Board Sign Regulations.

The following regulations apply to sandwich board signs (See § 1427-03-S), unless more specifically regulated elsewhere in this Chapter or by the District regulations applicable to the zoning district in which the sign is located:

- (a) Only one sandwich board sign is permitted per retail business or service.
- (b) Such a sign shall be displayed only during the business hours of the establishment.
- (c) Each sandwich board sign shall be limited in size to a maximum total sign face area of 12 square feet and 6 square feet for any single face. A single sign face shall not exceed 3 feet in height and 2 feet in width.
- (d) Sandwich board signs in the public right of way shall be in compliance with §723-9 of the Municipal Code,
- (e) Sandwich board signs shall not require a building permit or Certificate of Compliance.

<https://www.cincinnati-oh.gov/planning/about-city-planning/city-planning-commission/sep-16-2022-packet/>
https://library.municode.com/oh/cincinnati/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIXIZOCOCI_CH1437URDEOVDI
https://library.municode.com/oh/cincinnati/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TIXIZOCOCI_CH1427SIRE_S1427-26SABOSIRE
https://library.municode.com/oh/cincinnati/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=TITVIIGERE_CH723STSIUSRE_S723-9SABOSI