MOUNT WASHINGTON
Mt. Washington Community Council

June 18, 2025, 6:00pm
Mt. Washington Rec Center

Welcome and Call to Order
Priscilla Elgersma called the meeting to order at 6pm.

Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call

After reciting the pledge of allegiance. Priscilla Elgersma made sure we had a quorum of board members present. Board members present: Priscilla Elgersma, Jack Diesel, Julie Rimer, Gary Noll, Rick Meador, Teddy Morgan-Jablonski and Jon Young. Absent: Margeaux Selig and Brian Zeschke.

Approval of Last Meeting's Minutes

Barb Sliter made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 2025 membership meeting, seconded by Jon Young, and approved by all.

Approval of Agenda

Gary Noll made a motion to approve tonight's agenda, seconded by Rick Meador, then approved by all.

Approval of Treasurer's Report
Jon Young gave the treasurer's report. Almost $2000 of our $10,000 NSP funds have been paid out. Julie Rimer made a motion to approve it, seconded by Gary Noll, then approved by all.

Community Reports

CPD Neighborhood Liaison Officer: not present. The Mt. Washington Neighborhood Crime Report can be found at this link:

https://cpdmobile.cincinnati-oh.gov/Neighborhoods/Reports/D2/MOUNT_WASHINGTON.pdf

Firehouse Station 7: We have a new fire truck in Mt. Washington.

Mt. Washington Library: The Mt. Washington Library is being renovated. The library is temporarily operating at 2206 Beechmont Avenue at the former Key Bank location, in the same building as Ramundo's and Hoss Fit. Parking is behind the building and the lot can be entered from Corbly. All of the services that are available at the Mt. Washington Library are available at the temporary location.

CRC (Cincinnati Recreation Center): Jason Richards, rec center director, stated that the summer day camps are running well. The rec center pool is open and well-attended. The rec center does not yet have a registration date for the rec center's before and after school programs, but the registration date will be announced in two to three weeks. Jason was asked if there are stipulations about what type of pool furniture is needed if we decide to use the $800 plus Invest in Neighborhoods grant to purchase pool furniture for the rec center this year. In February of 2024, Jason asked if the MWCC could provide any funds for chairs or lounges for the pool. Jason stated the rec center does not stipulate any particular brand of furniture, but they do ask that any furniture be as sturdy as possible. They would prefer something sturdier than the plastic Adirondack chairs they have now since those break easily. There are so few seating options at the pool, the rec center would be grateful for any help.

MWCURC (Community Urban Redevelopment Corp): Bob Wetterer said the lights are running and beautiful. He said it is time to finalize the parade preparations. Starts at Stanbery and ends at the American Legion. There will be prizes for the best float, best car, best bicycle, etc. The parade will start at 7pm. Bob asked for $500 from the MWCC to help fund the parade. Bob made a motion that the MWCC give $500 for the parade, Gary Noll seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

MWCDC (Community Development Corp): Katie Stefani said the MWCDC are working with the MWCURC and the MWCC to organize a Nov. 22 holiday market.

SPAC (Stanbery Park Advisory Council): Nancy Van Pelt said the next event is the Sunburners band playing at Stanbery on August 1 from 6 to 9pm. Nancy also said SPAC welcomes volunteers to help SPAC maintain the park. Please feel free to go to the park and weed around the marigolds at the pavilion or to pick up trash any time you are in the park. Priscilla informed all that there are jazzercise classes every Saturday morning at 9am in June and July in the park.

American Legion Post 484: Rick Meador introduced Doug Morgan, a member of the Sons of the American Legion Post 484. As the treasurer, Doug will be providing us with updates. Rick asked all to visit the American Legion Post 484 to see all the cosmetic improvements in the lobby.

Schools: Nikki Marksberry, resource coordinator of Mt. Washington School, is running a camp at the school this summer. Cincinnati Public Schools has to cut fifty million dollars from their budget and finalize the budget by June 30, 2025. Every school will be impacted. Mt. Washington School will not be hit as hard as many schools. For example, the 7th and 8th grade guidance counselor will go from full time to half-time. Similarly, the social worker at Sands Montessori will go from full time to half-time. The state has changed the budget for the schools. Nikki asked that you please call your representatives to advocate for our schools. Nikki will work at Tusculum Days this Saturday, June 21, because the school gained many students from the River View School. The Mt. Washington School will be in the July 3 parade and will pass out gum.

Kosho Karate School: Kosho Karate School will have guests from Japan visiting from June19-22. This is a private training seminar, not open to the public, but you can watch if you are quiet and respectful.

MWCC Recording Equipment:

Rick gave an update on the new NSP-funded recording equipment. Jacob Meyer has been an awesome tech consultant on the purchase of equipment and training of board members on the use of the equipment. Eventually, we would like to broadcast our MWCC meetings on YouTube. That would allow anyone to view our meetings (i.e., you do not have to be a Facebook member). At each table, Rick distributed information on the new MWCC YouTube channel and he asked that you please subscribe. We need fifty signatures in order to allow to livestream our meetings on YouTube. Even when board members change, the livestreaming can continue.

Hyde Park Petition:

The Cincinnati City Council approved a variance for Hyde Park Square that would allow developers to build up to 85 feet versus the 55 feet in the zoning plan. There has been a substantial resistance to the variance and the group, Save Hyde Park Square, collected 18,300 signatures of Cincinnati residents in 18 days to put this issue on the November to allow voters to decide whether this variance should be granted. They needed to collect 9,300 valid signatures, so they vastly exceeded the goal, and the Board of Elections has verified that Save Hyde Park Square has more than enough valid signatures to put this issue on the November 2025 ballot.

Woodland Creatures:

Jim Tucker created five woodland animals on plywood with NSP monies from 2024. We are trying to determine where the figures could be placed and not be vandalized. Prisilla stated she is talking with Mt. Washington School, Sands Montessori, and the Cincinnati Park Board to determine areas for placement. Priscilla asked for suggestions as to where the figures should be placed but not vandalized. The figures may end up being displayed at a variety of locations.

Invest in Neighborhood Grant:

Jon Young said we have $830 to spend from an AIG grant. We need to decide where to spend it. Spending it on pool furniture for the rec center has been popular in previous discussions.

Senior Housing Project:

An attendee asked about the status of the Sieber senior housing project at 5455 Beechmont Avenue. John Sieber stated the status of the project is “just the same.” When the resident, who lives in a home that abuts that property, asked for clarification, John Sieber said his nephew, Mike Sieber, is the spokesperson for that project and that Mike could probably come to an upcoming meeting to give a status report. The resident asked if this could be put on the agenda of an upcoming MWCC meeting.

Lunken Planes:

Gary Noll said the planes from the five flight schools take off one right after another and fly over the same route resulting in constant noise in certain areas. Gary stated there is a phone number you can call if you are experiencing issues with the noise. The numbers you can call with complaints is 513-352-4070 or 513-352-6340.

Good of the Order:

Priscilla gave a shoutout to Bob Wetterer for all the work he did in getting the tower lights up.

Motion to Adjourn:

Nikki Marksberry made a motion to adjourn the meeting and the meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rimer
Secretary