



MT. LOOKOUT COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

February 15, 2010 - 6:30 pm

Location: Christ The King Church Cafeteria (3223 Linwood Avenue).

BOARD ATTENDANCE

MLCC Board Members (2010)	Role	Attending (Y/N)
John Brannock	President	YES
Eric Flamme	Vice President	NO
Matt Johnson	Treasurer	YES
Jeff Waltz	Secretary	YES
Cha Soutar	Marketing/PR	YES
Jim Gaunt	Development	YES
Andy Park	Membership	YES
Brian Kierce	Director at Large	YES
Greg Delev	Director at Large	NO
Mark Costello	Director at Large	YES
Maryann Ries	Director at Large	YES

MOTION ITEM(S):

Motion Description	Yea	Nay	Passage
Approve minutes from the January 18, 2010 meeting	9	0	YES

Officer and Committee Reports:

1. President – John Brannock

- Andy Park and Jim Gaunt will spearhead the review and revision of the Mt. Lookout Community Council (MLCC) by-laws. The current by-laws are dated and need revised and additional provisions.
- It was determined that a paper edition of *The Observer* be mailed in March. March 19 was set as the deadline for articles. Andy Park will work to generate usable mailing labels to help control the costs of the paper edition. There are approximately 2000 addresses within the Mt. Lookout area. Topics for articles (e.g., Mt. Lookout business and real estate updates, community school information, etc.) were identified, together with the inclusion of reoccurring information regarding MLCC membership and upcoming events (e.g., golf outing, fall festival, Illuminaria, etc.).

2. Vice President – John Brannock (on behalf of Eric Flamme)

- John Brannock reported that the 2010 Mt. Lookout Golf Outing is scheduled for Saturday, May 15, 2010 at California golf course. The event will be a 1:30 pm shotgun start. Eric Flamme and Brian Kierce are chairing the event with assistance from Matt Johnson, Mark Costello and Cha Soutar. Hole sponsors and other sponsors are needed to ensure a successful outing. The charitable recipient(s) of the outing's net proceeds have yet to be determined.

3. Treasurer – Matt Johnson

- The finance report had been distributed prior to the Board meeting. The balance in the MLCC account is \$7,823.13.
- Matt Johnson reported that the 2010 Neighborhood Summit will be held on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at the Cintas Center (Xavier University). Mark Costello volunteered to attend on behalf of MLCC.
- It was reported that requests for proposals (RFP) for Mt. Lookout square landscaping services were distributed and three companies responded – Wimberg Landscaping, Green Machine and Ramundo Landscaping. Bids ranged from approximately \$9,700 to approximately \$15,000. Ramundo Landscaping was eliminated from consideration as their bid was late and they also indicated a potential lack of capacity for the work. Matt Johnson will approach the two remaining bidders to clarify and further define the requirements of the services requested and request a final bid. It was noted that approximately \$7,000 was spent in 2009 on landscaping services. The budget for 2010 will probably be less due to reduced City of Cincinnati funding support.

4. Development – Jim Gaunt

- Report deferred

5. Marketing / PR – Cha Soutar

- Cha Soutar and Maryann Ries presented a proposed schedule of public meeting speaker topics for the upcoming year. It was suggested that the April meeting speaker present a beautification (e.g., landscaping) topic, June might be a fresh pickings from the garden talk (in conjunction with the proposed Farmer's Market opening), August an update on MLCC community events (e.g., Ault Park, Fall Festival), an October topic focusing on astronomy and December would be the annual holiday celebration. Suggestions for topics and speakers are always welcomed.

6. Membership – Andy Park

- MLCC membership currently stands at 45 members, including 12 recent renewals that will soon be sent 2010 membership cards. Andy Park distributed a draft copy of a "Welcome to Mt. Lookout" letter he plans to send with each membership

- card. He is also developing a membership matrix to track membership growth and retention efforts. An incentive may also be instituted to encourage current members to attract new members.
- There was no update on the merge of the MLCC and MLBA websites.

7. Miscellaneous Topics

- Brian Kierce reported that the Mt. Lookout Farmer's Market is still on track for a June 2010 opening. Documents are currently being reviewed by Chase Bank legal department for approval.

Public Meeting - 7:30 pm

Fire Department Update

- No report

Police Department Update

- Officer Dwayne Dawson, District Two neighborhood liaison, provided a crime report update, noting that although crime in the Mt. Lookout area remains relatively low, there has been an increase in cases of breaking and entering. Everyone should remain diligent and take common sense precautionary efforts to thwart opportunities for theft, especially from automobiles. Officer Dawson can be emailed at Dwayne.dawson@cincinnati-oh.gov. Individuals can receive and respond to text, email, and web alerts from the Cincinnati Police Department by registering at www.citizenobserver.com.
- Captain Doug Wiesman, District Two Commander, commented that although the Cincinnati Police Department continues to do their job, in 2009 over 20,000 criminals were released early due to jail overcrowding from budget constraints.

Mt. Lookout "Citizen of the Year" - John Brannock

- John Brannock, on behalf of the MLCC, presented the Mt. Lookout "Citizen of the Year" to a distinguished member of the community - Peter Brumm. He is a life long resident and a third generation resident of Mt. Lookout. He currently serves as membership officer for the Ault Park Advisory Council and has been instrumental in the local "National Night Out" efforts and active with the Cincinnati Parks Board. After his remarks, he received a hearty round of applause by family and friends present and was presented a memento from the MLCC.

Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) Update

- Greg Pierson of the CRC reported that the trail at Oakley Recreation Center has been completed and has been in constant use since. The dedication of the trail is

scheduled for May 7. He also announced the Mighty Marching Yellow Jackets Spring Break Band Camp that will be held March 22 through March 26 and Neighborhood Easter Egg hunts will be held on April 3 for the Mt. Lookout (Kilgour Elementary), Oakley (Playground) and Hyde Park (East Hyde Park Commons) communities. As always, information may be found on the CRC website (www.cincyrec.org). John Brannock formally thanked Greg for having the Mighty Marching Yellow Jackets perform at last year's Fall Festival.

Guest Speakers

- Marie Simon, Sibcy Cline realtor, provided a Mt. Lookout real estate update. Mt. Lookout continues to be one of the most desirable communities in the city based upon sale and inventory data. There is currently a 4.8 month inventory of listings, which is excellent. There are currently over 40 listings (average \$402,000 listing price) and the average sales price over the last 6 months was approximately \$370,000. She, together with Anne Cavellier from Sibcy Cline, also discussed and answered questions regarding the extended and expanded Homeowner Tax Credit.

MLCC President Update – John Brannock

- It is uncertain whether Beacon Food Mart will reopen its Mt. Lookout Square store after a fire caused over \$150,000 in damage on January 29, 2010. Everyone was encouraged to support the owners by visiting their other stores on Clough Pike and Beacon Street.

MLCC Vice President Update – John Brannock (on behalf of Eric Flamme)

- May 15, 2010 is the date for the third annual Mt. Lookout Community Golf Outing to be held at California golf course. 1:30 pm will be the shotgun start and the entry fee remains at \$75 per golfer.

MLCC Treasurer Update – Matt Johnson

- The MLCC account had receipts of \$2,080 and expenditures of \$2,306 year to date in 2010. The current balance in the MLCC account is \$7823.
- Matt Johnson explained that city funding (NBDSF & NSP funds) will be decreased this year, with anticipated 2010 grants of only approximately \$7,000 (versus \$14,000 in 2009). The MLCC must find new sources of funding and control expenditures to help offset this shortfall.

MLCC Membership Update – Andy Park

- There are currently nearly 50 members of the Mt. Lookout Community Council. His goal is a 50% increase over last year and to provide incentives to those that help bring in new members.

MLCC Miscellaneous topics

- Brian Kierce announced that June 5, 2010 is the proposed opening date for the Mt. Lookout Farmer's Market to be held on Saturdays from 3:30 pm to 6:30 pm potentially in the Chase Bank parking lot (venue still to be approved). Hazelfield Farm is an example of the vendors that will participate.
- The Mt. Lookout Community Development Corporation report was presented by Andy Park. Just under \$1 million has been secured for the square revitalization project. Bids are to be sent out within the next few weeks and construction could start on the south end (towards MLT) in April. A groundbreaking ceremony may be held in April or May.

Attendee Questions-Comments

- Adam Clark, from Laure Quinlivan's office, invited all to a talk by Jerry Springer about Cincinnati Streetcars to be held on Friday, February 26, 2010 at Mynt Martini Bar.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm. The next public meeting will be held at 7:30 pm on Monday, April 19, 2010, in the Christ The King Church Parish Center (3223 Linwood Avenue).

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey P. Waltz
Secretary, MLCC