Harrison West Society Meeting
September 19, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:05
Quorum present
Presentation: Westminster Thurber. Mike Milligan, President of JMM Architects. Built in 1963 as the country's 1st urban renewal project. Proposal: to build a new tower on a vacant plot of the property. Current tower built in 1963, renovated in the 80s has mostly units fewer than 1000ft^2. New tower with 67 apartments will meet demand for larger units. Proposed garage has 77 spaces, main lot will be reconfigured for 221, 24 in surface garages and Collins lot has 31 proposed spots. Old code is .75 spaces per unit; new code is 1.5 spaces per unit. Variances requested include (1) Collins parking lot: parcel of land separated from the main parcel needs variance for development as a noncontiguous plot, (2) driveway width proposed is smaller than required by code, (3) code setbacks on Collins impossible to meet, asking for 0ft on front and 7ft in back, (4) parking count required with new code is 472 spaces for the entire development, requesting a variance to 353 (more than currently exists at 241), (5) the separate parcel is zoned AR1 and requires a variance to change to parking, (6) building overhangs on the upper levels are over the setback, (7) the perimeter yard on Collins Avenue (want less than 25%), (8) building height in AR3 district is 35ft, asking for 110ft (lower than current tower at 10 stories) it will actually be 8.5 stories and 91.5ft, (9) detached garages asking for larger height and area. **Discussion**: can a level be added to the garage? Plan is no ramps = more spaces plus cost factors so no additional levels. No intended pedestrian access to proposed Collins lot. Lighting: they will consult with city about acorn lighting. HWS Exec Comm major concerns: auxiliary parking lot's long-term impact on the neighborhood. It's a standalone lot, it requires a separate variance for lot, precedence setting for future developments, the entry and exit to lot is on a curve.
Motion: J. Sukosd, second M. Martineau: The HWs supports the redevelopment and all proposed variances surrounding the Thurber Village project EXCEPT those regarding the parking lot to be developed on Collins Avenue. The HWS opposes all variances and the creation of a parking lot on the noncontiguous Collins Avenue parcel. 2 opposed, **PASSED**
Minutes August minutes, M. Martineau motioned, second E. Martineau Passed after note: change Out of the Closet headline to Neighborhood Leadership Academy
Treasurer's Report D. Curry: balance: $2,492.86; invoices $50 for Leadership Academy (K. Easterday), $938 D & L insurance premium due on 10/8
Development: J. Sukosd: Exec will get the letter out regarding the Thurber project. HWS has been notified of the rezoning of Harrison Park. Originally zoned manufacturing it is required to be rezoned to residential, etc. as built. Now it has been developed and is being zoned to fit the current code. No surprises.
Parks M. Williams: Donated mums have been added to the signed bed. 5th Ave. dam removal is progressing. Next Wednesday, 9/26 is another cocktails & cleanup. 8/29 is a Saturday work day in Side by Side Park caging trees, etc.
Membership T. Price: 104 current members, working on ideas, ask your neighbors if they are members
Communications M. Subel: using a new free email service
Social M. Martineau: September social is cancelled, holiday party is December 19.
Short North Foundation E. Martineau: High Ball is 10/27 at Vine and High Streets near the Hilton. Weinland Park has installed identical signs to the SN identifier signs and placed them in areas questionable whether they are the Short North. Signs may be moving to traditional boundaries. Volunteer issues with some groups. Make sure we get contact info to help identify volunteers and protect our organizations and members.
Police: no significant crimes except some garage thefts. Lock it and use common sense to secure valuables. E. Zimanski's garage has been broken into 3 times in 3 years. She has concerns about crime but no time to be the blockwatch captain. Steve Smith will consult outside HWS meeting on garage security.
Block Watch: decals available for windows and doors. Former HWS blockwatch captain moved, need a new one.
UIRF Application K. Easterday: Olentangy Trail and Harrison Park restoration applications and numbers have been submitted. The city is deliberating over projects to choose. Asphalt has been laid on the ORR Trail from APCO across the RR bridge to Goodale.
Lighting Committee K. Easterday: #1 neighborhood priority. Held first meeting to generate ideas. Need to looks at funding options. October meeting will include a presentation on the TIF
Traffic Committee Open position now filled by Craig Copeland
Meeting Adjourned at 8:30ish
Attendance: Sandy Allen, Craig Copeland, Dean Curry, Kristen Easterday, Mark Hollern, Eric & Mary Martineau, Bill Miller, Tim Price, Chris Ruder, Dara Schwartz, Jim Slone, Garland Smith, Steve Smith (CPD), Mark Subel, Jacob Sukosd, Ken Wightman, Matthew Williams and Elizabeth Zimanski. Tanya (new resident who did not sign in)