June 21, 2023

**Harrison West Society Meeting Agenda**

Harrison Park Community Center

President’s Report – Tim Price

* Introductions
* Executive Meeting Location Announcement – 8/2 Hyatt House 7pm (633 W 5th Ave.)
* Approval of the June Meeting Minutes\*
* Party planning for August HWS summer party\*

Monthly Reports

* Treasurer Report- Michael Metz
* Development – ~~David Carey~~
* Parks and Green Space Report- Bob Mangia
* Membership Report – Lydia Cumming
* Communications Report- Lydia Cumming
* Block Watch – Chris Ruder
* Short North Foundation Report – Julia Cumming
* Social – party on 8/16

Open Forum

Adjournment

Next Meeting: August 16, 2023

*\* indicates an item up for Society vote***Harrison West Society Meeting ~ June 21, 2023**

**Members present**: Tim Price, Lydia Cumming, Michael Metz, Julia Cumming, Bob Mangia, Brian Johnson, Chris Ruder, Diane Cumming, Ken Wightman, Joe George, Kaitlyn Donnelly, Diane Plunkett and Brian Johnson. **Visitors present:** Tony Celebrezze and Paul Freedman, City of Columbus Zoning, and Susan Keeny, Columbus Landmarks.

**Call to order:** Tim Price, President, called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM at 575 W. 1st Ave. Quorum present. Introductions were made.

**President’s Report** president@harrisonwest.org: Tim Price reported that the next Executive Committee Meeting will be held at Hyatt House at 633 W. Fifth Ave at 7pm on 7/5/23.

**Minutes**: Brian Johnson moved, seconded by Bob Mangia, to approve May minutes. All in favor, motion carried.

**Zone in**: Tony Celebrezze, Deputy Director of B&Z Services, passed around information on Zone In Columbus. Paul Freedman assisted him by writing down our feedback. The focus area is fixing the commercial zoning on major traffic corridors. To modernize the zoning code, Zone In is proposing to increase the height and they are proposing the mix use concept, where the bottom and top floors are a mix of residential and commercial. Feedback about height included: heights limits need to be different based on which street and surrounding neighbors; height limits need to have a step-up effect, and height limits need to consider the back side of the building in addition the front side (i.e. we don’t want to see a small house abutting the back side of a tall tower). Additional concerns about the zoning code were: (1) providing sufficient setback from the road for clear vision and safety for traffic, (2) requiring sufficient & affordable parking so residential street parking is not overtaken, (3) managing the increase in traffic from increase in density, (4) providing public transportation (Harrison West is not on a bus route), (5) protecting our historical neighborhoods from buildings that do not fit in, and (6) making development predictable by enforcing the zoning code once approved (the city is granting variances to allow developers to do what they want, rather than standing up for the code). Tony said there is an advisory board made up of 17 members from all aspects of the community that also give input. If you make comments through the website, comments are placed into a spreadsheet so that they can be reviewed and considered. The staff will make recommendations based on input to City Council, who will make the ultimate decision. People who own the parcels that will be rezoned will receive notice as well as the people who live within 125 feet of those parcels. There are many more meetings to come! Tim thanked Tony for coming to speak about Zone In and giving the Harrison West Society an opportunity to make comments.

**Monthly Reports**

**Treasurer** treasurer@harrisonwest.org: Michael Metz reported account balance is $8,359.80

Receivables: $206.16; Payables: $4,590.89; May Net Balance: $3,975.07.

**Development** Tim reported that David Carey had stepped down because of lack of time. David offered his assistance to the next person who serves. Chris moved, seconded by Brian, to send David a thank you letter for his service. All in favor, motion carried. Tim will write the letter.

**Parks** parks@harrisonwest.org**:** Bob Mangia is looking for volunteers to adopt-a-bed. Please email him. There will be a cleanup at the Harrison West Park on Wednesday, June 28th from 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m. (bring gloves). Someone from Ohio State asked Bob if we needed student volunteers, so he will ask Mathew Wolfe if he would organize a clean up or honeysuckle removal project along the river. Bob reported that the sewer project will have a few months hiatus starting in August while they work at Tuttle. Then they will return to excavate the shafts until 2024. Then restoration work in 2025.

**Membership** membership@harrisonwest.org**:** Lydia Cumming reported we added 44 new memberships, bringing our total to 78 members. The breakdown is: 5 organizations, 6 seniors and students, 19 individuals, 39 households, and 9 Harrison West Heroes.

**Communications** communication@harrisonwest.org: Lydia reported that Harrison on Fifth has offered to sponsor raffle prizes for our summer party. The website is still recovering from being hacked. Lydia has added a few events to the calendar page. Please let her know if you have any comments to help improve it.

**Block Watch** blockwatch@harrisonwest.org: Chris Ruder reported there were a total of 4 incidents in the last month: 2 thefts from motor vehicles, 1 aggravated assault and 1 simple assault.

**Social** cumming25@aol.com: Julia Cumming repeated we will have our Annual Summer Party at the Harrison Park Community Center on 8/16/2023. Set up at 5:30, guests to arrive at 6 p.m. and clean up at around 8:30 p.m. She is recruiting volunteers to help set up and clean up. The party will be a potluck. It was agreed that the party will be for members only because the point of the party is to get to know each other in the neighborhood (and nonmembers can sign up to be a member that same night for $20). People would sign in to get their free raffle tickets and we will supply name tags.

**Short North Foundation**: Julia reported that the Short North Foundation did not have their normal meeting in June because of the gun violence that happened recently. Therefore, no progress was made on finalizing the grant application. Instead, they compiled information on what is being done to address the issue (information available on Next Door). They are asking for feedback about what is being done. Julia asked if anyone has any feedback on what is being or should be done, to please see her after the meeting.

**Open Forum**

**Adjournment**

Chris Ruder moved, seconded by Brian, to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.