

Harrison West Society Meeting ~ September 17, 2025

Members present: Delphine Christopher, Ken Christopher, Diane Cumming, Mary Mertz, Travis Young, Merica Young, Bob Mangia, Michael Metz, Elise Inglesis, Jim Tennyson, Chris Rupp, Lydia Cumming, and Julia Cumming Chet Ridenour and Jerry Schwan. Guest present was William Ghidotti.

Call to order: Michael Metz called to order at 7:04.

President's Report president@harrisonwest.org: Next Executive Committee Meeting is 10/1 @ 7 p.m. Next HWS Society Meeting is 10/15. Both meetings will be held at Harrison on 5th.

Minutes: Diane moved, Bob seconded. All in favor, Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer: Previous balance (6/30/25) was \$4,128.86, and current balance (8/31/25) is \$3,883.81. Approximately \$600 was spent on National Night Out and \$600 was deposited from the grant. We bought T-shirts for the officers and committee chairs for identifying ourselves at events. (A preorder form to purchase blue T-shirts with the same design will be available soon). The balance does not include the \$344 in Pay Pal pending transfer into checking for memberships.

Parks and Greenspace Report parks@harrisonwest.org: End of 2nd Avenue (alley) is open. We have 50 trees to plant! Next Wednesday is Park Cleanup at Harrison Park (the park with the Gazebo). We want to cut honeysuckle (chop it and drop it). Jim asked Bob to request that Columbus plant some of those trees around the playground to provide shade for children because the playground gets hot.

Membership membership@harrisonwest.org: Six additional members joined since July 1, bringing our total to 84.

Communications communication@harrisonwest.org: Update website, post on Facebook, and the newsletter. New trash pickup day is now Tuesdays. Heads up - Columbus Marathon is October 18th. Anyone interested in a Watch Party?

Social: National Night Out Recap – Merica reported that it was the biggest turnout she's ever seen since belonging to HWS! People interacted with cops, with each other, etc. Bob counted 150 adults, 20-30 kids. Merica would like to have another get together – such as the one of the weekends that OSU does not have a football game (such as October 25). We could make it a Halloween Theme and open for kids.

Development: Developer representative for 385 W 3rd Ave described the variance being requested (moving lot lines so that the entire parking pad is for one parcel). Travis moved, Bob seconded, to recommend approval. Calling for the vote: 12 members voted yes, and 1 voted no.

Human Kindness: Chet spoke about Kindness Close to Home. They are looking for folks who are willing to host a mixer for their neighbors. He displayed the kits. Sign up by the end of September and host before the end of the October. Kindness Close to Home ask that you fill out a survey to let them know how it went.

Open Forum:

Short North Tour of Homes is September 21st.

Help us plan and organize – Scharrison West Spooktacular on October 25th! Please contact Merica and Michael to volunteer.

What is going on with Thrive? They sold part of their development. What happens to the improvements at the Park, etc.? Michael said the next Harrison Market Board Meeting is October 6th at 4 p.m. at Founder's Park. They are open to the public. You can ask questions about dog waste, trees, etc. Michael and Tim are on the board as HWS representatives. There will be a public notice on our website and we will follow up with an email to the list.

Elise would like to start a Tree Committee to encourage more trees in our neighborhood. Chet said that are free trees available. Bob said that the City of Columbus will plant street trees, but not water them. Bob says he can supply tree bags for watering trees. Julia said that Columbus has a Master Tree Plan we should consult. The committee can encourage people to plant trees and give them the water bags.

Motion to adjourn Travis, Lydia at 8 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.