

Pleasant Ridge Community Council

Meeting Minutes – August 3, 2010

The minutes from the July meeting were approved by general consent. There was no police report this month because the officers who usually attend the meeting were at National Night Out.

Fire Department Report

Firefighter Ed Woodward from Engine 8 reported that the company has made 983 total runs this year, including 793 EMS runs and 42 fire responses. A resident asked where the neighborhood's emergency shelter is. Rick McCollum from the Recreation Center said that the Recreation Center can serve as an emergency shelter at the City Manager's order.

Treasurer's Report

A report of PRCC's activity for June and for the year to date was distributed. PRCC officers encouraged residents to make donations to PRCC, because our funds from the city for 2010 are only half as much as they were for 2009, and we expect them to be at a similar or even lower level next year.

Recreation Center Report

Rick McCollum thanked the volunteers from Procter & Gamble who recently repainted the interior of the Recreation Center and did extensive landscaping work outside.

Pleasant Ridge Development Corporation Presentation

Justin Wilke, President-elect of PRDC, attended the meeting to discuss the group's proposal to apply for a Community Entertainment District designation for the neighborhood's business district. By attaining this designation, we would gain 5 or 6 new liquor licenses, which new businesses opening in the neighborhood could obtain for the price of the state's licensing fee (hundreds of dollars) rather than the thousands of dollars for which they're usually sold by existing license owners. A resident pointed out that business owners could use the money they save on the license fee to offset some renovation costs that may be needed to add kitchens, etc. The new licenses would need to remain within the Community Entertainment District.

A resident expressed a concern that the designation could lead to an increase in public intoxication. Justin asked for the community's approval of PRCC writing a letter in support of pursuing the CED designation. The residents in attendance voted to approve this proposal by a vote of 8 in favor to 1 opposed.

Safety Committee Report

Don Trummel reported that the next Block Watch training session will be held on August 25th at 7 PM at the Recreation Center. Another training session will be scheduled for November.

Business Committee Report

Deb Chambless reported that the July Shop Hop event was fairly successful. 10 to 15 businesses in the neighborhood participated, and each business had between 20 and 35 event coupons redeemed. More Shop Hops will be planned for the future.

Beautification Committee Report

Jason Chambless reported that the Civic Garden Center is willing to help neighborhoods design beautification plans, but that the community would need to provide for the plants and labor ourselves.

Hilton Davis Report

Steve Simon reported that residents provided wonderful e-mail support for a comprehensive Hilton Davis site clean-up in advance of a meeting with the Ohio EPA and Governor Strickland's staff in July. At the meeting, community representatives expressed their strong displeasure with the inadequate clean-up plan that the Ohio EPA had proposed. Steve described the meeting as powerful and productive. The next step is for the Governor's office to consult with the Ohio EPA about finalizing the proposed clean-up plan, but we don't know when that process will be finished.

UDOD/Zoning Report

A resident inquired about the city's policy for installing windmills. A PRCC officer responded that it would probably need to be approved by the city.

Events Report

Beau McGrath reported that the following events are coming up:

- Pleasant Ridge Montessori PTO fundraiser at Molly Malone's on August 27
- Nativity Festival the weekend of September 3-5
- Pleasant Ridge Montessori Spaghetti Dinner & Auction on September 24
- Ridge Day/Ridge Night on September 25
- District A Arts & Music Festival on October 9

Volunteers are needed to staff kids' games for Ridge Day and clean up after the event. To volunteer, please e-mail ridgeday@pleasantridge.org.

Informant Report

Josh Krekeler reported that the next Informant will be published soon. A resident encouraged PRCC to work on attracting more Web site readers by posting the Web site address and lists of upcoming events around the neighborhood. Other good ideas were proposed during the discussion, including printing upcoming events on Shop Hop coupons, advertising Pleasant Ridge and our events in local church bulletins, and carrying a sign with the Web site in the Ridge Day parade.

Library Report

David Dukart reported that the library is still seeking donations for its accessibility project and that the David Fishlock family will be performing a concert on August 5th at the library.

District A Report

Maria Kreppel reported that the District A Web site (www.district-a.org) is back up and features the interview about District A from a recent WCET "Focus" program. She also reported that new owners will be taking over the Pleasant Perk at the end of August and that the Kennedy Heights Progressive Dinner will be on September 25th.