

Pleasant Ridge Community Council Meeting Minutes – January 6, 2009

The minutes from the November meeting were approved by general consent (there was no meeting in December).

President's Report

Steve Simon reported that there will be as many as three openings on the PRCC Executive Board for the upcoming two-year term. Nominations will be taken at the March meeting, and the election will be in April. Please see Steve or another officer if you or someone you know would be interested in serving. Steve also noted that Invest In Neighborhoods' contract to distribute money allocated to neighborhoods from the city is in question. The city is considering making this an internal function.

Treasurer's Report

Robert Ramsay distributed reports showing PRCC's financial activity through the end of 2008. PRCC earned more than it spent for the year.

Police Report

Captain Wiseman from District 2 reported that a group of seven juveniles and one young adult were recently indicted on 30+ felonies. He feels that the cases against them are solid. He thanked the neighborhood Citizens on Patrol group for their help. He also noted that the district is willing to help with objections to RNS' liquor license, but that residents will need to be very active in gathering evidence and calling in reports of offenses or suspicious activity on the property to substantiate the community's objection. He also reported that the district will receive funding for overtime hours this year. The district now has a force of 118 officers.

Officer George Engleman provided November's crime statistics for the neighborhood. He said residents should call him about any abandoned cars they notice.

Fire Report

Firefighter Glisson from the Engine 8 firehouse reported that the company made 153 total runs in December, including 11 fires, 125 EMS runs, and 17 non-fire responses. The Cincinnati Fire Department recently added two ambulances to the fleet.

Recreation Center Report

Rick McCollum reported that Winterfest was groovy! The recreation center is partnering with Pleasant Ridge Montessori School for the rest of the school year to provide additional after-school programming.

The Pleasant Ridge Teen Council presented a letter of thanks to PRCC for their support, saying that they look forward to continuing to work with the community. The Teen

Council meets from 6:30-7:00 every Monday evening and is continuously planning projects and events.

Hamilton County Board of MRDD Presentation

Representatives from the Hamilton County Board of MRDD gave a presentation about their department's services. They provide disabled and mentally retarded residents in the county with education, recreation, and individualized services, in cooperation with many other organizations. A member of the group's Advocacy Leadership Network spoke about her personal experiences with MRDD's services.

Safety Report

Andy Powell reported that the safety committee needs volunteers to serve on the committee and also as members of Citizens on Patrol. The committee meets at the Recreation Center at 7:00 PM on the third Tuesday of every month. The COPS group also still needs a new substation space for radio storage and meetings.

A neighbor inquired about the fence behind the Glengate Apartments that Duke Energy had taken down. Steve Simon will look into it with Duke.

Business Committee

John McCarthy reported that the committee is looking for residents to serve as ambassadors to businesses in the neighborhood. E-mail Steve Simon at president@pleasantridge.org if you're interested.

Clean-Up and Beautification

Ruth Anne Wolfe reported that the committee is seeking more planters to place around the neighborhood this year. The next semi-annual clean-up day will be in April. Ruth Anne also reported that committee member Janet Teske helped secure \$4,200 in grant money for two rain gardens at Pleasant Ridge Montessori.

Hilton Davis Report

Steve Simon reported that the Ohio EPA has still not issued its final decision about the clean-up plan for Hilton Davis. A group from the neighborhood met with Councilmembers Roxanne Qualls and David Crowley to ask for help; they will introduce a resolution supporting the neighborhood's desire for a complete clean-up. Ohio Citizen Action may also help with some advocacy. Marjorie Evert noted that the Ohio Attorney General recently denied the community's requests for an independent evaluation of proposed plans and an advance look at the Ohio EPA's decision.

Schools and Churches

Carl Evert reported that the new president of the CPS School Board, Eileen Cooper-Reed, has been a strong supporter of Pleasant Ridge, and that Nativity has also been very supportive of the new school.

Zoning Report

Steve Simon reported that a dilapidated house on Woodford that has been a problem in the past has been purchased by a nearby business owner, who will use the lot (without the house) for his business.

Events Report

Roger Krummen and John McCarthy, who have been instrumental in planning past Ridge Days, reported that they are seeking a new coordinator for Ridge Day and Ridge Night, Pleasant Ridge's premier annual social event. They will advise anyone who's interested – e-mail the PRCC Executive Board to volunteer!

Library Report

Mary Anne Phalen reported that community members have donated over \$1,500 to the library's awareness campaign for their accessibility project since November. The library committee has raised \$135,000 toward their goal of \$400,000.

David Dukart reported that along with the recent general decline of society, state support for the library has gone down 10% since 2000 and that further cuts are likely in the future. He also reported on upcoming events at the library.

District A

Maria Kreppel called for volunteers for the District A event later this year and distributed information about District A.

Respectfully submitted by Josh Krekeler