

Kennedy Heights News

December, 2004

Kennedy Heights Community Council



No December Council Meeting

KH Town Meeting
1/22

Winterfest Exceeds Dreams

Winterfest was clearly an idea whose time had come! Any doubts were resolved by the sight of folks standing on line in front of the Arts Center in KH and the Community Center in PR...waiting to ride up and down Montgomery Rd in the old style. At 5 mph. Pulled by horses.

Winterfest 2004 was unique & important in several ways:

- It spanned and joined two communities--Kennedy Hts & Pleasant Ridge.
- Winterfest went from "good idea" to final production in less than 10 weeks.
- It was not a fund raiser--at no point were participants asked to spend a dime.
- Community institutions (schools, churches, Arts, City, Councils) pooled their resources for the mutual good.
- The holiday spirit was infectious.
- And hundreds of residents came out on a cold winter night for an evening of pure fun.

Weren't there?
Here's what you missed

- In the early evening, the Recreation Center gym in Pleasant Ridge was packed. Arts, crafts, performances. Mainly aimed at younger residents.
- Two horse-drawn taxis ferried riders between KH & PR from 6:00 'til 10:00.
- A jazz/blues band braved the cold to perform almost steadily from 8-10:00 on the Arts Center lawn.
- Hundreds of folks (many for the first time) toured & visited in the Arts Center.
- Trees were decorated by art students from Woodford, Pleasant Ridge, & Nativity Schools.
- Ceremonial lighting of the Arts Center tree, with countdown by Regina Carswell (Ch. 19).
- And, as promised, lumenaries (candle-lit bags) lit both sides of Montgomery Rd. Almost one mile of peaceful candles.

"I want to see you do something like this every 90 days!"

Dist. 2 Capt. Cureton

"Merry Christmas! Happy New Year"
Kids calling from the carriage

"Isn't this Fabulous!!"

Many, many folks



Local art students transformed CD's into stars



Loading up for the leisurely ride to Pleasant Ridge

More photos--in color--in the Winterfest Album on the KHCC website.

Mark your calendar now...and you'll read more about it in the January KH News.

The Town Meeting for Shaping the Future (name may change) will be focus on hearing and addressing residents drug/crime-related concerns.

This will be the first step in working with the "25 Cities Initiative" to develop creative and effective programs that coordinate & incorporate Prevention, Treatment, & Enforcement.

The full agenda is not yet developed, however the Saturday meeting will provide residents time to

- air particular concerns,
- discuss ways that the community and "Initiative Partners" can address those concerns
- identify priorities,
- and (of course)
- commit to being part of the solution

Plan to come in the morning and leave in mid-afternoon, with lunch on the house.

CPOP Chair

The CPOP team has been meeting for several months, devising strategies to combat crime on Kennedy Ave.

Ben Pipkin (Rogers Park) has volunteered to chair the group, which also promises to be an important part of KHCC's involvement with the 25 Cities Initiative.

Inside

- November Council Minutes
- WinterFest Thanks
- Phone Service for Under \$12
- Cave Watch
- Constitutional Evolution
- Football for KH Kids?

Minutes of KHCC General Meeting 11/16/04

(This is a summary of highlights; complete minutes are posted at www.kennedyheights.org) Ernie Barbeau, Secretary
Attendance: Approximately 45

Treasurer's report

2004 income will be around \$44,000. For this calendar year expect a surplus of approximately \$10,000.

Police & Safety

- Officer Engelman introduced two non-uniformed officers from the Violent Crime Squad; they spoke about arrests and street crime (especially drug related) in our neighborhood. New concern: reports of small gangs of youths randomly assaulting individuals.
- Residents reported activity on Northdale and the Kennedy bridge has significantly decreased, but concern is that drug activity has dispersed to several new locations.
- Iris residents recently established a Block Watch and encouraged residents to contact him or the Health Department about abandoned buildings.

Prior Board Actions approved:

- donate to the Geier Apartments \$600 and the Council's unused computer
- donate \$600 to Shroder School's Community Service Program.

Other motions approved after discussion

- Amend Beautification budget for the purpose of upgrading the northeast corner of Kennedy and Aikenside, for up to \$2,400.00. Charles Johnson has been contracted to provide landscaping services.
- Cancel the Council's December meeting.
- Support Brandenburg Ln. residents in advocating for a **dedicated** street.
- Hold a combined *Council/Town Meeting* on Saturday, January 22. (see front page for more detail)

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Constitutional Proposals

Ernie Barbeau, Chair of the Constitution Review Committee, presented proposal for a *comprehensive amending of the Constitution*. He distributed two sets of documents: the current Constitution, and the proposed amendments. The full proposal is now available online. Ernie gave an overview of the proposal, and noted that final action will be taken at the Council's February meeting.

Announcements

- Karen Thomas (*Recreation Committee*) and Richard Cooke (KH Arts Center), reported on *Winterfest* festivities.
- Van Foster (*Commercial and Office Development Committee*): November 19 public hearing before the Cincinnati Planning Commission, on Beverage Cave's application for a building permit.
- John Nolan of the First Masonic District made some comments about their interest in converting the *Shroder School property* into a multi-use District Building, which would include senior housing, rooms for community activities and meeting, and a charter school.
- Kate Kern and Michelle Dragga invited residents to attend the Park Advisory Council's November 20 meeting.
- Ce Holm: 70% of KH voters voted for the school levy.
- Josh Swain: We are looking for funds to buy new radios for the Citizens on Patrol.
- Donna Faulk: She now works for the Vice-Mayor, so if we have any concerns to feel free to bring them to her attention.

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- B. J. Gardner: Arts Center has many activities planned for the next two months.
- Lawrence and Daneka Marshall, and Greg Simpson: Want to establish a KH football team for youths. (731-3472; 531-7467.)
- A resident expressed concern and interest on a variety of environmental issues and programs.

Without Whom
Winterfest Would
Not Have been

Prime Organizations

Kennedy Heights Community Council
Kennedy Heights Arts Center
Nativity School
Nativity PTA
Pleasant Ridge Community Council
Cincinnati Police (District 2)
Cincinnati Recreation Commission
Citizens on Patrol (KH & PR)

Individual Donors & Doers

Art students of Nativity, Woodford, & Pleasant Ridge Schools
B.J. Gardner
Becky Long
Benken's Nursery
Bob Herring
Brass Eagle Antiques
Buster's Pet Place
C. Kevin Armstrong, CPA
Clarence E. Lamb, Jr., MD
Clarisey-Frank Architects
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Ell Farm
Eric Bertelsen
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Fr. Paul DeLuca
Gaslight Café
Gil's Barber Shop



Richard Cooke (Rogers Park Pl.) stepped up to chair Winterfest...the same guy who did such a great job heading up KHCC's opposition to the Beverage Cave liquor permit.

Thanks!!

Help establish kids' football in KH.
Lawrence (731-3472) & Greg (531-7467)

Greg Hauser
Home Depot
Jackie Bonfield
Jennifer A. Edwards
Jessica Timm of Intechtual
Karen Thomas
Lydia Morgan
Marcy Prebeg
Martin Douglas Designs
Mary Anne Phalen
Meg Muething (E-CASE All Good Gifts Shoppe)
Melissa Smith
Mercantile Bank
Michael Schuster Associates Architects
Mullaney Medical, Inc.
Paris
Pat Fischer
Provident Bank
Regina Carswell & Fox 19
Richard Cooke
Reading Feed
Ruth Jones
Shroder students
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Sr. Mary Joan Schimian
Susan & Harry Stebbins
Thomas Douthit (State Farm)
Tiffany's
U.S. Bank
Vandercaar Holdings
Walgreens

Beverage Cave Watch

11/19: City Planning Commission denied the SKYY's second application for a permit to build the Cave.

12/14 (1:30): Court hearing on SKYY Properties challenge to second permit denial

?? (no date yet set): Hearing in Columbus on SKYY's appeal of liquor permit denial

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Community Calendar

Christmas Shopping?

You'll find beautiful stuff in the gift shop at the KH Arts Center.

Also stop in at Kalawentz, next door on the corner of Kennedy & Montgomery. African and African-theme items, reasonably priced.

No December Council Meeting

12/14: SKYY Court Hearing
 1/10: KHCC Board Meets
 1/22: Town Meeting / Council Meeting

Constitutional Proposals

In the fall of 2003 KHCC began reviewing its constitution for changes that would help the organization run for smoothly and better represent the residents of Kennedy Heights.

The first set of amendments were adopted last spring, adding four at-large positions to the Board.

The Review committee has proposed more extensive changes for its second round. The new draft was distributed at the November meeting, with the aim of voting on them in February or March.

Proposed changes include:

- "Friends of KH": Affiliate status for non-residents
- Staggered terms for the at-large Board members
- 6-year (consecutive) limit for service on the Board & 4 years in one office

There are numerous other proposed changes. Both the current constitution and the proposed "By-Laws" are posted on the website for your browsing pleasure.

Committee: Ernie Barbeau, Duane Holm, Bobbie Mystrom

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 Vice – President Charles Clingman
 V.P. Community Planning Paul Makin
 Treasurer Robert Kamp
 Secretary Ernie Barbeau

Members at Large

Nancy Algauer Van Foster
 NeCe Bassett Joshua Swain

Committees

Beautification..... Joyce Hibbard
 Housing Bruce Long
 Health, Env & Safety Joshua Swain
 Education Charles Clingman
 Office & Commercial Development...Van Foster
 Recreation Karen Thomas

Park Advisory Councils

Kennedy: Katie Kern; Lisa Pickering
 Daniel Drake: Michelle Dragga

Litter Magic: Joanie Weidner
 Landscape Awards Joyce Hibbard
 Neighborhood Networkers. Donna Faulk
 Citizens On Patrol David Muldrow
 CPOP Ben Pipkin

Staff

Volunteerism Donna Faulk
 531-4041 donna@kennedyheights.org

Newsletter

Editor Noel Morgan
 Advertising Donna Faulk
 631-5575 donna@kennedyheights.org

WebSite

Webmaster Jeffrey Weidner

Kennedy Heights Community Council
 P.O. Box 36448
 Cincinnati, OH 45236
 531-4041
khcc@kennedyheights.org
www.kennedyheights.org

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Council Next Meets on
 Saturday, January 22