



**Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, July 8, 2025
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting at Hyde Park United Methodist Church called to order by HPNC President, V. Woodham at 7:02 p.m.

In Attendance: B. Frappier Schirmang, D. Hapner, S. Lauter, J. Matulaitis, M. Monroe, S. Mullin, M. Olson, E. Paff, B. Whitney, G. Wollenweber

Advance Notice of Absence: D. Lee, T. McEvoy, K. Michel Marks, R. Sweeney

1. Guests:

Cincinnati Police Department, District 2 Officer Monique Martin: Officer Martin distributed the crime statistics and noted:

- Overall, crime is down in the neighborhood.
- There were a couple of auto thefts. Please do not leave your key fob in your car.
- There were a couple of thefts from autos. Please do not leave valuables or personal belongings in your car.
- Property crimes: The thefts from Lululemon continue.

Officer Martin can be reached at (513) 979-4481. monique.martin@cincinnati-oh.gov. District 2's non-emergency line is (513) 765-1212.

Hyde Park Library—Branch Manager Ben Lathrop shared that:

- The summer reading program is about ½ way through.
- The library is hosting some kind of event every day for the rest of July.
- The proposed budget would result in a \$14 million loss to Hamilton County, and the changes would be catastrophic to libraries in smaller communities.
- Update on the recent state budget: The initial House budget that was proposed would have eliminated \$19 million from the library's budget. This provision did not make the final version of the bill. However, the final version included several problematic provisions that were added by the Senate. Ultimately, the language regarding materials that include gender expression and identity language was stricken by Governor De Wine before he signed the bill. While the implications for our library system are not as bad as they could have been, the library will be losing \$4 million from their operating budget.
- Please come and get a library card—the library has a goal of issuing 1,000 new cards for 2025.

For information on upcoming events, see: [Hyde Park | Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library \(chpl.org\)](http://HydePark|Cincinnati&HamiltonCountyPublicLibrary(chpl.org)) (513) 369-4456.

Cincinnati Recreation Commission: Isaiah shared that:

- The summer camp and teen programs are going great. They have a field trip to Kings Island scheduled for tomorrow, and the attendance numbers have been good.
- Upcoming programming will include yoga on Mondays and Fridays at 7:30 a.m. and Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. They also have a senior calendar and program guides.
- The Eastside Rec Center will be co-hosting a senior pool party at the Evanston Rec Center on August 7. The event will include a steel drum band.

Hyde Park School

No report.

Withrow University High School

B. Whitney noted that Withrow is looking for donations of both a functional washer and dryer and shelving. The school's resource coordinator needs a washer and dryer to ensure that students who come to school without proper or clean clothing have clean clothes to wear. She is also in need of shelving to store and organize the food and supplies that she distributes to students in need. If you want to help with either of these efforts, please contact Belinda Carson at carsonb@cpsboe.k12.oh.us.

Clark Montessori

D. Hapner noted that he is continuing to work to try to get the city to relocate the cross walk to the opposite side of the school's driveway.

Approval of Consent Agenda

S. Mullin moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Second by E. Paff. All trustees voted in favor. Motion carried.

2. Guests

Queen City Commons, Julia Marchese

- Queen City Commons is a cooperative food scrap hauling service. The City of Cincinnati recently awarded them a contract to pilot their program in 4 Cincinnati neighborhoods, including Hyde Park.
- 30% of what is going to the landfill is compostable. However, there isn't a lot of infrastructure in either the city or in Hamilton County to handle separately collecting and composting food waste.
- Queen City Commons collects both residential and commercial food scraps. They have a network of local farms and community gardens who compose the scraps. They are actively trying to grow this network of composters.
- Queen City Commons offers two main programs:

- With their residential program, they offer residential drop-off bins and centrally located community hauling bins (two of these are currently located at the Church of the Redeemer on Erie and Paxton Ave). You can sign up to use the centrally located bins if you can't collect scraps in your home. The program costs residents \$5-\$25 a month on a sliding scale.
- With their commercial program, they haul scraps away weekly.
- Queen City Commons will be placing 12 drop off bins around the neighborhood. Every household should be within .4 miles of one of these bins.
- The program will slowly launch in Hyde Park in the first week in August. Their goal is to get 500 households in each neighborhood to participate. The first 3 months is free, along with the countertop bin. The program then transitions into a pay-what-you-can model. All communal collection bins have latches with a code which you will get when you sign up.
- Email julia@queencitycommons.com for more information.

3. **Old Business**

Hyde Park Square Planned Development

V. Woodham notes that there were no updates to report on the development, and she encouraged residents to continue to follow Save Hyde Park Square for further information on the referendum.

NBDIP Grant Applications

D. Hapner noted:

- The grant that he applied for to fund the installation of rapid flashing beacons at the pedestrian crossings on Hyde Park Square was not awarded.
- The grant he had applied for to fund this project was not awarded. They are now looking for \$33,000 in private funding.

4. **New Business**

V. Woodham noted:

- There were no updates this month from either the finance or zoning committees.
- HPNC trustees and members of the community are invited to lunch at the firehouse on Sunday July 19th at noon. Please email hpncpres@gmail.com if you are interested in joining.

Molly Henning from Save Hyde Park Square reported that they remain hopeful that City Council will repeal their zone change decision. They are continuing to lobby City Council to return the neighborhood to its original zoning. The other option is to send the referendum to the state to put it on the ballot. They are also in the process of forming an official 501(c4) organization to support the ballot initiative.

Kevin Farmer, a candidate for City Council, noted the he had been a circulator for the Save Hyde Park Square referendum. He wants to put people in front of government, and not the other way around. He noted that Avondale is disappointed about not hearing from Hyde Park about their development issues with Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Overall, he is advocating for being more collaborative about development in all neighborhoods.

Liz Stites from the Hyde Park Farmers Market noted the market runs 9:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. on Sundays. They finished their 9th market of the year. The market brings 32 vendors weekly, half are farmers, half are selected "food artisans." She encourages everyone to come.

5. **Adjourn: Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.**

Blair Whitney, Recording Secretary