



Board of Trustees Meeting

Tuesday, October 14, 2025

7:00 pm

Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church

Agenda

Subject to change

- **Welcome (Valerie Woodham, President, Presiding)**

Location of future meetings:

- Tuesday, November 11th, 7:00 p.m., Hyde Park Community United Methodist Church

- **Recurring Guests (please limit comments to 3-4 minutes each)**

- Cincinnati Police Department, *Officer Monique Martin*
- Cincinnati Fire Department, *Lieutenant Dan Coletta or Captain B. Scott Snell*
- Hyde Park Library, *Ben Lathrop*
- Cincinnati Recreation Center, *Joe Berta*
- Hyde Park School, *Jill Sunderman*
- Withrow University High School, Resource Coordinator, *Belinda Carson*
- Clark Montessori High School, *TBD*

- **Approval of Consent Agenda (Minutes, Officer Reports, Committee Reports)**

- **Guests (topics limited to 5 minutes, unless otherwise posted)**

Reports have been posted to the HPNC website as part of the meeting packet.

- **Old Business (topics limited to 10 minutes, unless otherwise posted)**

- None

- **New Business**

- None

- **Adjourn**



Old business:

1255 Meriweather Avenue

The applicant is the owner of a single-family residence (SF-6 zone) seeking to add a covered deck in the rear yard. The addition requires a variance of 4'4" on the side yard setback and 30' on the rear yard setback. The application includes sufficient information, including numerous letters in support from neighbors (though not all contiguous neighbors). The only letter of opposition is from the Mt. Lookout Community Council. The Zoning Committee is taking no position at present.

New business:

1107 Paxton Avenue

The applicant is the owner of a single-family residence (SF-10) seeking to add an enclosed vestibule on the east side of the home that exceeds the maximum building envelope for the Hillside Overlay District. At the moment, the application does not contain sufficient information for the Zoning Committee to take a position.

Hillside Overlay District Presentation

The Zoning Committee heard a presentation by Tom Lienhart of Clifton and Eric Russo, Director of the Hillside Trust, on the need for the City of Cincinnati to review and update the Hillside Overlay District evaluation and permitting process. Approximately 17% of Cincinnati's land is on structurally unique hillsides, which require some additional protections to prevent landslides and shifting. The Zoning Committee is reviewing the information shared and may present a motion or recommendation to the full Board at a future meeting.

HPNC Budget 2025		2025 - NSP Budget	January 2025	February 2025	March 2025	April 2025	May 2025	June	July	August	September	Total
	Revised February 8, 2025											
BEGINNING OPERATING BALANCE		\$24,322	\$24,322	\$23,344	\$24,734	\$21,699	\$25,183	\$30,864	\$30,926	\$39,918	\$35,353	\$49,939
RECEIPTS												
	NSP - 2025	\$10,000										\$0
	Membership	\$1,500	\$286	\$57	\$57	\$57	\$782	\$39		\$19	\$38	\$1,336
	Halloween Event	\$150										\$0
	Fundraiser											\$0
	Invest In Neighborhoods (AIG)											\$0
	Miscellaneous Donations	\$300	\$25									\$25
	Legal Donations			\$12,333	\$11,929	\$4,448	\$30,110	\$2,049	\$9,002	\$13,916	\$14,547	
	NAF funding											\$0
	TOTAL RECEIPTS		\$311	\$12,390	\$11,986	\$4,505	\$30,893	\$2,088	\$9,002	\$13,936	\$14,585	\$1,361
DISBURSMENTS												
	<i>To Be Submitted to NSP</i>											
	<i>Local School Partnerships</i>											\$0
	- Withrow	\$1,000										\$0
	- Clark	\$1,000		\$500								\$500
	- Annual Meeting	\$500					\$211	\$117				\$328
	- Hyde Park School	\$1,000		\$500		\$700						\$1,200
	<i>Website</i>											
	- Intern	\$500										\$0
	- Web host Fees	\$1,045	\$23		\$21	\$183			\$11			\$238
	<i>Community Events</i>											
	- July 4 fireworks	\$1,500						\$1,500				\$1,500
	- Halloween Event	\$500										\$0
	-Fundraiser	\$500										
	<i>Beautification</i>											
	- Wasson Way	\$500										\$0
	- Hyde Park East	\$500										\$0
	<i>Community Partnerships</i>											
	- HydeParkChurch IHN	\$500										\$0
	<i>Communications</i>											
	- Mailing	\$75				\$57						\$57
	- Printing	\$75				\$36						\$36
	- Membership	\$605										\$0
	- Post Office Box	\$200						\$210				\$210
	- D/O Insurance	\$0										\$0
	- Knox Church											\$0
	- HPCOA (55 North)											\$0
	NSP Subtotal		\$23		\$21	\$976	\$211	\$1,827	\$11	\$0	\$0	\$4,070
	2024 Checks Cashed in 2025		\$887									
	Not Submitted to NSP											\$0
	<i>HPNC Expenses</i>											\$0
	-return 2024 unspent funds							\$198				\$198
	-HPS eclipse glasses											\$0
	-Withrow eclipse glasses											\$0
	- Ault Park Advisory Council											\$0
	- Meet & Greet											\$0
	Miscellaneous Expenses					\$45						\$45
	NAF projects											\$0
	Social Events		\$378									
	Strauss Troy - Legal Counsel			\$10,000	\$15,000		\$25,000			\$18,500		
	Checks											
	TOTAL DISBURSMENTS		\$1,288	\$11,000	\$15,021	\$1,021	\$25,211	\$2,025	\$11	\$18,500	\$0	\$4,313
ENDING OPERATING BALANCE			\$23,344	\$24,734	\$21,698.85	\$25,182.59	\$30,864.34	\$30,926.49	\$39,918	\$35,353	\$49,939	\$46,987



**Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, September 9, 2025
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting at Hyde Park United Methodist Church called to order by HPNC President, V. Woodham at 7:04 p.m.

In Attendance: B. Frappier Schirmang, S. Lauter, D. Lee, J. Matulaitis, T. McEvoy, K. Michel Marks, M. Monroe, S. Mullin, M. Olson, E. Paff, R. Sweeney, B. Whitney, G. Wollenweber

Advance Notice of Absence: D. Hapner

1. **Guests:**

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

- Personal thefts related to phone or text scams are up.
- Despite continued pleas from the police not to do so, people continue to leave key fobs in their car. Please don't leave personal items in your car.
- Auto theft numbers are slightly down this month.
- If you are interested in allowing the police to have access to your Ring camera data so that it can be used to investigate neighborhood crime, please register it here:

<https://connectcincinnati.org/>

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 library's Stern Lecture will take place at the Aronoff Center on September 30 and features journalist and author Nicholas Kristof. For more information, see: <https://chpl.org/stern/>
- The Main Library will host a Passport to Japan event this coming Saturday, September 13, in partnership with Asianati and the Japan America Society:

<https://chpl.org/blogs/post/passport-to-japan/>

- The Oakley branch will close for renovations on September 26th. The Oakley holds will be transferred to the Hyde Park branch, along with some staff. The renovation is expected to be complete by the end of 2025.
- 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://Hyde Park | Cincinnati & Hamilton County Public Library (chpl.org)) (513) 369-4456.

Cincinnati Recreation Commission: Joe Berta shared that:

- They are now operating on school year hours (9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. on Saturdays).
- The Eastside Rec Center is partnering with Brazee Street Studios on a giant glass mural that will represent aspects of the three communities that the center serves. Community members can purchase a bumblebee, flower, or bird that they can make and add to the mural.
- The center is currently serving 190 kids from Hyde Park School in their after school program.
- The center is hosting a meeting tomorrow night for parents who are looking for better child care solutions.

Hyde Park School—Assistant Principal Eugenie Woods noted that:

- They have had a great start to the school year, and they have a total of 645-650 students in the expanded building.
- The school is particularly focused on two new initiatives: establishing the school's garden and getting their library set back up. Please contact the school if you would like to assist with either effort.
- The school will be hosting its annual student read-a-thon in October. Students will read for donations.
- The community is always welcome to stop by and see the school and find a way to volunteer.

Withrow University High School

Belinda Carson reported that:

- Withrow's first day of school went very well. Approximately 85% of students are coming to school in their uniforms.
- Parent-teacher conferences will be held on September 11th.
- Withrow currently has an interim principal and is continuing to search for a permanent principal. The school will be interviewing 3 candidates tomorrow. They hope that the new principal will be able to start on October 1st.
- Work is continuing on the new resource coordinator storage area. This Saturday, the Purcell Marian football team is coming to help paint the classroom. The school is looking for donations of extra painting supplies, such as brushes, drop cloths, and rollers.

For more information, contact Belinda Carson at carsonb@cpsboe.k12.oh.us.

Clark Montessori

No report

Approval of Consent Agenda

S. Lauter moved to approve the Consent Agenda and amended June minutes. Second by J. Matulaitis. All trustees voted in favor. Motion carried.

2. Guests

Kevin Farmer, Candidate for Cincinnati City Council

- He is a resident of Avondale and currently serves as the head of marketing for the nonprofit, Rosemary's Babies. He also served as a petition circulator for the Save Hyde Park zoning repeal referendum.
- He believes in "people first, government second." During his first 100 days, he would follow a "third shift policy" to understand blind spots with fire, police, and medical providers locally. He is also an advocate for City Council members wearing body cams for accountability.
- For more information, see www.votekevinfarmer.com

Abby Cuyler, Community Outreach Research Coordinator for the Community Engagement Core/P20 Center at University of Cincinnati

- She is working on researching issues related to the environment and climate health.
- She is conducting a needs assessment survey. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes and must be completed in person. In exchange for your participation, you will receive a \$10 gift card. They will be offering the survey at the upcoming 513 Relief Bus events in September. For more information, see:

<https://513relief.org/bus/>

John Zinsser, Save Hyde Park Square

- Last Thursday, Cincinnati City Council voted to repeal its April 23rd vote on the zone change.
- SHPS wants to thank HPNC trustees and zoning community for partnership in conversations with the developer. They also thank everyone who helped to make this happen. They are hoping to continue that partnership with HPNC into the future.
- The developer has announced their intent to file a new plan with the city. He noted that SHPS's interests remain clear—defend our zoning and advocate for reasonable height variances. They encourage the developer to respect the 50 feet height that the current zoning requires.
- Please consider signing up for the mailing list and or consider donating to HPNC towards legal fees. Please remember that more than 1/3 of the people who circulated petitions came from outside Hyde Park.
- Question—what is the status of the Hyde Park plan?

Sean McGrory who is on the Hyde Park Plan committee, stated that the committee is still working to refine one area of the plan that concerns the future land use map. He noted that they have requested some data from the city's planning department, and they are scheduled to meet again later in September. Once the committee finalizes the plan, they will present it to HPNC. They hope to have it ready to present at the October meeting. He notes that the plan had to be reworked in light of Connected Communities, which is a city

ordinance. Neighborhood plans must go before both the city's Planning Commission and City Council for approval.

3. **New Business**

Hyde Park Square Business Association (HPSBA) meeting: R. Sweeney reported that:

- The HPSBA is working on a new website that they hope to launch soon.
- The tree lighting on Hyde Park Square will take place on November 22nd. From 4:00-7:00 p.m.

4. **Adjourn: Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m.**

Blair Whitney, Recording Secretary