**MACA Minutes, October 6, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by Vice- President Kurt Meier at 7:05 pm. Kurt welcomed Officer Tim Eppstein, our new District 1 neighborhood liaison. He also wanted to recognize Captain John who will be moving to a new citywide position involving reduction of violent crimes and gang related crime. Kurt said that the success dealing with the crowds on weekends has been due to Capt. John’s plan and cooperation of the businesses and MACA. We are sorry to see him go. The new District 1 Captain is Lisa Davis.

**President’s Report: N/A**

**Police Report:** Officer, Eppstein reported that crime in Mt. Adams is down. Citywide violent crime and nonviolent crime is up 2%, but over a three year period the average crime rate is down slightly. District 1 violent crime is up 12% from last year, but looking over a three year period it is down 8%. Property crimes are up 1%, and auto theft is down. He said with the coming of fall the homeless camps are more evident on and near the Hill. The procedure is to give warnings, try to get housing options and services for them, and then ODOT to clean up the debris. Saturday night procedures are going back to normal. Lights are being added permanently for use on the weekends if needed. If problems arise there is a plan in place to control the problem. The plan used in Mt. Adams has become the model for such incidents. Captain John mentioned a violent crime in Mt. Adams three Hispanic men were stabbed; the incident was unprovoked two of the assailants are known and the third is not known. They are however, known to be Iron Horsemen. One has been apprehended. **Officer Eppstein’s email to report neighborhood problems is** [timothy.eppstein@cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:timothy.eppstein@cincinnati-oh.gov) phone number 325-4566. There was a round of applause for all that Capt. John and District 1 officers who worked with MACA and the Business and Tavern Guilds.

**Vice-President’s Report:**  Kurt Meier also recognized the Trustees (Brian McIntosh, Chuck Curran, Frank Obermeyer, Jenny Ferneding, Russ Ferneding,) and Officers (Jim McCarty, Tom Abare, Sue Zimmerman) for the extra time and effort during the problems this summer. He mentioned we are still working on a way in the form of a dinner perhaps for District 1 officers for all the great work they have done for the Hill. Kurt also asked for a motion to send a letter recognizing District 1’s great work. It was moved and seconded by Chuck Curran then unanimously approved by the members. Kurt introduced Michael Goldman representing information on the Park issue and Judge Berkowitz who is running for office and said they would be available after the meeting.

Planning and Development: Kurt Meier …The zoning committee has been very quiet. We are expecting the 3rd iteration of the new zoning code to be out late December or early January. There will probably be no changes to what Mt. Adams submitted. This new code will be a vast improvement especially to determine how to measure heights of buildings. The committee is Kurt, Jim McCarty, Russ Ferneding, and Judi Cetel.

**Treasurer’s Report:**  Tom Abare reported that the Grapevine bill has been paid, 5 new lifetime memberships and 1 annual have been received, also received $1,000 sponsorship from Horseshoe Casino for 2014 Cinema in the City, 2015 NSP funds are in, Art Walks has been paid, still some outstanding bills for Cinema in the City. Unencumbered funds total $39,000.

**MABA Report:** Sue Zimmerman November 7th is Fall Clean Up…Volunteers are needed…Report to Bow Tie 9:00 to 9:30 for coffee, doughnuts at Bow Tie…Clean Up 9:30 to 11:30…Lunch at Tavern on the Hill noon-ish. (Thanks to Tavern for donating lunch and Bow Tie for meeting place and coffee)…Decorating around the Monk is Sat. Dec. 5 at 9:30… The city has approved the boxes for Ida Street Bridge. Donations are coming in. Judi Cetel is in charge of the Bridge Beautification Project. Luminary Night is Dec. 20... Kits will be available from street captains and at Bow Tie. Also T-shirts will be on sale.

**Membership:**  Jim Horrigan MACA now has over 200 lifetime memberships and 25 annual.

**NSP(Neighborhood Support Program):**  Terri Abare We have to submit a budget to the city. This year each of the 52 neighborhoods will receive $6,800. Our budget proposal is $4,000 for the Grapevine, $800 for MABA, $975 for Mutt Mitts, $900 for Cinema in the City, $ 125 for prizes for Cinema in the City Raffles. Tina Russo moved to accept the proposed budget; Jim Steiner seconded. The hand vote was unanimous.

**Business Guild Meeting:**  Pat Sheppard The ropes are gone from the sidewalk on the weekends. We are back to normal. If the situation changes, we will go back to the plan. Lights are being installed for use on Friday and Saturday nights. The Bars will still have private security along with a police presence. There will be Pub Crawl November 21 5-9pm fundraiser for homeless children. This is the 5th year for this. There was a question about Balloonaria, but no one knows if it will happen.

**Grapevine:** M’ellen Horrigan and Sue Zimmerman The fall issue is on sale at Joseph-Beth Booksellers for $3.99 and some have been purchased. The winter issue will be in the mailboxes December 1. Articles and advertisers must get changes or copy into us by November 1. (Update - I received a check from Jo-Beth today for $62.50!)

**Community Life**: Frank Obermeyer Art Walk was great in September until the rain hit. This Sat. Oct. 10 is the last Art Walk of the season 1 pm-6pm. Great prizes will be given for filling in the passport. Volunteers need to man the tent 1-6pm…No set up or tear down involved. Halloween…Meet at the lot next to Calle. Costume contest for young and old 5 pm assemble… Trick or Treating 6-8—after food and drink. Much of the activity will be indoors in case of bad weather.

**CIP (Civic Development Projects)** Russ Ferneding We’ve done the flower boxes, Art Walks. We need new ideas. Tina Russo mentioned getting iron decorative tree protectors on all the trees on St. Gregory… Russ told her to apply.

**Other Reports:** Steve Gressel The Bridge should be wrapped up the end of this month. The city may have funds to patch up the underside of Ida St. Bridge next year. A question about who will be taking care of the grass planted under the bridge…Answer it should be taken care of the city street side maintenance group, but Steve will check. Judi Cetel added that Steve has been instrumental in getting approval for the bridge beatification project and this should be ready by spring. She also mentioned that Eddie and Pat Sheppard have donated money for the first bridge plantings by WOW. Many people and businesses have already sponsored flower boxes and maintenance money will be recognized formally later. There is still a need for more sponsors.

Brian Frank spoke for the Clifton Market Co-op (formerly Keller’s IGA). The co-op has raised $1.5 million…$550,000 is still needed. Memberships are available at $200 for lifetime. A fundraising social event at Mt. Adams Bar & Grill is Monday, Oct. 12. 10% of dinner tabs will be donated to Clifton Market starting at 4pm.

**Announcements:** Jim Steiner announced that this month is the last chance before winter to do the Mt. Adams Walks at 1 pm Sunday. Meet in front of the Bar and Grill. $10 per person; money goes to MACA. This Sunday Margaret Mock and next Sunday Jim Steiner will be the guides. Check out information is on Mt.AdamsToday.com.

Marcey Bullerman…The last Art Walk of the season. Drawings have good prizes from the businesses. Volunteers for set up needed at 11am. Marcey is looking for a large vehicle to pick up 60 helium balloons…Call her 513-263-0748.

Cameron Kitchen from the Art Museum will be a presenter at the next meeting.

Chuck Curran Moved to adjourn, Jim Steiner seconded…Meeting was adjourned at 8:05.