MACA minutes for December 1, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Jim McCarty at 7pm.

**Police Report:** Officer Tim Eppstein reported on recent crimes. There was a report of a stolen car in Mt. Adams, but it has an unusual back story, the woman said her car was stolen in Mt. Adams, but she hitched hiked home since she lost her phone and when police came to her home, she wasn’t there. She was shopping for corn starch and then flagged down a police car to report her stolen car. Eden Park was damage by a vehicle that drove circles over the grassy area. The person has been arrested. There was an accident on Hill St. a parked vehicle was crashed into. Officer Eppstein tried to find out more information, but it was not available. For those interested they can email Eppstein. He will be doing alcohol education with an officer from Columbus they will train the bartenders on the Hill about over serving and other things. Marilyn Ormsbee asked about the Channel 12 report of car break-ins. Yes, there was a break-in on the Playhouse circle. Officer Eppstein handed out business cards so that people can contact him by email or phone when they have questions or want to report something.

**Approval of minutes:**  Got skipped over…The minutes are in the last issue of the Grapevine.

**President’s Report:** Acknowledgements…Jim thanked all for the recognition given him by MACA. He said it was the best kept secret on the Hill, and was totally surprised. (He thought he was going to the Nouveau Beaujolais celebration.) It meant a lot to him, and it now sets a precedent to honor people who do so much for the community. Chuck Curran is term limited out as Trustee and was given a gift thanking him for his service. Also honored was the Cinema in the City Baum Street Gang (Charlotte and Reg Hahn, Debi and Dan Weinstein, and Mary and Bill Moran). They have run the Cinema in the City for the last three years with tremendous success. It is MACA important fundraising vehicle. It brings the community together and brings people off the Hill to Mt. Adams.

**Committee Reports:**

**Treasurer’s Report** : Tom Abare reported that the Grapevine bill was paid; we gained a few new members. A complete report of the year will be presented in January.

**MABA:** Sue Zimmerman- Deck the Monk is this Sat. (Dec.5) is at 9:30 at Bow Tie. Trees need to be decorated and this year the business pots will have greenert. Luminary Night is Dec. 20 5:30 to 8:30. To get Mt. Adams All Lit Up, Luminary kits will be available through street captains who will be passing out order forms or Dec 13 to 20 kits can be purchased at Bow Tie. T-shirts are available…Lisa Massa is in charge; you can contact her at 513-313-4201 or massafamily4@gmail.com. See page 11 in the Grapevine. Dec. 8th MABA meeting is our annual Christmas party. Garden Stroll is June 14. We are still working on the final gardens. Janet Steiner said we needed wine donations and Bob Deck and Danny K said they will donate 4 cases. Thank You Pavilion and 4EG!

**Clean, Safe, and Attractive:** Jenny and Russ Ferneding were not present. Russ has had surgery and will have chemo, and they just moved into the new house. We wish Russ a speedy recovery.

**CIP(Community Improvement Projects)** Russ Ferneding …Jim Reported that there is money for projects. Ideas are needed that benefit the community. For the time being send idea and a brief written plan to Jim McCarty.

**M**e**mbership:**  Jim Horrigan- Annual memberships need to be renewed; January marks the new membership period. $10 annual; $100 for lifetime. Lifetime includes membership for two people in a household. We still get donations too.

**NSP:** Terri Abare - Our proposal was approved by the city as of last Friday. Terri talked about the money going to Grapevine, Mitt Mutts, MABA, etc. Mitt Mutts costs $1,800 a year. There are 16 Mitt Mutt boxes on the Hill. Jim asked if anyone knows of a vet or person who might be interested in sponsoring a box.

**Business Guild:** M’ellen Horrigan – If anyone has an off Hill location to place a yard sign about Reindog Parade. Sandy Zimmerman at the bank has the yard signs. It is possible to register your dog on line $5 for a dog and $10 for dog groups. The winners will be announced before the parade and then the winners can carry sign proclaiming their win. If you have updates for the Mt. Adams website contact Eric Turner or M’ellen Horrigan. The businesses will be open on Christmas and New Year’s. Crowley’s will be closed 6 hours on Christmas for family. The Event Center will be open as a point of interest for the Garden Stroll in June. Crowley’s bartender, Tom Stockard died of a heart attack. M’ellen needs contacts for publicity of the Garden Stroll.

**Grapevine:**  M’ellen Horrigan – We may have to add one more sheet to the Grapevine (4 pages) because we have had to cut things to fit the current format. We also need another idea for circulation. It will be online when we have a format that can handle its size. We are currently delivering to residents, leaving copies at some businesses, and selling copies at Joseph – Beth in Rookwood. Next issue is spring and deadline for that is Feb. 1.

**Community Life:** Frank Obermeyer – We are working on the five ideas for the park improvements. We have a list of 10-15 and will get together with Steven Schuckman, a park person to help find the most feasible five projects. We are in the process of applying for CIP funds for more chairs at the pool. Next meeting is Wed. Dec. 9 at 6pm. We are going to tour the third floor gym in HCI community building to see if it could be used as a community space. Pat Feghali is looking for volunteers for Cinema in the City.

CRC Vanessa W?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was in attendance and will be at our meetings to give us access to CRC.

**P&D (Planning & Development):** Kurt Meier**-** The zoning request change from SF2 to PD (single family to planned development). Planned Development is a carte blanche. The developer no longer had to follow any zoning code once it is granted. The P&D committee has elected not to support that change requested by Camden Land Group for 1201 Elsinore Street. The P&D committee and the Trustees met after the meeting where the proposal was presented. Russ Ferneding was ill but came to the meeting. They reviewed the proposal. They were extremely concerned about the building height. Thanks goes to Steve Vogel an attorney who assisted the committee with the plan and Marilyn Ormsbee who informs Kurt of what’s happening and to M’ellen Horrigan. The committee realizes there are people who do not agree with MACA’s position… They should send their viewpoint to the city.

 The reasons why MACA disapproves of the zoning change are: 1. Development does not meet the legal criteria for a PD. It would not be more economical and cost effective…The consequence of clogging the on/off the Hill during rush hour. 2. Orderly and thoroughness is missing. No procedural documentation which MACA asked for last summer. 3. The lack of light and space access… The corner of Elsinore (135 feet) and Wareham (175 feet) creates a tunnel effect like a monolithic wall. 4. The design will shut out a vista because the building has no spacing in its design. Other concerns: It is on a hillside overlay district and PD plan doesn’t comply with that municipal code. The project disturbs the character of the Hill and it will set a precedent. There are other viable options but this plan ruins aesthetics.

The committee is asking you to take a memorandum sign it, scan it and send it to Steve Briggs, David Mann, and Mayor Cranley. This is time sensitive, so do so immediately. Deadline is Dec. 18th. Other comments included- Marilyn Ormsbee wanted clarification on the height. Two stories below street level and 4 levels above. What is Hixson’s take on the plan? Hixson is in the development business and would not take a position. Neil Quinn wants information...Kurt will get it to him. Mary Moran where is the curb cut for the plan?…On Wareham one exit and entrance. Is there an alternative beside PD? Yes there are other zoning without needing a PD. Judi Cettel said at the presentation of the project the property is larger on the end when asked if it would be permanent green space the response was vague. Kurt mentioned that we may have to get help from the United Neighborhood Association to help with a show of political force. We are looking for street captains willing to circulate petitions.

News…Daveed’s is now open Thursday through Sat. Mary Dickenherr of TOHI is a tea shop, boutique and SPA… Mary emphasized that her products are organic and environmentally correct. She is now open full time; she has just finished the Aveda school and will be selling skin care products. She has many gift possibilities and gift certificates.

John Deatrick said the street car test was successful. Next week the test will be done with water barrels to imitate people.

Meeting adjourned at 8 pm.