**MACA Minutes Jan. 5, 2021 via Zoom**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05. Officers online were Frank Obermeyer, Tom Abare, and Sue Zimmerman. Directors online were Judi Cettel, Nic Covey, Jenny Ferneding, Steve Vogel, and Dan Weinstein.

**Police Report:** Officer Michelle Bockenstette reported that last month there was a theft of a Bob Cat by the construction site. The Bob Cat was recovered. Dec. 11 teenagers were arrested while graffitiing the Ida St. Bridge. Dec. 16 two catalytic convertors were stolen on Parkside. If you see people under a car, call the police. Dec. 19 a theft from a car at 911 Hill St. A window was broken and Christmas gift bags with gift cards were taken. Another car with an unlocked door had some small items taken. Officer Bockenstette said it’s important to call in all break-ins. One call had a guy sleeping in a car; he got away but left a pop can that had his DNA and he was arrested. Problems with semis coming up the Hill and getting stuck and at times causing damage. She will be contacting traffic engineering for possible signage to warn off the semis. A discussion followed as to why this has happened included GPS guiding trucks up here, the Brent Spence closure etc. Nic Covey mentioned reporting a semi and the police came quickly. Matthew Hammer is the new Captain of District 1.

**Cincinnati Rec. Com.** Vanessa Henderson reported that there has been a lot of retirements. They are continuing the enrichment program for kids who are doing virtual school until Feb. 26. So far, they are helping public and private school kids. They are delivering five- day meal packages to senior folks in the area who can’t get out. CPS is providing meals for kids who are coming in for enrichment program. Memberships for 2021… $2 for ages 5-17, $10 for ages 18-24, $25 for adults, $10 for mature adults.

**Approval of Minutes:** Two words were changed from the December minutes … impersonated and sails to the version sent out. Chuck Curran moved and Tom Abare seconded the minutes with changes. Minutes were approved.

**President’s Report:** Frank Obermeyer stated that he knew that the issue of the Art Club green space lot needed to be discussed, but he would like to do that later in the agenda. Gary Eith of the Art Club was not online due to a family emergency. He complimented the people who organized and participated in Luminary Night; even in Covid the Hill managed to have a safe night of beauty. The meeting venue for February 1st be on Zoom. Last month very few people attended at the Immaculata. The board wants to be in person as soon as it is possible.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Tom Abare reported more information from 2020. Annual expenses were $8,000 more than revenues, due to producing the Summer Grapevine with no Ad charges, and late receipt of NSP funds.  We had two generous donations: Mt. Adams Walks donated $972.83 from their tours Margaret Mock, Chuck Curran, Pete Djuric, Dave McCabe, Mark Ahern and Tim Riordan.  Bob and Ann Works donated $500.  Tom thanked them for their generosity. We are waiting for NSP funds for 2020 and 2021 (Update NSP funds have come in $6078.00 for 2020).  The balance is $32,000.

**Planning and Development:** Steve Vogel had nothing to report.

**MABA**: Judi Cettel reported that Luminary Night was a great success and thanked the participants. There will be no January MABA meeting. Thanks to Charlotte and Reg Hahn, Debbie and Dan Weinstein, Dave Zimmerman and TJ Lentz for taking down the Monk decorations. They kept the group small for social distancing on a weather friendly day.

**Clean, Safe, and Attractive:**  Jenny Ferneding reported that the graffiti on Ida Street Bridge has been removed; however, some of the coating was damaged and needs to be repaired and painted. She has sent an email to Steve Gressel to get some paint so she can fix it. It was mentioned how Steve Gressel and Jude Johnson have been so helpful to the Hill.

**Membership:**  Maryellen Horrigan reported that there were 6 new lifetime memberships and 3 annual memberships.

**Community Life:** Margaret Mock had no report, but she is looking forward to when we can have events.

**Community Improvement Projects:**  Judi Cettel said she did not have a report, but the group is still working.

**Other Reports**

**NSP:** Julie Dietz no report

**Business Guild:** Maryellen Horrigan gave an updafte from the meeting. Todd Byers is email is toddbyers@TowneProperties.com. It was suggested that people keep their car fobs in a metal container to prevent thieves using a device to get into their cars remotely. Sgt. Hank Ward has retired; Matthew Hammer is the new District 1 Captain. If you start your car, and it makes a strange noise, check to see if your catalytic converter has been stolen. Jerry Crowley has retired; Lainie Smith has taken over (She is a Crowley niece.). Dylan Sears is managing Bow Tie; he is Heather Turner’s son. The semi-truck problem was also discussed. One driver said his phone GPS directed him up the Hill. Reindog Parade didn’t happen, but the sponsors- Hixson, Towne Properties, and North Side Bank- didn’t want their money back. The purchased the holiday banner up across St. Gregory. The Building Gild thanks Lisa Massa for all her work on Luminary Night. Chapter is rented and a Mexican restaurant will be going in there in spring. Neil Bortz will be presenting a new plat for Longworth’s; it will have a first floor restaurant, three floors of rental units, and a rooftop bar. NSCBU grant to the business district of $3,500 will be used towards the hanging flower baskets in the business district.

**Grapevine:**  Maryellen Horrigan/Sue Zimmerman February 1st in the deadline for the spring issue.

**Walking Tours:** Margaret Mock informed us that the tours will begin May 2 and run through Oct. 24th

**Mt. Adams Yacht Club:** Chuck Curran reminded people it is the time to renew membership.

**Pilgrim Chapel:** No report

**Holy Cross Immaculata:** No report

**Cincinnati Art Club:** Background - The Art Club has put up the greenspace at the corner of Martin and Parkside Place. This plot was owned by CPS (Cincinnati Public Schools) at one time and eventually bought by the Art Club. The plot was taxed as non-profit but changed to commercial. The Art Club couldn’t afford the tax rate. They applied to the state to get it changed back to non-profit. However, that is in the works. The Art Club put the lot up for sale. Many people in the community want to keep the green space. A discussion began on how to save the space. Joyce Miller gave background on the Art Club and her dismay of this surprise of the sale. Shane Qualls talked about a group effort to buy the land and make it an entry. Another idea was to donate it to the Park Board. It was suggested that MACA president Frank Obermeyer send a letter to MACA members informing them of the situation and to contact Joyce Miller jmillernapoli@gmail.com .

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20

Submitted by

Sue Zimmerman