



APR 24th, 2023 Meeting Minutes, Follow up to Chris Answers

We had 10 attendees, including Pastor Scott from OMC; \$25 donations collected

- Pastor Scott is interested in working with SHAG doing things with the community such as cleanups. He is involved with the action team at the church. Also involved with other churches in the area. We are thinking of doing an event in June or July. Will talk about it at May meeting.
- Concerns about a recent shooting (about 22 shots fired) at apartments on Sevenhills drive was brought to the attention of Chris.
- Mike Gould, public works director, is no longer with Springfield township. They are still looking for a replacement so Chris is doing double duty at this time.
- Chris Gilbert could not attend meeting, But answered questions from March meeting. Below is March questions (Q.) with Chris answers (A.), then comments (C.) to answers to present to Chris when he's available in future.

Q. What is the Township doing to address the wide spread speeding and vehicle violence? Two pedestrians on McKelvey were killed in a preventable crash back in February. The fear is it will only get worse.

A. The accident on McKelvey involved two pedestrians walking in the street that were struck by an elderly lady that appears to have been having a medical issue and/or lost control of her car. Speeding had nothing to do with this accident. With that being said, we are doing directed patrol and speed enforcement in certain known speeding areas. We know that speeding is going to happen as it does everywhere, but we will do our best with the amount of officers we have on duty at anyone time to address it.

C. We didn't really like this answer. Are we just going to wait until more people are killed? What about doing things like the City of Cincinnati such as a vision zero program, speed humps and other traffic calming techniques.

Q. The Metro bus is still damaging the grass on Sevenhills Dr.. It gets repaired but damaged again. Is there a way to prevent this in the future?

A. As we've mentioned, we have notified Metro of the issue. Unfortunately, not much we can do other than speak to them again. If you have any ideas on how to address it, let us know and we would be happy to explore it.

C. SHAG has contacted Metro and got into a heated argument about it. Excuses like too many drivers to tell this too. Not enough police to patrol. Still no permanent solution. Suggestions were to bring attention at Township public meeting, or Cincinnati Municipal court.

Q. Can roads be repaved this year or in the near future? The south end of Sprucehill near Roosevelt is especially bad. Can SORTA money from the reinvent metro sales tax pay for this?

A. The SORTA could possibly be used, however, we won't have any matching funding

available this year or in 2024. Our plan is to explore the use of CDBG funds to help pay for these repairs and a timeline hasn't been established yet.

C. So does this mean nothing until at least 2025? Pot holes get filled in but they don't last long and are not strong enough to support the weight of the busses.

Q. Can reinvent metro money be used for a bus stop shelter on Roosevelt at the Rt 17 EOL?

A. Yes - we believe it can be and plan to see if that is something SORTA may be able to do in 2024. This would also help alleviate bus traffic on Sevenhills Drive.

C. Rerouting bus through shopping plaza was brought up, but this could not be approved in the past.

Q. A larger Welcome sign was in the works last year to replace the small one on Roosevelt. Do you have an update on when this will be done?

A. It will be ordered and installed this summer. It's in the budget to do.

C. It was explained to attendees it will be similar to the one off of CC highway.

Q. South dead end section of Sprucehill is getting cleared out for what appears to be a development project. Do you have information on this project? Are meetings open to the community to discuss projects? The fear is more Section 8.

A. The property is zoned R-4 Multi-Family (That means it allows buildings with 4 apartments per building). The owner has a plan to construct multi-family buildings (condos) that are in compliance with the zoning. There are no meetings required for this project as it is being built in accordance with the current zoning laws. The preliminary plan showed 11 buildings with 4 units in each building. The Township cannot prevent this development as it is being built per the standard of how it is zoned.

C. It would have been nice to know about it along with some details such as if roads and traffic will be affected, timeline, will adjacent properties easements be affected etc.? Is there a blueprint or rendering available somewhere?

Q. Illegal dumping. What's the best way to deal with it.? Someone has done this twice in the past year in the Church lot and the concern is it will continue.

A. If the church were to install a camera, that would be the best way. We can always add signs to try and discourage it as well.

C. Pastor Scott mentioned he will look into installing a security camera. Also was mentioned a camera at the end of Aspenhill was installed and resulted in a hefty fine for illegal dumping in 2021.

Q. The rock quarry on Hamilton Ave. raises lots of dust that settles in the neighborhood, especially during dry spells with little rain. Can anything be done about this?

A. We are currently working with them to lessen the amount of material on site and will have them spray with water to reduce the dust.

C. Winter time is not that bad, but in the dry season of the summer it can get really bad.

Q. Is the Rally's on Hamilton Ave by Sunoco scheduled to be torn down?

A. We have reached out to the owner and are awaiting an answer.

C. It looks like work is being done inside to restore.

Q. Can the Township trash pickup service cover a larger area of Sevenhills?

A. Our current staffing is limited to trash pick-up on main thoroughfares and roads in the Township. We would encourage your community group to organize volunteer litter pick up in other areas of Sevenhills. We can supply the litter sticks and bags if needed.
C. In the past we were warned against doing this due to liability issues if someone is injured.

Q. It was suggested to send letters out twice a year to remind people of home maintenance responsibilities and code violations. Can this be done? It can be similar to the one last September. Suggested to add “please close lids on garbage cans to prevent trash from blowing around”.

A. Yes - We can do this and will add that language as well.
C. OK, Thanks

Q. We would like to do another “Dump Your Junk” event if May.

A. We will have staff reach out and try to get something scheduled. Most likely won't be in May though.
C. Reminded everyone Mike Gould would set this up in the past and understand the situation with him gone.

Q. Are funds available this year for Frost Park improvements? Cleanup walk area, resurface basketball courts, more playground equipment, and shelter suggested last meeting.

A. We have \$50,000 available in grant funding to use and plan to utilize it for Frost Park. How much we can do and for what still needs to be discussed.
C. In the past we brought up restoring basketball courts and walking trails. Shelter and/or park benches, picknick tables also mentioned.

Q. The creek between Frost Park and Roosevelt could use a cleanup, but it's too hard to get down there without special equipment. Is there a way to address this?

A. Yes - Possibly we can use equipment for this during the clean-up day.
C. Thanks. We've been trying to get this cleaned up for years.

Q. An idea of getting a community get together event with local bands, food trucks was brought up. Can something like this be done at Frost Park? Is there someone such as Arts Connect that can help us with permits and legal issues involved with putting an event like this together?

A. Yes - Staff will work with SHAG to get something together for this summer possibly.
C. Could Kim Flann with Arts Connect help us out. Thinking of the Barbecue and Brews event on the Township site.