

**Mayfield Village Citizens Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 25, 2021**

The Citizens Advisory Committee met on Monday, October 25, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Civic Center.

Present:

Bob Haycox (Chair)	Mary Salomon
Marilyn LaRiche-Goldstein	Jim Thomas
Loretta Williams	Rosemarie Fabrizio
Katie Parker	

Absent:

Mary Singer	Sara Calo
Kay Phillips	Lorry Nadeau
Mark Granakis	Joanna McNally
Sandy Batcheller	

Also Present:

George Williams, Council Representative
Steve Schutt, Council Alternate
Al Meyers, Council Member
Dan Russell, Building Commissioner
Shane McAviney, Recreation Director
Diane Wolgamuth, Director of Administration

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Haycox opened the meeting and asked the Committee if there were any changes to the meeting minutes from Sept 27, 2021, previously provided for review. There were none and the minutes were approved.

Introduction of Building Commissioner Dan Russell

Mr. Russell introduced himself as the new Building Commissioner, having taken over for John Marrelli. He described his 24 years of experience, mostly on the west side of Cleveland. He stated that he finds Mayfield Village to be one of the most incredible communities he has seen. "Everyone is very nice, very cordial. I have worked for four other cities and there is nothing like this out there. You should all be very proud."

Mr. Russell described that he runs the Building Department with the help of one part-time inspector and Executive Assistant Debbie Garbo. He looks over all residential building plans and performs inspections for residential and commercial buildings. He also deals with complaints called into his department and works

with the Planning & Zoning Commission, the Architectural Review Board, and the Board of Zoning Appeals. He also attends Council meetings, so he is here many evenings during the month.

Mr. Haycox asked if the renovations at the Holiday Inn are still going forward. Mr. Russell responded that they are and he is scheduled to do the final inspection of the first floor tomorrow. Mrs. LaRiche-Goldstein asked if there were many changes to the main floor and Mr. Russell responded that a sprinkler system was being installed in the main lobby. There were not many other changes on the first floor but all the guest rooms have been renovated.

Mr. Haycox asked if Mr. Russell had been involved in the Mars and Montebello situation. Mr. Russell responded that the engineer was more involved than he, but he did inspect the fencing and the plantings. He added that, so far, only four homes there are occupied, but four or five more have been sold. There are a total of 52 homes scheduled to be built.

There were no additional questions and Mr. Haycox thanked Mr. Russell for attending the meeting.

Recreation Department Update with Director Shane McAvineu

Mr. McAvineu thanked the Committee for inviting him to attend. He described that many recreation programs were redesigned and restructured due to Covid, and it turns out we are keeping many of the new formats:

- The traditional Halloween party was held indoors and only about 70 children attended. Now the event has been moved outdoors to the Greenway Trail and this past Saturday over 200 children attended with parents, meaning over 500 residents participated.
- The Amazing Egg Race will be repeated this Easter. Mr. McAvineu explained that he feels that it is good for everyone to be outside, even if sometimes it is a little cool.
- Mr. McAvineu stated that he is still evaluating next year's location for the Mother's Day Pancake Breakfast. He liked holding it at the Community Room this past year. He described that it takes a lot of manpower to get the Service Garage ready to hold the event there.
- The Santa Float was very popular last year and will be repeated again on December 4. Photos with Santa and the Tree Lighting will be the same day.

Mr. McAvineu described that his department found last year's programming challenging but rewarding. They decided to take the approach of doing things safely rather than cancelling. He added that the Centennial celebration went so well that it will likely become an annual party for Village residents.

Mr. McAvineu stated that the weather was also challenging this year. Cruise Night was moved from June to September and it turned out great. It was well attended and the weather was much better than in June. He

added that the Parks Board is considering next year's date. If Cruise Night is held in September, it would be scheduled to start earlier in the day. He asked the Committee members if they had any opinion about the scheduling.

Dr. Thomas stated that he has been here for years and does not think the Recreation Department gets enough credit for the job they do. Mr. Haycox stated that the Grove concerts were well attended this year and asked about next season. Mr. McAviney replied that he is looking to reduce the number of concerts and schedule them in an 8-week period. That avoids some of the outside costs incurred if the season is extended, like renting restrooms. He is thinking about 11 to 12 shows, from late June to mid-August. He added that Chamber Fest wants to come back and he still wants to schedule some performances at the Gazebo. It gets very hot during the day at the Gazebo and there are not many shade trees, so he thinks late August and September would work better at the Gazebo. Bands are getting booked early so he is working on the schedule now.

Ms. Wolgamuth asked if the classic car people were unhappy about moving the date to September. Mr. McAviney replied that there were more cars participating this year than ever before. Mr. Haycox stated that he thinks the event is good in September as it conflicts less with other events. He commented that the labor shortage made it difficult for local restaurants to participate. Mr. Schutt said that he also prefers September.

Mr. Williams asked if it is possible to determine how many attendees at these events are Village residents. Mr. McAviney replied that it is difficult for events where there is no registration. He can determine that more with programs. He stated that with the small number of residents, Villagers will always be the minority of attendees. However, he added that Village residents that attend events typically bring non-residents with them. He said that many attendees are from Highland Heights and people who work in the Village— Progressive and Mars Electric employees who go out to a local restaurant after work and stay for the show. He stated that Youth programming has increased dramatically the past several years due to many new families coming into the community.

Mr. Williams asked if there is a noise problem at The Grove. Mr. McAviney responded that this year he discovered that there were some issues with sound ricocheting off buildings so he continues to make adjustments. Both he and Mr. Schutt have gone out in the community during shows to check decibel levels and both found that passing cars were louder than the music.

Mr. McAviney next reported that his department has started to look at improvements to Wiley Park. Wiley Park is designed for family get-togethers, so they are looking at what items benefit that concept. They have sent surveys to people renting the facility to get feedback. They have determined that sand volleyball courts are no longer needed, the walks are not ADA compliant, the fencing is not pleasant, there is a need for pull-down sides on the pavilion, and an outdoor kitchen would be a great added amenity.

Mr. McAviney provided a rendering of the new site plan and said that the estimated cost is \$366,650. His department's goal is to seek grant funding and get the Village's share down to around \$30,000.

Mr. Haycox asked if any winter concerts are being planned this year in Reserve Hall. Mr. McAviney said that several are scheduled in February but are dependent upon the bathroom renovation schedule.

Mrs. Salomon asked if there is a plan to address the lack of shade trees around the Gazebo and Mr. McAviney responded that he will be discussing that with the Service Department.

Council Report

Mr. Williams reported on a few things that are "coming down the pike:"

- Council approved a contract for the restroom and kitchen renovation in the amount of \$296,500. There is no construction schedule yet, but ADA improvements are coming to those areas.
- Progressive has buildings in Mayfield Village and Highland Heights and employees move back and forth between them. A shuttle bus is being explored to assist this movement and Council just approved a grant application to cover 50% of the cost. This is also an opportunity for people who travel here on the Wilson Mills bus line to get to work. This is a pilot program to see if it should be done on a regular basis.

Mrs. LaRiche-Goldstein commented the Nestle has a bus in Solon, so if it's just for Progressive employee, they could have their own bus. Ms. Wolgamuth explained that this shuttle is also to provide service to employees of other companies working on Alpha and Beta Drives. She added that residents will also be able to use it to access the Library and the North Chagrin Reservation. They could also use it to get to retail locations on Alpha Drive. Dr. Thomas asked if using the shuttle will be free for Progressive employees. Ms. Wolgamuth stated that it likely will be, but those details have not yet been worked out. Mrs. LaRiche-Goldstein asked how the other 50% is being paid for. Ms. Wolgamuth replied that discussions with Highland Heights and Progressive are ongoing and we don't yet know what the Village's share would be. We are just seeking the grant at this point. Mrs. Parker asked if, after the pilot program is complete, RTA will then provide service. Ms. Wolgamuth advised that that is the hope, depending on ridership.

- Mr. Williams described a creative approach to help businesses on Beta Drive. The Economic Development group in the Village has been working on an overlay of the existing zoning to allow height increases and building expansion. The new zoning would be more flexible and, if Council approves it, will be on the ballot for voter approval in May 2022. Economic Development Manager John Marquart will attend our next meeting to go into detail.

Mr. Haycox asked if plans for the Civic Center still include installation of an elevator. Ms. Wolgamuth replied that they did not and renovation of the kitchen and restrooms is the only plan at this time.

Mr. Williams thanked Ms. Wolgamuth for providing the Committee with follow-up information from the upcoming *Voice of the Village* regarding Rust Belt Riders and the Speed Photo Enforcement Program.

Mr. Schutt reported that he did some research regarding funds available to pay musicians to play at The Grove. He could not find any information about paying for the bands but did find various organizations that help musicians and bands directly. Ms. LaRiche-Goldstein stated that she believes the American Federation of Musicians has a fund. Mr. McAvineu described a program utilized last summer through the Tri-C Jazz Festival. They paid to have Ernie Krivda play at The Grove to provide greater exposure to jazz music. He added that he is in discussions with them again for next year.

There being no further business, Mr. Haycox thanked everyone for their participation and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Wolgamuth, Director of Administration