

BEACHWOOD CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF THE RESIDENTIAL HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT BEACHWOOD CITY HALL, CONFERENCE ROOM A, 25325 FAIRMOUNT BOULEVARD, ON MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Chairman June Taylor.

ROLL CALL:	Present	J. Berns, B. Linick, J. Pasch, J. Taylor, K. Tindel
	Absent:	None.
	Also Present:	Mayor Martin S. Horwitz, H. L. Jones, E. Synenberg, A. Isaacson

1. Mayor's Report.

None.

2. Discussion regarding the implementation of the Residential Housing Committee.

Ms. Taylor introduced some topics of discussion for the Committee.

Those topics included discussing what the Residential Housing Committee means to City Council and what the Committee means to the Citizens of Beachwood.

Ms. Taylor stated that there are several opportunities to help the residents of the community.

Several of those opportunities or programs are outlined on the memo that is attached hereto for the official record.

Ms. Taylor also spoke about a neighborhood grant program that could provide some financial support to members of neighborhoods that are trying to implement social activities and events that promote a sense of community. An example of those social activities would be planning and hosting block parties.

At this point in the meeting, Ms. Taylor introduced Karen Tindel who is the resident member of the Residential Housing Committee. Ms. Taylor asked if Ms. Tindel would share her background with the Committee and other members of Council.

Ms. Tindel introduced herself and provided her information to the Committee.

After Ms. Tindel introduced herself, Mr. Pasch spoke about what this Committee means to him.

Mr. Pasch stated that his hope is to address how to attract people into the community and how do you keep them in the community.

Mr. Linick also spoke about what he would like the Committee to focus on.

Mr. Berns also spoke about the results he would like to see.

After Mr. Linick and Mr. Berns spoke, Ms. Taylor discussed some action items to focus on for the next meeting.

Those items included looking at variable data about current homes for sale as well as homes in the community that have been re-done. Ms. Taylor also mentioned researching Blue Ash for some creative ideas regarding a Community Reinvestment Area.

After Ms. Taylor spoke about the proposed action items, she asked Mayor Horwitz if he had any further comments.

Mayor Horwitz mentioned the Heritage Homes program that the City of Beachwood participates in and stated that this organization could be a resource for this Committee.

Ms. Taylor asked if there were any further questions after Mayor Horwitz spoke about the Heritage Homes program.

There were none.

3. Any other matters coming before the Residential Housing Committee.

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by J. Berns, seconded by B. Linick at 6:55 P.M. to adjourn the Residential Housing Committee Meeting.

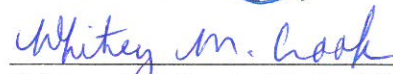
ROLL CALL:	Yes:	J. Berns, B. Linick, J. Pasch, J. Taylor, K. Tindel
	No:	None.
	Abstain:	None.
	Not Voting:	None.

MOTION ADOPTED

Approved:



Martin S. Horwitz, Mayor



Whitney M. Crook, Clerk of Council

Pursuant to Ordinance Number 2017-107 Council has determined that the official Minutes of its Body, its Committees, and those of the Planning and Zoning Commission shall consist of the Audio Recording of the meetings together with a written synopsis of all agenda items and votes.

**Residential Housing Committee
Topics for Discussion
March 12, 2018
City of Beachwood
City Hall
Submitted by: J. Taylor**

1. Residential Housing Committee
 - A. What Does It Mean to Us?
 - B. What Does It Mean to the Citizens of Beachwood
2. The Opportunities – Data/Tracking/Messaging/Housing Quality/Citizen Socialization
 - A. Register As A Resident – Build the City Database (language option)
 - B. Property Tax/Tax Contact
 - C. Streetlight or Sidewalk Maintenance –
 - D. Utilities
 - E. Waste & Recycling
<RED – Indicates categories under Residential Housing via website>
 - F. The Neighborhood Grant Program

EXAMPLE:

Neighborhood Grants are awarded by the Council Neighborhoods Committee (CNC) each year in June and new applications are available on the website in May. The Neighborhood Grant Program can be established to maintain and improve neighborhoods by supporting activities that bring neighbors together and encourage participation. The grants provide financial support to groups trying to form new neighborhood social activities which spur citizens getting to know their neighbors. The grants provide a stable source of funding for ongoing neighborhood events that promote a sense of community and

opportunities to know your neighbors and encourage activities, e.g. block parties, etc

1. Application (See Example)
2. Reimbursement Form
3. Neighborhood Grant Map
4. Neighborhood Meeting Report (Summary of the Activity, Photos, etc.)

G. CRA – Community Reinvestment Area

EXAMPLE: Blue Ash, Ohio (see attached)

- H. City of Westerville – website – platinum/outstanding rating
- I. National Neighborhood Day – 3rd Sunday in September
- J. Beautiful Home/Energy Efficient Home Contests

3. Questions/Comments

**2017 NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT
PROGRAM APPLICATION FOR FUNDS**

(Please Type)

Name of Neighborhood Association or Eligible Group: _____

Name of Project: _____ Date: _____

Amount of Funds Requested: \$ _____

Grants are limited to no more than \$1,700 per group or \$6.00 per household covered by the neighborhood group, whichever is less. New groups applying for a grant for the first time are eligible for a \$100 bonus.

Project Leader: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ (Day) (____) _____ (Evening)

E-Mail: _____

Neighborhood Association President: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ (Day) (____) _____ (Evening)

E-Mail: _____

SECTION 1. NAME OF OTHER PROJECT TEAM MEMBERS

1. Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail (Optional): _____

2. Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail (Optional): _____

3. Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

E-Mail (Optional): _____

Boundaries of Neighborhood Association, Neighborhood Group or address of Mobile Home Park: (Please identify the north, south, east and west boundaries.)

SECTION 2. NEIGHBORHOOD GRANT PROJECT

1. Please briefly describe your project.
2. How did you choose this project? Please describe the level of support for it.

Community Reinvestment Act – Residential Home Application

When you build a new home or invest in renovations, your property taxes will likely increase. The City of Blue Ash's Residential Property Tax Abatement makes it possible for property owners in R-3 zoning districts surrounding downtown Blue Ash to minimize the taxes they pay. Property tax abatement is available for any increased valuation that results from improvements to the property for new construction and renovation project of at least \$50,000 in cost. For a single-family home, 100% of the increased valuation is abated (allowing owners to pay taxes just on the pre-improvement value) and for multi-family homes, 50% of the increased valuation is abated for a period of 8 years. Tax abatement benefits stay with the property the entire length of the abatement and transfer to any new property owner within the approved time period. Only owner-occupied properties qualify for the program.

Note: A partial valuation will be applied to new construction projects and property taxes will be owed based upon the partial valuation in the following year. The abatement will begin in the subsequent year and the homeowner will receive the full 8-year benefit.

The Residential Property Tax Abatement Program aims to:

- Stimulate Community Revitalization in Aging Neighborhoods
- Retain City Residents
- Attract Homeowners
- Reduce Development Costs for Homeownership

Approval

All, owner-occupied, single-family homes and condominiums within the City of Blue Ash's R-3 residential zoning districts surrounding downtown (see map below) undergoing new construction or rehab, may apply for the tax abatement program. A minimum of \$50,000 must have been spent on eligible activities. The Hamilton County Auditor's Office determines the abatement amount based on the type of improvements.

An increase or decrease in taxes during the abatement period may result when voted changes in tax rates, state-mandated reappraisals or updates reflecting neighborhood trends are adopted.

An annual exterior inspection is required for all new and existing tax abatements to ensure that the property is being properly maintained. New tax abatement applications may be subject to an exterior inspection prior to final approval by the Department of Community Development. If building code violations are observed, the application will be denied. Properties with current abatements will have their tax abatement revoked if violations are placed against the property and the violations are not promptly resolved.

Please allow four weeks for the City of Blue Ash to respond to your application. Once the City has qualified the property for the program, your application will be forwarded to the Hamilton County Auditor's Office for certification and valuation. A letter from the Hamilton County Auditor's Office will be received after the Auditor's appraisal has been completed. This could take several months.

For more information, contact the Assistant City Manager at 513-745-8503
or kharrington@blueash.com.