

**THE EAST WALNUT HILLS ASSEMBLY  
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
Wednesday, September 4, 2024 at 7:00 PM  
St. Francis de Sales School Cafeteria**

Agenda Item	Discussion	Vote
Welcome	Jeff Butterbaugh, President of the EWHA Board, called the Monthly meeting to order at approximately 7:02 p.m. Approximately 29 people attended the meeting in person. No Zoom option was provided.	None
1. Cincinnati Police Report	<p>Officer Perry Locke presented the crime statistics for August.</p> <p><u>Crime Noted:</u>  3 Burglary/Breaking &amp; Entering,  4 Theft from Auto,  1 Auto Theft, and  3 Personal Thefts.</p> <p>Officer Locke called attention to always removing firearms from vehicles and to be cognizant of firearm storage and best practices - requesting that a gun box/lock box be utilized to secure personal weapons. There is still a focus on stealing firearms across recent Burglary activity. The police department has gun locks for those seeking them and is more than happy to speak to anyone about best practices with firearm safety in the home.</p> <p>Officer Locke reiterated his report to our Assembly does not include Walnut Hills, strictly East Walnut Hills.</p> <p>Officer Perry Locke: 513-979-4433; Email: <a href="mailto:perry.locke@cincinnati-oh.gov">perry.locke@cincinnati-oh.gov</a>;  Supervisor, Sergeant Sellers: 513-979-4470</p>	None
2. Bush Recreation Center Report	<p>Vanessa Henderson provided an update. Ms. Henderson shared the Center's phone number (513) 281-1286 and address 2640 Kemper Ln. Ms. Henderson also offered that the center is open for suggestions on new programing.</p> <p>Ms. Henderson provided the following update around Pickleball activities at the Center.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tuesday nights – Instructional Pickleball (beginners)</li> <li>- Thursday nights – Advanced Pickleball</li> <li>- Fridays – Open Pickleball play (all welcome)</li> </ul> <p>The informational flyer has been posted on the website prior to the meeting.</p>	None
3. Assembly Minutes and Proposed Community Budget Request Projects	A quorum of Assembly Board members was not present for the meeting. As such, no votes were taken on any matters.	None
4. Treasurer's Report	Vince Accorinti presented. The July 2024 Treasurer's Report was posted to the website prior to the meeting. The report reflects the Assembly's anticipated budget for Fiscal Year 2024 – 2025.	None
5. San Marco Pocket Park	Jinny Berten reported. Two, older locust trees were removed from the grounds that were in proximity to the fountain. Their removal alleviates a source of leaves and other debris that would regularly clog the fountain. It's expected that the Cincinnati Metropolitan Housing Association (CMHA) will provide further improvement of the grounds around the Pocket Park with new benches. Property rehab work at the San Marco is scheduled to complete December 1, 2024.	None

6. Development Committee	<p>Stephen Ramos reported on two projects.</p> <p>The Woodburn Exchange has secured their first commercial tenant, Metabolic. Metabolic is a boutique fitness studio, slated to open before the 2024 holiday season.</p> <p>1902 Kemper Ln., developed by R2 Partners, is a 65-unit, residential development with garage and surface parking. On August 21<sup>st</sup>, City of Cincinnati's Zoning Office ruled in favor of the zoning requests being made by R2 Partners.</p> <p>Two attendees, residents of The Edgecliff Residences and the Calvin Cliff Condominium buildings, asked to be heard as it pertains to the 1902 Kemper Ln. development.</p> <p>Both had attended an earlier meeting between R2 Partners and the HOAs/residents of both buildings. They recounted that residents of both Edgecliff and Calvin Cliffs are deeply concerned by the development – citing visual impairment, noise pollution (from rooftop HVAC units), hillside stability, and disapproval of the development's exterior design choices as reasons for their disapproval. They, and other residents, were unconvinced their wishes/voices will be considered by R2 Partners.</p> <p>The attendees also shared their displeasure with the Assembly Board's approval of (two) zoning variances requested by R2 Partners. They speak for the residents of both buildings in that they are displeased with a perceived lack of engagement from the Board in this process. They also mentioned that Edgecliff and Calvin Cliff residents that attended the last Assembly meeting in June felt they were mistreated by the Board.</p> <p>The attendees then moved to ask how the Board expects to impact R2 Partners' development plans. Stephen Ramos committed to communicating any specific requests to R2 Partners and expressed willingness and commitment to keeping lines of communication open between the Board, R2 Partners, and concerned residents of The Edgecliff and Calvin Cliffs.</p> <p>It was noted that our Board only approved two of the four requested zoning variances brought forward by R2 Partners. The two other variances were highly technical (involving the hillside and geo-technical specifications), and the Board deferred to the City's Buildings &amp; Inspections department. The concerned residents did not seem to care for or acknowledge this detail.</p>	None
7. Events Committee	<p>Jeff Butterbaugh reported. Jeff provided a reminder that the Owls' Nest, Fall Jamfest is to be held on Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.</p>	None
8. Beautification Committee	<p>Marilyn Richey reported. Marilyn provided overview of the committee's roles and responsibilities. The committee is seeking residents to 'adopt' traffic islands throughout the neighborhood. Volunteers would be asked to weed and maintain the adopted traffic island throughout the year. The committee is also seeking any residents interested in volunteering. All inquiries can be directed to Marilyn at mrichy718@aol.com.</p>	None



9. The Walnut Hills Historical Society Presentation	<p>Ms. JoAnne Morse from the Walnut Hills Historical Society (WHHS) presented to the attendees. The presentation was entitled, ‘Walnut Hills Historical Society: Partnering with HistoryForge.’ The presentation was organized into three sections.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The purpose and function of the WHHS is to document and preserve the unique history of Walnut Hills through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Research Efforts,</li> <li>b. Engagement with local schools (examples shared: St. Ursula, Spencer, Douglas, SCPA), and</li> <li>c. Advocacy (examples shared are the historical marker at Manse Hotel, and grant writing, seeking funding for repair work at First Baptist Church of Walnut Hills).</li> </ol> </li> <li>2) What constitutes Walnut Hills’ unique history: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Racial and Ethnic Diversity</li> <li>b. Economic Diversity</li> <li>c. Cultural Diversity</li> </ol> </li> <li>3) WHHS’ Partnership with HistoryForge (Ithaca, NY) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Creating an online resource to archive and combine historical Census Data and Historical Maps</li> <li>b. Database will capture images of buildings, pairing it with detailed information about past residents.</li> <li>c. This effort will allow the WHHS to build a tool to advance research efforts, engagement, and advocacy.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>Ms. Morse concluded the presentation by asking those interested in participating in these efforts may volunteer in transcription services or building research. This volunteer corps will be ‘citizen historians.’</p> <p>Ms. Morse can be contacted at <a href="mailto:joann@sutton-consulting.com">joann@sutton-consulting.com</a></p>	None
10. Open Forum	<p>One item was shared.</p> <p>An attendee shared that volunteers will be convening at 9:00a, Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup> to clear invasive plants from Scarborough Woods. More information about Scarborough Woods and the ongoing effort to preserve the space can be found at <a href="http://preservescarboroughwoods.org">preservescarboroughwoods.org</a></p>	None
Adjournment	There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.	None

Assembly meeting prereading: [Agenda](#), [Police EWH Crime Statistics](#), [July 2024 Treasurer’s Report](#), [Cincinnati Budget Request project sheet: Victory](#), [Cincinnati Budget Request project sheet: Taft/Moorman](#), [Bush Recreation Center Information flyer](#)

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY WILL TAKE PLACE ON OCTOBER 2<sup>nd</sup> AT 7:00 P.M.** Meetings will take place at the St. Francis de Sales School cafeteria.

Submitted by Vince Accorinti, Treasurer  
 Become a voting member of the Assembly by going to <https://eastwalnuthills.org> and signing up.

# East Walnut Hills Assembly

## Sign In

Name (please print)	Are you a resident of EWH (y/n)?	Are you receiving emails from EWH Assembly (y/n)?	If you wish to be added to the EWH Assembly email list, please provide your email address.	Are you a Member of the EWH Assembly (y/n)? Must be current on dues.
Isaac Woodby	Y	N	isaacwoodby@gmail.com	N
JIMMY SANDER	Y	N	JIMMY AND JOHN@YAT	
Kate Walcott	Y	Y	lollipberry19@gmail.com	✓
Don Yelton	Y	Y	"	✓
Don Yelton	Y	N	DYELTON376@GMAIL.COM	Y
Jim Finkbeiner	N	Y	jhelmeqmp@saintursula.org	✓
Jim Finkbeiner	✓	✓	jintukl@icloud.com	✓
Norma Norris	✓	✓	Norris5446@att.net	N
Cynthia Starr	Y	N	cindystarr@protonmail.com	✓
Geoff Sutton	N	N	geoff@sutton-consulting.com	
Nick Wright	Y	N	wright.nick0798@gmail.com	✓
John Doe	Y	Y		Y
Jack Weatherers				
Bill Weatherers				



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Lee Crooks	Y	Y	already included	
Shannon O'Connor	Y	Y?	Shannonoc@gmail.com	
John McHugh	Y	Y	✓	
Dee Roudelund	Y	Y		Yes
Lenny BERTEN	Y	Y		
JOHN BERTEN	Y	Y		
Steve Rany	Y	Y	Steve Rany mcdonald	✓
R BORESTON	Y	Y		Y
VLAENDERSE	NO		Venessa Vandershae Cincinnati - Oh. Gov	✓
George Warrington	Y	Y		Y
Florence Parker	N	Y		N
MARILYN RICHEY	Y	Y		Y
CHRIS DAVIS	Y	Y		Y
VALERIE DALEY	Y	Y		Y