

East Price Hill Improvement Association (EPHIA)

ARCO - 3301 Price Avenue
January 15, 2024 @ 6:30 p.m.

<https://www.ephia.org/>

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call-

Present

President – Amber Kassem
Recording Secretary - Jamie Rouff
Corresponding Secretary - Rosemary Ventura
Treasurer - John Ridder
Membership Officer - Rhonda Groeschen
Director - Camri Nelson

Excused

Trustee - Eric Buhrer
Trustee - Tom Gamel

Absent

Vacancies

Vice President
Director
Director
Director
Director
Director
Trustee

1. December 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes: Motion: Rhonda Groeschen Second: Camri Nelson Result: Passes

2. First Time Attendees: 1

3. Communications: NO REPORT

4. Treasurer's Report: \$26,526.19 (ending balance) Motion: Jamie Rouff Second: Rhonda Groeschen
Result: Passes

5. Membership Report: #Total: 193 #Active (paid membership): 84 Lapsed: 84 #New: 12

*Amber Kassem (President) provided an update regarding moving the fiscal year to November for memberships. Amber also encourages anyone to speak with Rhonda Groeschen (Membership Officer) regarding questions/concerns about membership and recruiting.

6. Safety & Government Reports:

a. Fire (Ladder 17) - NO REPORT

b. Police - Ofc. Kevin Butler, Sgt. Hicks

- i. Reviewed rolling 28 day period from 12/10 - 01/06, 0 homicides and part one violent crime is down from last reporting period.
- ii. An influx of new officers will be coming to District 3 (an increase of 13 more officers from different assignments) 16 have graduated and are now in District 3, so please bear with them as they are trying to learn! A class of about 50 recruits will be starting in February.
- iii. Officer Butler provided a pamphlet on firearm responsibility as a toddler got a firearm from a family member recently in West Price Hill.
- iiii. Discussion regarding the need for more litter enforcement due to massive litter on Elberon Ave - encouraged residents to put in records requests to review litter citations. Linda Ackerman has spoken with the Hamilton County Sheriff's about litter clean up to help address the problem.
- v. Additional Questions for Sgt. Hicks and Ofc. Butler:
 - Question about parking in bus stops and no parking zones - a citation was issued recently and no parking there. Sgt. Hicks explained that parking enforcement has increased in East Price Hill.
 - Question regarding vehicles going very fast on W. 8th St. downed past Curley. Sgt. Hicks provided an update regarding the traffic blitz in the fall.
 - 750 Grand Ave. concerns regarding an unsolved murder within a few blocks from the Senior Chateau. Sgt. Hicks stated that we have one of the highest murder solved rates in the country. Very few homicides are unsolved with over 80% are solved.

c. Probation - John Schwin (has been in Price Hill since 2007) - NO REPORT

d. Safety CAT - Linda Ackerman

- i. Next Safety Walk – Done for winter.
- ii. Next Skyline Fundraiser -Thursday 01/18 from 4-9 p.m. Skyline on Warsaw Ave.
- iii. Next Safety CAT Meeting is Monday, 01/05 7 p.m. @CPD D3 - 2300 Ferguson Ave. (focuses on crime, litter, etc.)
- iiii. Please consider donating to Safety CAT for the community work they do!

7. Neighborhood Support Program (NSP)

- a. There is a need to vote on how the funding will be allocated in 2024.
- b. The City will provide roughly 7,400 for 2024, but it tends to be utilized very quickly for gateway maintenance, events, etc.)
- c. Proposed having the same categories as 2023 and start utilizing funds on 02/01.
- d. Two amendments are allowed per year and the goal is to keep the categories as broad buckets, so we as a community have some flexibility in how the funding is sent.
- e. Discussion about exploring creative ways to raise additional funding along with the NSP.
- f. **Motion to vote on NSP funding categories for 2024 (same as 2023): Passes**
(at minute 55 on facebook recording) Y: 18 , N: 0 , A: 0

8. Take ETC Survey Online: <http://www.cincinnati-survey.org/>

- a. Talk about last month's meeting - please complete the survey! The survey takes about 20 minutes total and is very important!

9. Old Business & Projects

- a. Warsaw Ave. Traffic Calming - Sheila Rosenthal: No solid information about the Warsaw Traffic Calming update at this time. Amber would also like to see West Price Hill also focus on street calming.

10. New Business

- a. Don Johnson has accepted his position as Chair of Housing and Economic Development.
 - i. Don works with many businesses in the area and is hoping to get others more involved in the community efforts. Don is also hoping to make a big push for new businesses to join EPHIA and participate, such as Bomb Cat Salon. Don hopes to bring some energy to the area and participate.
- b. **Angie (Community Resident on McPherson Ave.) requested for EPHIA's support in a residential traffic calming application through Vision Zero.**
 - i. Angie's partner and son witnessed the mail person being hit and attended an event in Lower Price Hill after a child was hit.
 - ii. Angie was connected with Vision Zero (Cincinnati chapter) and is asking for EPHIA's support to apply for a consultation. This will help to gather information, could support a variety of ways to help address traffic calming and working with DOTE.
 - iii. Angie is specifically asking if we can apply for Vision Zero from Enright to Wells.
- c. Several members discussed traffic calming that has already been implemented, data collected and the work that is currently being completed with DOTE.
- d. **Motion: Amber - for EPHIA to cooperate with applying for a study through Vision Zero. Second: Jim Schenk Motion: Passes**
- e. Amber will follow up College Hill to learn more about their work with Vision Zero and will connect Angie as the resident representative.

11. Other Organizational Announcements

- a. **Price Hill Library** - John (new Price Hill Library Manager): **No report**, Amber visits the library twice a week and spends time with the kids.
- b. **Price Hill Will** - Rachel Hasting / Samantha Conover / Ashley Feist: **No report**
- c. **Santa Maria** - HA Musser: EPHIA submitted a Safe and Clean Grant for 2024 - another round of the resident curriculum. Santa Maria will be the fiscal agent for the grant again.
- d. **Rees E. Price** - Tiffani Maher: **No report**
- e. **Mount Echo Advisory Council** - Eric Buhrer: **No report**
- f. **Olden View and Wilson Commons** - Mary Croft: **No report**
- g. **Other:**
 - i. Owner of Glenway BP: 02/06/24 hearing, continuing to work hard and making a lot of progress to reduce nuisance on property. Security is present, new lighting, no trash and the current owners have been active in the community with cleanups/attending meetings. The goal is to resume liquor licenses and keep liquor licenses.
 - 1. **Motion: For EPHIA to send a letter in support for BP on Glenway for hearing (expressing that they have stepped up in the community for liquor board):**
First: Linda Ackerman Second: John Ridder Result: Passes (one abstentions)

- ii. Matt with the Community Action Agency provided an update on the daycare facility with Santa Maria. There is still COVID-19 funding available through the CAA to help address property tax increases and those struggling with rent and utilities!
- iii. DJ provided an update regarding Carlos' Restaurant on St. Lawrence Square (new to East Price Hill. Carlos (owner) trained under Chief Salazar.

12. Announcements

- a. Next general meeting is scheduled for **February 19, 2024 @6:30 p.m.** at ARCO.
- b. Possibly moving general council meetings to the Rec Center or Library, so they are more accessible.
- c. Amber: Start thinking about how we can move our meeting down to 1 hour - possibly having a agenda of consent, workshops and problem solving times carved out.
- d. Community partners to the top of the meeting as it is important for police and government officials to know what is going on in the community.

13. Adjournment: Motion: Victor Second: Linda Result: Carries