



**Minutes – Italian Village Society Monthly Meeting**

**Date: October 13, 2015**

**Location: Junior Achievement (Formerly 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Elementary School)**

**Board Members Present: Christopher Vidoni, President; Stephanie Harris, Treasurer; Mark Bair, Secretary. 13 people total in attendance. (11 members).**

**1. Opening and Introductions:**

President Chris Vidoni called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM and started introductions.

**2. Complete Streets Implementing Committee – Andy Klein**

Andy distributed minutes and announced the next meeting. He mentioned that we have been getting good attendance from Weinland Park, as they share our concerns for pedestrian safety. Edward Johnson, Councilperson Hardin's aide, came in his place. Andy asked Edward to discuss the Councilperson's position on Complete Streets. Edward noted that Councilperson Hardin embraces Complete Streets across the city, especially gaps in sidewalks. He expressed a willingness to speak with the Dept. of Development about Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund recommendations that IVS made which were rejected. As far as un-designating US 23, Edward stated that the Councilperson has no opinion on it, but is willing to look at it within the next month. Andy invited Councilperson Hardin (with the consent of the 3 IVS officers' present) to attend our IVS general meeting October 13 to address the issues raised at today's meeting.

Shiloh Todorov's article on sandstone curbs as the preferred choice was discussed. Andy noted that most of our stone curbs on major thoroughfares have been/will be soon replaced with concrete, but interior streets still have their original paving materials. A motion to recommend that the IVS Society at a future general meeting endorse sandstone as preferred curb materials, seconded by Christopher, passed unanimously without further discussion.

**3. Guest Speaker Shiloh Todorov-Executive Director, German Village Society**

Ms. Todorov gave a presentation advocating sandstone as the preferred material for curb replacements in our historic neighborhoods. Sandstone was once believed to be unavailable, but it turns out it can be obtained right here in Ohio from the same vein as was used in 1901! While sandstone costs three times more than concrete, it lasts at least 100 years and adds value to our neighborhoods, which in turn attracts new residents and tourism to these historic gems. This kind of quality brings in people and investment and new residents ("placemaking"). People take ownership when they perceive quality.

Andy Klein made a motion that "the Italian Village Society joins German Village Society to advocate for the preservation and restoration of our historic sandstone curbs, and that they be the preferred replacement when needed." This motion was seconded by Stephanie Harris, and passed without objection.

#### **4. Guest Speaker Recycle Columbus—Mayo Makinde**

Recycling is still mostly just available to single-family residential homes, but is moving toward multi-family units and apartments.

We said we sure hope the city can get recycling at Jeffrey and at festivals. We suggested that the city push for it, not just suggest it.

#### **5. Crime Report--officer Steve Smith**

Officer Smith reported nothing unusual, just more trouble with the explosive homeless person who periodically gets arrested and let go.

#### **6. Italian Village Commission Report--Josh Lapp**

For more see the Commission's page on the City's website:

<http://columbus.gov/planning/IVC/>

#### **7. Italian Village Park/Pavilion Update--Stephanie Harris**

As was mentioned in last month's minutes, the three finalists are to present their design concepts to an advisory panel in November. The Italian Village Commission would then approve the winning plan and the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department would draw up the contract. Information is coming on the public meeting on this.

#### **8. Treasurer's Report--Stephanie Harris**

#### **9. Italian Festival**

We sold almost \$1600 worth of the new IV tee shirts!

#### **10. Announcements**

Streets Committee meets November 19 Seventh Son 5:30

Meeting adjourned at 9:10

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Italian Village Society Secretary, Mark Bair**