

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL
VILLAGE OF MARIEMONT, OHIO
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER
MAY 27, 2014**

Vice-Mayor Miller called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. The following Council members were present: Mr. Marsland, Ms. Palazzolo, Ms. Schwartz, Mr. Tinkham and Mr. Wolter.

Mr. Miller said on the agenda is the proposal to rename Lane "L" and Lane "K" for Millard Rogers and Hank Kleinfeldt.

Mr. Dan Spinnenweber, Jr, 6880 Wooster Pike, addressed Committee of the Whole. He introduced his brother, Bill Spinnenweber, and together they represent Spinnenweber Builders. They presented a list of tenants from the Mariemont Inn, The Strand and the Executive Building who signed a petition against the re-naming of a portion of West Street. They now understand that the request is not to rename West Street but rather Lane "K". Their opposition was due to the confusion it would have presented to those merchants on West Street. Their objection was based on historical significance to the street by Village planners. It is not our place to tell the Village who they should memorialize but it is the history of the Village that makes it so unique. We protect many things such as the color we can paint our buildings to the historic preservation of our granite curbs. Mariemont Preservation Foundation has a document which explains how the streets were originally named. He encouraged Council to find a long term solution to the protocol of memorializing people in the future.

Mr. Bill Minor, Emery Park Condo Representative, addressed Council of the Whole. He believes Mary Emery would be rolling over in her grave right now by even considering impacting West Street or East Street which are fundamentally clear directionally. He said Mr. Kleinfeldt's community efforts in large parts were school based. There are plenty of places on school grounds where memorials can be made. There are other ways to memorialize people rather than playing with public streets. He urged Council not to under pit the planning of the community.

Mayor Policastro showed the plan by John Nolen and noted four streets that were changed over the years. Nolen Circle used to be called Market Street, Madisonville Road used to be called Madison Road, Thorndike Road used to be called Service Street and Sheldon Close used to be called Sheldon Place. There have been a lot of changes to the naming of the streets. The School District consists of Mariemont, Terrace Park, Fairfax and Columbia Township. The Village does not have any say whatsoever with the School Board. To say that Mr. Kleinfeldt did a lot for the school is very true but Mr. Kleinfeldt did a lot more for Mariemont and he should be celebrated. He was active as a Council member for several years, Vice-Mayor, School Board Member, MariElders, announcer for soccer, basketball and football, 1988 Outstanding Citizen of the Year, Town Crier for approximately 20 years, Town Meeting Representative/Board Member, Member of both Planning Commission and ARB, Recreation Association and he wrote for the Town Crier. In the Village we do name a lot of things after great people. He thinks it is morbid to figure out who is going to die and what we are going to name things after. That is not the intent. The intent is if there is a reason to do something we are going to do it. We do not need to plan something like this out ahead of time. Some of what has been named: Mary Emery Park, Livingood Park, Isabella Hopkins Park, John Nolen Pavilion and Nolen Circle, Paul Prevey Bird Sanctuary, General Short Trolley Turn-Around Park, E. Boyd Jordan Memorial Park, Ann Buntin Becker Park, Clarence Erickson Shelter, Dr. Becker Tennis Courts, Colonel Don Shanks Municipal Building. In addition, there is a plaque in the Village square remembering Mrs. Spinnenweber with the cross walk being named after her from the Mariemont Inn to PNC Bank. Also in the Old Town Square there is a plaque for Mrs. Erickson. He believes naming the two small lanes is very fitting – one lane is very close to the school and the other lane is close to where Millard Rogers lived. The work Mr. Rogers did to get the Village its Historic Landmark status was huge. It is probably the greatest thing that ever happened in the Village. Mr. Rogers was instrumental in starting the Mariemont Preservation Foundation and was President for many years. He too was the Outstanding Citizen in 1991. He was very helpful in saving our historic barn and was a contributor to the Town Crier. Both of these men are deserving and he does not see where it is going to hurt anything.

Mrs. Bonnie Malone, 6880 Wooster Pike, said everyone is agreeing that both men are deserving. She suggested naming the Boathouse after Hank Kleinfeldt. Mayor Policastro said he is not going to do that.

Mr. Wolter said he thinks it would be a great idea to include soft and historically appropriate names for the lanes. It will give the Village a better sounding image with the lanes being named after someone who put their heart and soul into the Village. A side benefit would be that we have some lanes that we need to clean up. It would be embarrassing to name a lane that is a mess. He is hopeful that this would be another push to get the lanes cleaned up.

Ms. Schwartz said the Village should stay away from re-naming the main streets but she thinks the lanes are ideal for this. Ms. Palazzolo said the lanes have great visibility and are central to the Village. Council was in agreement to move forward and present a report at the next Council meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Dan Policastro, Mayor

Anthony J. Borgerding, Fiscal Officer