



The Voice



OF THE East Row Historic Foundation

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The Voice of the East Row Historic Foundation is published monthly and paid for by the East Row Historic Foundation (ERHF). Diverse, responsible commentary is encouraged. All opinions are those of the authors and do not necessarily express the opinions of the ERHF and its officers. Articles, editorials, classifieds or calendar items should be sent to Fran Blasing, Nadine Parris, or Bob Yoder. The editors reserve the right to edit all submissions or reject inappropriate material.

Deadline for submissions is the 15th of the month.

Drop off at 611 Monroe Street or via e-mail:
nparris@fuse.net,
rjyoder@fuse.net or
fmbiasing@aol.com

Next Meeting

Joint meeting for Gateway and Mansion Hill neighborhoods

**Tuesday, July 9, 7:30 p.m.,
St. Mark Lutheran Church,
Monroe & Eighth Streets.**

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mark Church at the corner of Monroe and 8th.

Editors of The Voice

Fran Blasing
Nadine Parris
Bob Yoder

Letters of opinion to The Voice are welcome but must be signed if they are to be published. The editors reserve the right to edit for length. Thank you.

East Row Yard Sale Set for Saturday, July 13

Clean out your attic, basement and garage! It's almost time for the East Row Yard Sale! The ERHF will get the permits from the city, pay for advertising in the Enquirer, Post and Campbell County Recorder, all you need to do is set up a table in your yard and SELL! Or, walk around the neighborhood and BUY!

If you're going to join the fun and have a yard sale on July 13 please e-mail Joyce Chastang at jinschool@fuse.net, or call her at 431-0539 so we can put your sale on the map we will be handing out that day.☘

July ERHF Meeting date changed to July, 9

ERHF meetings are usually held on the first Tuesday of the Month, but with the first Tuesday falling on July 2, we thought many neighbors would be out of town for the July 4th holiday. So, see you on the 9th.

We had low attendance the past couple of meetings. I know some of this is due to the better weather, and the fact that it's more fun to work on your home or garden than attend a meeting. We do have several projects coming up that require the help of neighborhood volunteers: Riverfest T-Shirt Sales, the Victorian Christmas Tour and next year we is Tall Stacks and we need to start work on this soon.

Another issue is we haven't had any speakers at the meetings in the past couple of months. To address the we've set up the following speakers: July - Beth Lange, Newport School-Based Health Centers, August - Beth Sullebarger, Cincinnati Preservation Association, September - Dan Sullivan, Superintendent Newport Independent Schools.☘

Victorian Christmas Tour needs new chair!

If your interested please call Rebecca Walker at 261-0718.☘

July Agenda:

- New Neighbors
- Presentation by Beth Lange, Newport School-Based Health Centers
- Committee Reports
- Old Business
- New Business



Infrastructure Committee working to improve the neighborhood

Beautiful sidewalks, Historic Street Lighting, Underground Utilities, Gateways into our Historic District... These are some of the topics being studied right now by the Infrastructure Committee of the East Row Historic Foundation. We're looking to the future. What all of us would like to see in our neighborhood. How we could become the model Historic District that everyone knows about and admires throughout the region.

In addition to making our community a more aesthetic and attractive place to live in, such features can also enhance the property values of everyone who lives in the District and so provide an exceptional benefit to all of us.

We have already started the process by developing standards for sidewalk improvements in the East Row district. This is extremely necessary because as many of you know, the City has embarked upon a plan of mandatory sidewalk improvements that is already in process on Central Avenue and will soon begin on 5th, 7th, and Linden. Take a look at the work on Central and you will realize how important it is going to be for us to have high standards for the workmanship that is to be performed in the East Row.

These are some of the standards for sidewalks we have identified:

- Corners with good symmetry, flat at the center and well shaped ramps.

- Curb stones well rounded and smooth.
- Curb stones separated from the sidewalk panels.
- Cuts between the panels smooth, rounded, and of significant depth.
- Edge of the panels on sides smooth and rounded
- Sidewalk lines straight – no curves or waves.
- Panel edgings smooth with consistent symmetry
- Low incidence of raised or rough edges
- Brush marks straight and geometrically correct at all locations

We have identified the workmanship at the South East corner of Saratoga Place and the sidewalk to the West of that location as an example of the sort of quality we would like see in the East Row. We also like the curb stones in front of the Justice Center opposite Thriftway on Columbia.

We are hoping the City will grant us the opportunity to review the work of any contractor laying sidewalk in the East Row and reject those that are not performing to the standards of quality we have laid out.

For those of you who own property on the streets that are going to be worked on and are now facing paying for sidewalk improvements, we urge you to consider the following to help make this upcoming work a quality improvement to the district in which we all live: 

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Infrastructure Committee

Continued from page 2

Aesthetically pleasing sidewalks enhance your property value and add quality to the lives of those living in the East Row District. Make it your business to ensure that only the highest quality work is going to be performed in front of your property.

We strongly encourage you to install green space between the sidewalk and the curb. It is aesthetically pleasing, reduces sidewalk costs, is good for the environment, and provides a future pathway for buried conduits that would permit the eventual removal of overhead utilities and the installation of Historic Street Lighting.

If green space cannot be put in, then we strongly recommend the installation of brick or some alternative surface that separates the green space area from the rest of the sidewalk and is easily removed should a subsequent property owner opt for green space or should utilities need to be installed underground.

We strongly recommend replacing all of your sidewalk rather than selected panels. Although the initial cost is greater, there are long term benefits from having all new sidewalk. Piecemeal replacement as each panel breaks up becomes very expensive compared to the one time cost of replacing everything – especially with the low cost and extended terms being currently offered to us by the City. Replacing only selected panels looks bad and it is very difficult to

sustain good quality workmanship. A completely new sidewalk looks better, enhances your property value, and allows aberrations and inconsistencies to be eliminated. Most important of all, good looking new sidewalks on each property enhance the whole neighborhood.

Our long term goals are to come up with a plan for the whole neighborhood that will incorporate Historic Street Lighting, Gateways, and Underground Utilities. This is going to need money – both for the planning and for the implementation. We're exploring sources of funding now. Foundations, The City, Private or Corporate Donations are some of the possibilities that have been floated. Maybe you have some ideas or contacts you would like to share with us. The possibility exists that if a large percentage of the owners in the Historic District really want to get behind Historic Street Lighting and Underground Utilities that the City could create a local taxation district at our request to pay for the work. This is only one of many ideas which we would like to get your reaction to, so please e-mail us with your comments and certainly let us know if you would like to become involved with the planning process. My e-mail address is ian@icbaudio.com. ☺

The East Row List Serve:

The East Row neighborhood has an e-mail list serve that allows members to exchange news and opinions about what's happening. Sometimes the discussion get a little lively, but for the most part it's just neighbors talking over an electronic fence. If you would like to join the discussion all you need to do is send an e-mail to this address.

east_row-subscribe@yahoo.com ☺

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This Month

Newport City Commissioners Meetings July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

7 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room, City of Newport,
998 Monmouth Street. Information: 292-3666 or
www.cityofnewportky.org

Newport Historic Preservation Commission Meetings

July 24

7 p.m., Multi-Purpose Room, City of Newport,
998 Monmouth Street. Information: 292-3666 or
www.cityofnewportky.org/nhpo/

Newport Board of Education Meeting July 24

7:30 p.m., Central Office 3rd Floor, 301 E. 8th
Street, Newport, KY (859) 292-3001 or
www.newportwildcats.org

Newport Business Association Meeting July 24

7:00 a.m., Detroit Joe's, 115 E. 9th Street, Newport

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