

Community Advisory Committee Minutes
September 2, 2025

Attendees:

Asthana Akriti
Wendy Wei Chang
Stephanie Clipper (Acting Secretary)
Bill Corey
Jacob Lewis
Cameron Moody
Arthur Perry
Tyra Walker
Observer: Alyson Alt (Council Member)

Committee members first addressed the CAC mission, focus, makeup, and meeting attendance. This is the third meeting since the May elections. The CAC charge continues to overlap with those of other committees, including the parks, safety, shuttle, and development committees. One option would be to disband the committee. Another idea would be to shift the CAC to an *ad hoc* committee, where the council would task it with assignments as they arise. An example of this is the review of proposals under the Council's New Initiatives Program. The committee remains unclear about the status of that program; however, members pointed out that there will be additional CPR training in October using leftover funds. But the committee has not received any new proposals for review.

One issue which continues to be of interest to the committee is the topic of streetlights in the neighborhood, which are owned by the Village. This was also discussed at the August 5, 2025, CAC meeting. Our streetlights are different from those installed by individual buildings for safety, security, parking, and aesthetics. At the August meeting, CAC members discussed the possibility of the council bringing on professional expertise to do an environmental survey of all street lighting within the village boundaries, including inventorying types of lighting used. For example, other buildings in the area, including the 5550 building and Saks, use hooded lights, which direct lighting downward.

Tyra Walker brought up the role of crowdsourcing in soliciting input from neighborhood residents. The committee is open to using various methodologies for accomplishing this, for example, placing a notice in the newsletter and offering a QR code that could be accessed. Comments would be summarized or incorporated in a Google doc that could be shared with the council, village residents, and professional consultants. The committee has drafted a small notice for incorporation in the newsletter for use in soliciting input. A special email should be set up in consultation with the Village manager. Respondents would be directed to limit their responses to a character count and to reference street lighting in the subject line. The Village Manager could send out the notice to building managers for dissemination through their own lists.

The committee also discussed the traffic light at Willard and Hills Plaza where no one seems quite sure about what the various signals mean. Few pedestrians use the push buttons available to them for slowing or stopping traffic. The CAC asks if the county would be willing to revisit the traffic light, despite the lengthy discussions that went into its original installation.

Members spoke about their own building programs and activities, including assessments for various renovations and improvements. Other topics were the renewed presence of off-duty police in the village; the potential start of construction at the corner where Brooks Brothers stood (5500 Wisconsin); and new businesses coming into the neighborhood, specifically Trader Joe's, TJ Maxx, and Total Wine.

The next meeting will be on October 7 at 6 PM in the Village Center. CAC attendance has been severely hampered by a lack of reminders. The committee asks the Village Center and Council to support our efforts in every way possible. Council and committee leadership are encouraged to attend.

The committee adjourned at 7 PM .