



WOMAN'S
CITY CLUB
OF GREATER CINCINNATI

*Lighting the way
since 1915*

THE BULLETIN

May/June 2016

Inside This Issue:

CAAG receives United Way award	1
President's Letter	2
Seasongood City Conversations	3
National Speaker Photos	4-5
Strategic Meeting	6
Annual Meeting	
Preschool Promise	7
Crafted Storytelling	
Member Profile: Liz Shockey	8
Rookwood Refreshed	
History Book Signing	9
Seasongood	10
Changing Course	11
Calendar of Events	12



PICTURED: HARRIET KAUFMAN, MARGE DAVIS, MARY ANN BERRY, LINDA WIHL, SARAH GIDEONSE. (NOT PICTURED: HELEN O'NEAL)

CAAG to be honored at United Way's "Leaders and Legends"

The Woman's City Club Catalyst for Achievement Action Group (CAAG) has been named a recipient of the United Way of Greater Cincinnati Community Service Award for Improving Our Accountability and Effectiveness. *The Award will be presented at the United Way's "Leaders and Legends" event at the Convention Center on May 17.*

For tickets or information see <http://www.uwgc.org/news-events/events?eid=23051694238>

Article on page 3



GREEN TIP:

Only 10% of the energy used by an incandescent bulb produces light. The rest is given off as heat.

Compact fluorescent light bulbs are up to 4 times as efficient as incandescent bulbs. CFLs produce the same amount of light, use 1/3 the electricity and last up to 10 times as long.

The *Bulletin*, together with the *Bi-Weekly Updates* and *News from the Network*, keeps our membership connected. The next issue will appear in the first week of July. The deadline for copy will be **June 17, 2016** (strict 250 word limit).

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

“We believe all citizens deserve an opportunity to shape a better community for all in the region.”

KEEP UP THE MOMENTUM is our motto. We have had a busy and successful year so far. The National Speaker with Isabel Wilkerson got rave reviews. *See the pictures on page 4 and 5 of this Bulletin.*

What is the future of Woman’s City Club? As we move into our next year we are looking at how to build on our previous successes and move forward. On Sunday, March 20 some 25 dedicated members (all members were invited) to examine what Woman’s City Club is doing and how to improve our performance and presence in the community.

First of all, we discussed the question “**What are our beliefs?**” We separated into groups and grappled with this question and each group distilled the answer into one sentence. While there were four

answers, one of them stands out in my mind and it states, “We believe all citizens deserve an opportunity to shape a better community for all in the region.”

Then we moved on to the next question, “**What is WCC’s greatest value to the community?**” There are too many responses to record here, but here are some sample responses, “Educating the community to important issues that affect the well being of the community” and “ A voice for men and women in civic education and civic action.”

The third and last question was “**What is WCC’s biggest challenge over the next two to four years?**” The major response was “attracting new and younger members.”

*NOTE: You can access a summary of all the responses on the WCC website in the member’s section. <http://womanscityclub.org/member/>. Call the office for the password.



Alice Schneider

We have tallied all the responses* and now we are developing an action plan and a timetable to implement the plan. We will present this plan at the annual meeting on **Wednesday, June 29** and ask for your input. We need your help, so be sure to come!

Alice Schneider, President

ANNUAL SEASONGOOD LUNCHEON

CATHY BAILEY OF GREATER CINCINNATI WATER WORKS TO SPEAK: “WE ARE HEADED UNLEADED”

Woman’s City Club is pleased to announce that Cathy Bernardino Bailey will speak at its annual luncheon that honors long-time member and benefactor Agnes B. Seasingood.

The event takes place May 10 at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Blue Ash. In her very timely topic, “We are Headed Unleaded,” Ms. Bailey will discuss the Greater Cincinnati Water Works’ longstanding initiatives to ensure our city’s water supply is safe and lead-free. Ms. Bailey is Cincinnati Water Works’ first female director, appointed in

September 2015, after serving in several capacities at the utility since 1992. Her roles have included Strategic Planning Manager and Performance Metric Champion and, more recently, Transition Manager to integrate, and then decouple CWW, the Metropolitan Sewer District, and the Stormwater Management Utility.

This luncheon also honors the recipients of WCC’s Education Awards for high school senior women who win an essay contest that encourages civic awareness and action.

Friday, May 10, 2016,
11: 45 am
Crowne Plaza Hotel
5901 Pfeiffer Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45242

Luncheon tickets (\$40) are available through Woman’s City Club: <http://womanscityclub.org> or 751-0100. RSVP by May 13.

-Rina Saperstein

WOMEN IN THE MILITARY

City Conversations For June

SAVE THE DATE: June 21, 2016

Connie Pillich and her colleagues from The Greater Cincinnati Women's American Legion Post 644 will come tell us about their lives serving our country.

- How do recent policy changes open up new opportunities for women?
- What are the new issues and challenges
- How do women change the culture of military life
- Why did these women join the military?
- How has it influenced their lives and their careers?



Come Join the Conversation!

City Conversations serves as WCC's regular monthly membership meetings and offers an informal venue for connecting younger and older members around a topic of shared interest. *Act One* is the youth contingent of WCC and the League of Women Voters (ages 18-35)

Continued from page 1

According to the nomination, what sets CAAG apart is the heart, soul and reason behind their work. Catalyst for Achievement Action Group was formed as a specific response to the civil unrest in Cincinnati and to the collaborative agreement. WCC members sought a personal yet strategic response, and

determined that one-on-one work with young children was a way to contribute. Understanding the correlation between street violence and literacy, CAAG became actively engaged in tutoring; the group studied the data to determine their focus on helping young children learn to read by fourth grade — a strong predictor for staying in school and avoiding destructive lifestyles. They found a science-based and measurable approach they could support, and they have been doing this work ever since.

CAAG offers the Making Sense of Language Arts programs for kindergartners at Rothenberg and Winton Hills elementary schools, with additional volunteers at South Avondale schools. Children enter the program with below average language arts skills, and leave with average or better language arts skills. The students also

have gained significant improvement in expressive ability and letter and word skills. Because literacy skills are often a determining factor in school and career success, the CAAG group changes outcomes for a lifetime.

To volunteer or acquire more information, please contact Linda Wihl, innovator and coordinator, at 513-477-3428 or email l.wihl@womanscityclub.org.



-Rina Saperstein

2016 National Speaker Isabel Wilkerson in Photos



"So many greats who came of age in the 1970s after their parents decided to make the Great Migration"

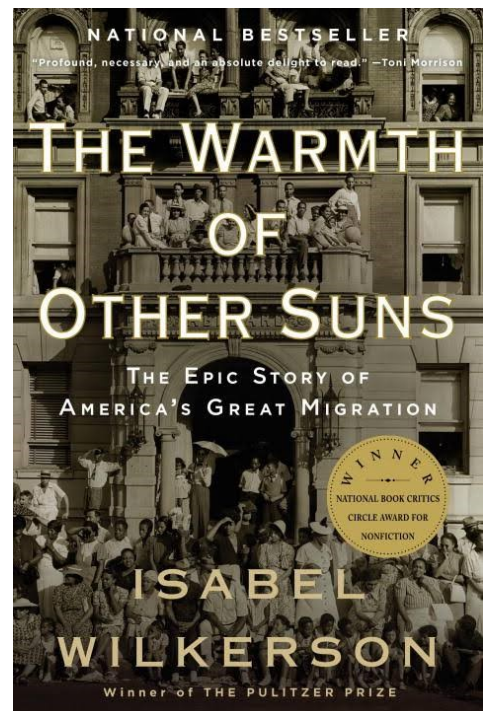
-Isabel Wilkerson

"Every story about migration is about freedom and what people will do to achieve it."

-Isabel Wilkerson



Photos Credit: Brewster Rhoads





"This great migration is the only time American citizens had to leave the land of their birth to be recognized as citizens."

-Isabel Wilkerson



"This book has been all over the world, because it's a universal story, to migrate."

-Isabel Wilkerson



Photos courtesy of Brewster Rhoads

2016 ANNUAL MEETING

Our WCC: Looking Forward to the Future

You are invited! Join us for food, fun, great conversation with great people as we build our strategies for a sustainable, living, growing and empowered Woman's City Club in its second century.

Date: Wednesday, June 29, 2016
Time: 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Location: Geier Room
Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church
103 William Howard Taft, Cincinnati

Potluck Dinner:
Suggested to bring--
Birthday Jan-May: main courses;
Birthday June-Sept: salads and sides;
Birthday Oct-Dec: desserts and drinks.

Lifetime members are our guests and need not bring anything.

Results of Woman's City Club Strategic Meeting March 20, 2016

The Woman's City Club Strategic Meeting was held March 20, 2016. 20 members attended—a mix of long-term active members, new members, and returning members.

The facilitator, Marie Gemelli-Carroll of Starboard Strategy, shared a message about evaluating our organization with two important questions:

- How are we **relevant and effective** in creating the change we want to see in our community?
- How are we **sustainable** as an organization?

Participants watched Simon Senek's TED Talk, "[How Great Leaders Inspire Action](#)". The video helped us examine the WHY of what we do.

This was followed by small group discussions on our beliefs about the WHY of WCCs:

We believe that engaged citizens can empower/strengthen their voices to impact decisions that improve their lives.

We believe a just and sustainable community is one that provides every person with the fundamental right to be educated, informed on all sides of an issue, and the opportunity to question,

express opinions and be involved in decision-making

We believe all citizens deserve an opportunity to shape a better community for all in the region.

We believe our community is stronger when all voices are heard.

We then discussed outcomes WCC strives to produce, based on our stated goals in our mission and vision:

Goal: A just and sustainable community.

Outcomes: Living wage for all, healthy food accessible, equal education, healthy environment, equal justice for all, citizen engagement. All citizens are treated fairly and have an equal chance to lead successful lives.

Goal: Participating Together.

Outcomes: New members are engaged; members feel contributions are valued. We increase reach, representation and engagement in the community.

Goal: Promoting the Common Good.

Outcomes: All have fair opportunity, not just a few; all voices are heard, citizens are thriving, and participating in community.

Goal: Engaged as informed stakeholders.

Outcome: We see more people—more different kinds of people and people who have not been involved before: participating in civic and community organizations; taking initiative to solve problems directly (e.g. tutoring, citizens on patrol, advocating, running for office.) We hear more discussion, more respectful disagreement. We hear from multiple perspectives with ways to act on possible solutions. We see more groups participating in collaborative actions.

The next steps are to determine specific programs, strategies and measures for these outcomes. More discussion of these issues and next steps will be held at our Annual Meeting on June 29. So be there and be ready to work together to move WCC forward into the future.

-Rina Saperstein



Preschool Promise Forum

The WCC, along with co-sponsors Cincinnati and AIR, Inc., hosted a forum on the Preschool Promise initiative at the United Way Convening Center on March 31. Greg Landsman and Stephanie Byrd – key leaders of the initiative—presented an informational forum on the updated "Strategic Plan for the Cincinnati Preschool Promise." Mr. Landsman hosted the panel and a moderated Q & A afterwards.

The Cincinnati Preschool Promise is a cross-sector effort to provide universal access to high-quality affordable preschool for all 3 and 4-year-olds in the city of Cincinnati, building on what preschool programs are already available. The purpose is to give "every child the same fair start [...] to get more

children ready for school, reading successfully by the end of 3rd grade, and graduating from high school prepared for college and careers." The goal is to obtain "a local, 5-10 year sustainable funding stream" to this end.

Over 70 people attended hoping to learn how the funding process will be managed. Mr. Landsman told us the last RAND Study is needed to look at how other cities and states have designed and implemented publicly funded preschools. The study will examine such issues as funding mechanisms, governance, ages to be covered, assuring affordability and equity, and the short and long term benefits of expanding preschool.

Unfortunately, the study was not yet available, but several funding options were discussed during the lively and informative question and answer period: sales tax, earnings tax, property tax. Additional questions raised included: how funds would be managed, how "mom and pop" home preschools would be incorporated, who manages the funds, if CPS and preschool promise would work together, and how the issue would be stated on the ballot.

While the community is largely in support of an initiative to increase access to high quality preschool slots, it has yet to reach a consensus on all of the above issues.

-Susan Noonan

Crafted Storytelling Review

"Crafted storytelling" is returning in communities all around the country. Hearts and lives are touched with through the shared experiences of the storytellers. Listeners gain deeper levels of empathy and compassion towards one another when these personal stories are shared.

WCC members decided to add our own flavor and style to this lost art. On March 22, we hosted our first storytelling event at the RedTree Art Gallery and Cafe in Oakley. Members sipped wine, drank coffee and enjoyed homemade desserts as each storyteller took to the mic and captured our hearts and imaginations with their real life experiences.

From long-time members such as Ruth Cronenberg, Nancy Walters and Jeanne Nightingale and newer members, Jeff Deye, Melissa Rowland and Cindy Rowland, we learned the "why" that attracted them to WCC. The stories have given them the motivation to help others who face similar challenges in life. Each story was thoughtfully crafted with both seriousness and humor to impart values and lessons learned. Everyone enjoyed the evening and wanted to know when we would do this again. Stay tuned!

-Cindy Rowland



Red Tree Art Gallery and Coffee Shop

Member Profile: Liz Shockey



Welcome Liz Shockey, editor of the May June issue of the Woman's City Club Bulletin.

Joni Baker, chair of the WCC Communications Committee, was delighted when Liz Shockey introduced herself and said she'd like to serve on the communications committee. Little did she expect to become editor of the club's bimonthly bulletin within a few months. Liz joined WCC through Act One in 2014. She has served on the WCC board since January.

"I volunteered to help edit the *Bulletin*, not imagining I would become managing editor for this upcoming issue," Liz said. "However, I am excited to highlight WCC programs and news because I am looking

forward to improving the reading experience, especially for readers who access the bulletin through email or on their mobile devices."

A native Cincinnati, Liz attended Oak Hills High School and also Page School in Washington D.C. for one semester. She was a page in the US House of Representatives before they disbanded the program. "That's a shame," she said, "because it was a program that allowed high schoolers with no political connections, just political interest -- like me -- to get a first-hand look at the legislative process."

After graduating from Barnard College in 2010 with a bachelor of arts in Economics, Liz worked and studied in South Korea and Taiwan for two years. Since moving back to Cincinnati she served as AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) for one year and currently works as a technical writer at Fifth Third Bank.

As an AmeriCorps VISTA, Liz served at CityLink Center, supporting the financial literacy programs and training volunteers there among other things. (According to its website, VISTA provides full-time members to nonprofit, faith-based and other community organizations to create and expand programs that bring low-

income individuals and communities out of poverty.)

Fitting *Bulletin* editing into her work and activities schedule will be tricky. "Probably the most challenging part is the learning process," she said, "because it is difficult to estimate the time needed before hand. I enjoy being involved with projects I am passionate about and tend to organize my free time around these priorities. And if nothing else, deadlines are healthy motivators."

Liz says learning something new or solving a difficult problem gives her the greatest joy.

As an Act Once member, Her club activities have included a Cincinnati Charter Review Task Force meeting, two meetings with international visitors with the Department of State's International Visitors Leadership Program (This was hosted by the League of Women Voters, with WCC as a partner), and editing and compiling LWV voter guides. She sees herself continuing to volunteer, working with people from diverse backgrounds and traveling. For now, her volunteering in the near future is in editing the *Bulletin*.

-Jo-Ann Albers

Rookwood Refreshed

Six civic organizations including WCC continue to meet for mutual support as the "Rookwood Civic Confederation". The goal is to facilitate sharing, avoid schedule and capacity conflicts, identify gaps and needs, and build a citizen voice. Under a new "refresh" plan, the groups meet quarterly with two liaisons from each organization.

At our April meeting, we shared upcoming events and studies, and the group announced two collective efforts to support this work—check them out!

SHARED EVENT CALENDAR:

Designed to help us share information about events and avoid date conflicts. <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?src=rookwoodcivic%40gmail.com>

SHARED BLOG/CONTENT AGGREGATOR:

A blog to share stories about citizens, neighborhoods and grass roots community efforts in our community. CommunityVoicesCincy.wordpress.com

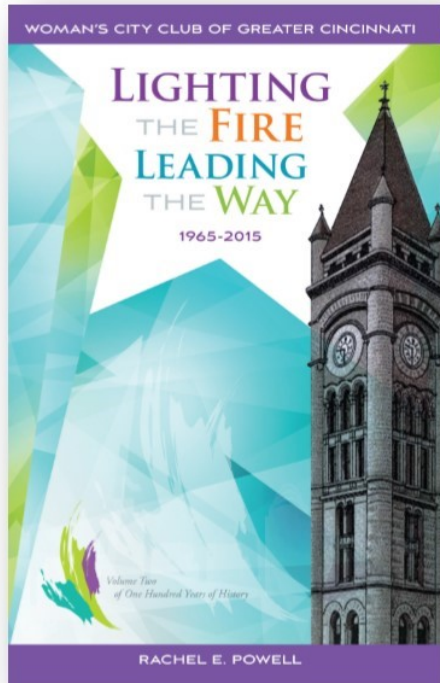
Woman's City Club liaisons are Sarah Gideonse and Rina Saperstein. However, meetings are open to other members. The next meeting is August 16 at 8:30 a.m.

-Rina Saperstein

LIGHTING THE FIRE...LEADING THE WAY

Woman's City Club HISTORY BOOK

BOOK SIGNING



May 22 at 6:30 pm

Children's Home of Northern Kentucky
200 Home Road
Covington, KY 41011

Join Woman's City Club for a briefing, snacks, a tour of the beautiful campus and a book signing of our very own "Lighting the Fire...Leading the Way" by Rachel Powell.

The Covington campus in Devou Park has one of the best views of the skyline of Cincinnati.



Children's Home of Northern Kentucky
[859.292.4120](tel:859.292.4120) (w) | [859.547.8801](tel:859.547.8801) ©
[859.291.2431](tel:859.291.2431) (f) | www.chnk.org



Rachel Powell

If you want to carpool, call 751-0100 and let us know. We will meet at the Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church at 6:00 and go from there!



2016

Seasongood Luncheon

Friday May 20, 2016

11:45 am ~ 1:00 pm

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 5901 Pfeiffer Road

Blue Ash, Cincinnati, OH 45242



Speaker

Cathy Bailey

Director

Greater Cincinnati Water Works

“We Are Headed Unleaded ”

Also: Presentation of WCC's

Seasongood Education Award Winners



Luncheon Price: \$40

RSVP Deadline: May 13, 2016

Basket Raffle and gift certificates



Mail RSVP form and check payable To “Woman's City Club” at
Woman's City Club 103 Wm. Howard Taft Road, Cincinnati, OH 45219

Or

Reserve online at www.womanscityclub.com

For more information: 513-751-0100

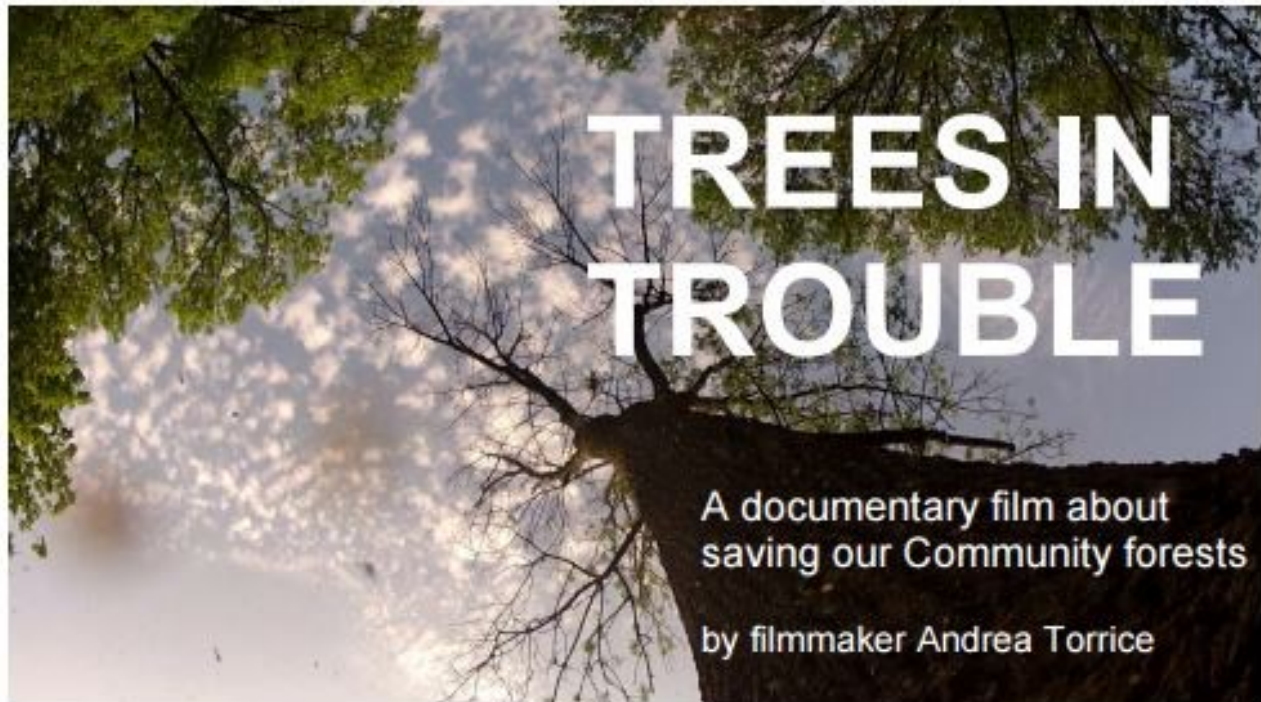
wcc@womanscityclub.org



Changing CO₂urse: Local Solutions to a Global Crisis

Sunday, May 22 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm.
St. John's UU Church, 320 Resor, Clifton

WCC's CITY CONVERSATIONS FOR MAY



Local film maker, **Andrea Torrice**, will present her new documentary film and tell us about the fragility of our community forests. *Trees in Trouble* is being used by the TAKING ROOT Reforestation Campaign in Cincinnati to save the city's threatened urban canopy. We have been at the epicenter of the Emerald Ash Borer infestation for a few years now. **What can we do to save our trees?**

SAVE THE DATE! June 26 - 6:30 to 8:30:



BUILDING A LOCAL AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD ECONOMY IN CINCINNATI:

**"HEALING OUR BROKEN FOOD SYSTEM WITH HEAL"
HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT, AGRICULTURE, LABOR"**

The Cincinnati Interfaith Workers Center (CIWC) seeks to introduce the LA model of food production, consumption, and distribution in Cincinnati, a thriving and fair food system that helps local growers, sustains agriculture and offers fair working conditions.

COSPONSORS for CHANGING COURSE: Citizens Climate Lobby, League of Women Voters, Woman's City Club, Apple Street Market, Our Harvest Cooperative, St. John's Green Sanctuary Partners



Woman's City Club of Greater Cincinnati

103 William Howard Taft Road Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

Phone: 513-751-0100

- Our Mission:** Woman's City Club is committed to building a strong Greater Cincinnati community through educating, empowering, and engaging all citizens to participate in promoting the common good.
- Our Vision:** We envision a just and sustainable community where all citizens are engaged as informed stakeholders in the shaping of our shared future.
- Our Values:** Collaboration -- Citizen Empowerment -- Civic Literacy -- Equity and Justice -- Children and Youth on Positive Trajectories to Achieve their Dreams and Lead Constructive Lives -- A Thriving City of the Future.

Calendar of WCC Events

Friday May 13

RSVP DUE
For Seasongood Luncheon

Tuesday May 24 6:30-8p

Book Signing WCC History Book
Children's Home of N. Kentucky
Devou Park Campus
200 Home Rd Covington KY

Sunday June 26 7-8p

Changing CO2urse Series
St. John's Church
302 Resor Ave Clifton

Friday May 20 11:45a-1p

Seasongood Luncheon
Crowne Plaza
5901 Pfeiffer Rd. Blue Ash

Friday June 17 11:30a-1p

Thriving Cincinnati
Inclusion in a Changing Economy
Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
103 William Howard Taft Cincinnati

Wednesday June 29 5:30-8:30p

Annual Membership Meeting
Mt Auburn Presbyterian Church
103 William Howard Taft Cincinnati

Sunday May 22 7-8p

Changing CO2urse Series
Trees in Trouble
St. John's Church
302 Resor Ave Clifton

Tuesday June 21 7-8p

City Conversations
Women in the Military
First Unitarian Church
536 Linton St. Cincinnati

Friday, July 1, 12-1p

WOMEN'S ECONOMIC, MENTAL AND
PHYSICAL HEALTH EXPO ON FOUNTAIN
SQUARE

WCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

For the latest schedule of Committee Meetings, check our Website Calendar at womanscityclub.org (click on the "Calendar & Events" tab at the top)

CINCINNATI CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

For an updated list, go to the City website at cincinnati-oh.gov/council/.



Like Woman's City Club Cincinnati on Facebook to keep up with the latest news and commentary.

The e-Bulletin, together with the Weekly Updates and News from the Network, keeps our membership connected. The next issue will appear in July. Submit articles to wcc@womanscityclub.org with the subject line "WCC bulletin" (Strict word limit 250 words).

Liz Shockey, managing editor