



Clintonville Area Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 10th, 2022, 7:00 – 9:00 PM
Clinton Heights Lutheran Church - 15 Clinton Heights Av

Commissioners in attendance: David Vottero (D1), Brian Peifer (D2), Libby Wetherholt (D3), Hugh Crowell (D4), Brittany Boulton (D5), Joe Motil (D6), Michael Weinman (D7), Jim Garrison (D8), B.J. White (D9)

Call to order

Commissioner Introductions and District Updates

District 1, Commissioner/Chair Vottero: Things are quiet; has been working with Department of Transportation on redesign of Indianola in order to temper the design. Received some phone calls from residents about improvements.

District 2, Commissioner Peifer: Things have been quiet; 4 story project at High Street and Weber tabled.

District 3, Commissioner Wetherholt: Met w/ Commissioner Vottero and City Council members about Indianola trying to figure out what changes can be made and get support from City Council. When others hear from people about Indianola suggest that they contact City Council members, check out the website, and/or put in 311 inquiry.

District 4, Commissioner Crowell: Nothing specific to mention; sent out an email regarding C3 Blueprint project. Some initial reactions have been received and there is a 30% design meeting in Mid-March.

District 5, Commissioner Boulton: Residents have expressed concern about safety with snow plowing. Chatham Rd speeding is becoming an issue. Neighborhood wide event planned for the 11th; Michael Stinziano's office will hear complaints on home appraisals 10:30am-2:30pm at Whetstone Library. Clintonville Area Business Association meeting will be Thursday, February 24th at Global Gallery.

District 6, Commissioner Motil: Discussed updates on Outdoor Basketball Court at the Whetstone Rec Center; a study is underway to determine viability. 3 other projects are a priority; replacing playground, replacing water lines, and drainage improvements. Received resident inquiries on capital improvement process. Drafted letter to City Attorney regarding advertising benches and being reviewed by other commissioners. Delawanda residents contacted the Commissioner in order to speak with COTA about turning empty commuter lot into community garden. Meeting was held on January 27th regarding the Old Beechwold bike trail connector. The Old Beechwold Association and residents have multiple concerns regarding the project relative to safety, opportunity for public input/lack of communication, increased bike traffic, and concerns on electric scooter use. The Commissioner made a motion asking the CAC to draft a letter to the Historic Resources Commission to table the bike trail on the upcoming meeting agenda to allow for additional time for residents to meet with the city. Commissioner Weinman seconded and motion passed.

District 7, Commissioner Weinman: Nothing to report. Is in contact with Commissioner Vottero on parking variance follow up for business on Indianola. City claims they do not enforce accessible

parking requirements. Commissioner White questioned to Neighborhood contact, Beth Kinney whether we have an ADA enforcement officer.

District 8, Commissioner Garrison: There was a break in at someone's residence as well as observations of footprints in people's yards indicating trespassers or potential criminal activity. Discussed stories of neighbors helping others with snow shoveling and reminder to check in on residents in need during snow.

District 9, Commissioner White: Everything is fine in District 9 and gave an "old faithful geyser" update – located at the SE corner of Sharon Meadows Park. It is apparently not under the control of water or sewer departments but it looks like a frozen mini Niagara Falls. One resident fell on the ice and injured themselves. Spoke briefly about the continued harmony between rabbit rescue on high street and the Aldi going in next door.

Consideration of prior meeting minutes – Commissioner Garrison, Secretary

Minutes for all outstanding previous meetings (November 2021, December 2021, special meeting December 2021, and January 2022)

Treasurer's Report – Commissioner B.J. White

Treasurer report – No new reimbursements reported; balance is \$1,348.07

Neighborhood Updates

Beth Kinney – Department of Neighborhoods

Asked for Commission to perform budget reviews going forward

Noted Commissioner zoning meeting on Saturday, February 26th at 9am

Cbus area commission page updates can be coordinated through juliana@nbc.org

Code supervisor is Dan McKaan

Dana Pomery, city attorney, mentioned Burger King on Indianola is being demolished

Reminder to call 311 for issues

email address is bfkinney@columbus.gov

Commissioner Motil asked when charter review meetings are set to begin? Beth was unsure but will check.

Harrison Poku Yeboah – Columbus City Council

Covid 19 vaccination opportunities extended

Announcement of Hydrogen fuel cell company coming to Columbus

Safe routes to schools on the South side have been extended

Readiness training opportunities program extended

emergency medical services expanded

Pushing for free tuition for Columbus State; extending to more school districts

Patty Meyers – new CPD liaison officer.

Was former west side officer then school resource officer and came back from narcotics.

Has looked into crime statistics; the numbers have been normal but there is an uptick in motor vehicle thefts while cars are left to warm up including stuff being taken out of cars.

Commissioner Wethoerholt voiced concern on block watches and support for them. Is there anything that CPD does to support the program or is it on the neighborhood to keep up? Response was that blockwatch supports itself and reports to the CPD Community Liaison Officer.

Commissioner Vottero asked if there had been update on the murder? Answer was that there are no updates.

Election Committee update

Proposed timeline and bylaws changes were distributed to the Commission.

Commissioner Vottero clarified that the purpose of changes was in order to align with city wide calendar.

Motion to approve by-laws change made by Commissioner Peifer and seconded by Commissioner Crowell; motion passed.

Commissioner Wetherholt noted that neighborhood paper meeting print deadlines could be an issue. Commissioner White recalled that the Commission did have a discussion about implementing mail-in ballot if needed so the option is still there with a rule change if needed.

Regarding election rules, a motion was made by Commissioner White to keep write-in option; Commissioner Boulton seconded and motion passed.

Regarding the time table on election, Commissioner Vottero clarified that the Commission was not required to approve the timing and suggested that the Commission should not take action.

Zoning and Variance Committee Report

GC21-050 – 3330 Indianola

Demolition company appeared in place of applicant who was unable to attend. Variance is for 2 lanes with digital menu boards.

Commissioner noted that applicant was good about working with residents. The signs are not visible from street and they exhibit variable dBs relative to ambient noise.

It was clarified that the building is demolished.

Commissioner Motil asked if there was a basement? – yes, I think there was

Commissioner Wetherholt Recalled that Mary Rodgers said building was built on top of, or modified from, an older building

Commissioner Motil indicated that he used to play in the old basement which was dangerous and wanted to make sure it was filled in.

8 voted yes, chair abstained.

Z21-103 – 4591 Indianola

Committee noted property has been same use for 30+ years

Clintonville plan recommends mixed use for the property.

Regarding a concern on sidewalks, it was noted that there is a plan in place to install sidewalks this summer.

8 voted yes, chair abstained.

BZA22-003 – 3655 Weston Place

Commissioner Garrison asked if garage is to be located with gutter 12” off property line. - Existing garage is at 12” from property line; applicant would like to keep the same relationship.

8 voted yes, chair abstained

Demo Application – 40 Garden Rd.

Applicant not present. Commissioner noted applicant owns multiple other properties and clarified some factual information on the property and questioned motives for urgency on demolition and wished there was a reason given.

Commissioner Garrison recounted receiving a phone call from the applicant looking for a sign off prior to demolition permit filing. ZVC committee chair Hardwick assisted applicant in procedure of permit filing and adding to agendas. Commissioner Garrison read an email from applicant Sheryl James representing elderly owners wanting some urgency in the permit and that reconstruction on the site was intended.

7 voted yes, 1 voted no, chair abstained

Blueprint Columbus Presentation - Tiffany Conn

Gave overview of project goals and clarified that intent is to move water where it is supposed to go and not into the sanitary sewer.

Blueprint attempts to accomplish this in 4 parts:

- lateral lining
- redirect downspouts to street
- sump pumps
- green infrastructure (rain garden and permeable paver)

3 areas of Clintonville outlined.

Screen restoration on Wallhalla Ravine was approved in August of 2021.

Commissioner Wetherholt asked for information on the survey. - Topographic survey

Were residents notified? – door hangers put out.

Commissioner Vottero asked what does 30% mean? - Potential locations of green infrastructure identified. Blueprint has learned lessons from past experiences.

What do colors mean? – Colors indicate different projects.

CAC Homelessness Task Force – Brittany Boulton

Starhouse Columbus invited to last meeting and gave perspective on atypical homeless situations.

They service community 24/7/365 – 800 youth each year. They also do a lot of employment training and provide services for homeless population and link with other resource providers.

Starhousecolumbus.us

Next meeting Tuesday March 8th at 5:30pm at Whetstone Library.

Public Comment

Owner of Little Light Collective who lives in the neighborhood gave thoughts on proposed Indianola improvements and elimination of parking versus bike lane integration; she was not supportive of the current plan.

Another nearby resident voices opposition to the project.

Mike McLaughlin spoke to concerns about Clintonville's commercial corridor and the role of the Commission in catalyzing positive change in the community via the process of hearing variance requests as well as overlay districts. His opinion was that more effort should be made to establish an architectural review district and/or board in Clintonville.

The owner of Studio35 spoke on the topic of the Indianola bike lane project and clarified his view as not being anti-bike as well asking the Commission for support to keep the businesses in operation in the area affected.

A Summit St resident voiced their opposition to the proposed Indianola changes which would push parking into the neighborhood off of Indianola.

Another Summit Street resident clarified that parking being removed from Indianola would push to the neighborhood and be a hardship on the residents.

Meeting adjourned.