



Clintonville Area Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 6th, 2020, 7-8:55 pm

Whetstone Library Meeting Room

Commissioners in attendance:

- David Vottero District 1, cacdistrict1@gmail.com
- Khara Nemitz District 2, cacdistrict2@gmail.com
- Libby Wetherholt District 3, libbywD3@gmail.com
- Judy Minister District 4, judym.cac4@gmail.com
- Michael Weinman, District 7
- B.J. White District 9, bjwhite.cac.district9@gmail.com

Commissioner(s) absent and excused:

- Kendra Carpenter District 6, KendraD6@yahoo.com
- Jim Garrison District 8, cacdistrict8@gmail.com
- Dana Bagwell District 5, dkjbagwellcac@yahoo.com

Commissioner(s) absent and unexcused

Call to order & formal welcome by Chairperson White

Welcome to your Clintonville Area Commission "...committed to the undertaking of the preservation of the values of the community through promotion, implementation and recommendation to city officials."

The CAC was empowered in 1974 by the Columbus City Charter to represent the Clintonville community in the discussion of community concerns. By City Code, the purpose of the CAC is to "...afford additional voluntary citizen participation in the decision making in an advisory capacity and to facilitate communications, understanding and cooperation between neighborhood groups, city officials and developers".

7:05 p.m. Introduction of commissioners and district reports

Commissioner Vottero – Reported that he is working with former Commissioner Rob Wood to establish a neighborhood block watch group.

Commissioner Nemitz – Reported that she communicated via phone and email with Devon McCormick, a licensee of Corvus Coffee, out of Colorado. He is working on opening his first coffee shop in Columbus and is considering Clintonville. He is looking at the old Loanmax Title Loans building. He will roast and sell coffee. She told him it would be wonderful to have a coffee shop here. And, citing Commissioner Minister's research regarding more disposable income in Clintonville, she told him he would do well here. She sent him the Clintonville Neighborhood Plan.

She also spoke with Brian Higgins of Arch City Development. She had spoken with him last July. He is proposing a retail/residential development for 3021 North High Street which is across the street from the bar Brewsters. He shared conceptual drawing of the building. It was five stories. She mentioned to him the guidelines of the neighborhood plan and the problems that the North Star developers had with their five-story building design.

Commissioner Wetherholt – Reported that there would be a Clintonville GreenSpot meeting on February 20th at 7 pm at the Whetstone Library. A new computer program will be reviewed. The program will help connect the various Greenspot groups and will allow groups to track accomplishments. New goals will also be discussed. The group is also in need of a new social media person. She also reported that the Clintonville Woman's Club is hosting a chili cook-off on February 16th from 4:00 – 7:00.

Commissioner Minister – She reported that Ted Stacy is no longer Clintonville's police liaison. She communicated with the new police liaison, Office Alesia Zacher. She will come and visit the CAC soon. She also reported that there was a second local bank robbery. And in District 4, there is a business feud between two businesses. An unnamed business is upset that people who frequent the yoga studio are parking in their lot. They have taken to towing cars which has made people upset.

Commissioner Weinman – He reported that he received his appointment from the city.

Commissioner Carpenter – She reported that she is meeting with Wesley Glen and election officials to increase signage for upcoming elections. She is continuing to address traffic and other related issues at Delawanda Ave. near Graceland Flats.

Commissioner Garrison – He reported that solicitors continue to be an issue in their district. These solicitors represent AEP, basement water proofers, wireless cable companies and other businesses. He continues to encourage people to request to see their Columbus peddler's permit. Typically, none have the permit. There are malicious individuals who are verifying people's occupancy times so that they may cause harm. He also reported that Mozart's held their 25th anniversary on Saturday, January 25th. He stopped by and spoke with Mayor Ginther, Anand Saha among others. The event was well attended.

Chair White – On the southwest corner, at Westview and High Street, there were some concerns about the building's new occupants. But it is a convenience item delivery store. They are trying to get their liquor license. It is near the Tree of Life Christian Academy. Chair White is keenly aware of the business. And the old family video building is now the 9th automotive business in

District 9. It is an O'Reilly's Auto Parts. Their sign might not be in compliance because when there is a change of business the signage must comply with the overlay. They should have upgraded their sign to look like the Graceland Boulevard sign.

She reported that she is attending tree workshops run by the city arborists. Julie Smiley went in her place for the first meeting and reported back to Chair White. Julie is also considering going to the next two workshops.

She also attended a meeting today with Commissioner Minister, Commissioner Vottero, City Council Member Rob Dorans and Council President Hardin's legislative assistant, Zach Davidson to discuss Clintonville's architectural review that passed resolution in May 6, 2016. The purpose of the meeting was to bring back the discussion of the resolution. The resolution was asking the city to consider opening up a public process to create architectural review for Clintonville's commercial corridors (High Street and Indianola Avenue). This is only for commercial properties. There is good value to the neighborhood to having a public input process for redevelopment. The public streets are the outdoor living room of the community. Currently there is no controlled process that allows people to participate in how they would like their neighborhood to look in the coming years. Other communities in Columbus have a forum for these conversations. The CAC reiterated to the city that this is still important to Clintonville. The CAC is working on meeting with members of the city to see if this is possible. There was a productive conversation with the Dept. of Development's staff in November. They were supportive of the idea and need leadership from the city's leadership to take action. Chair White thanked Katherine Cull for facilitating meetings and encouraged Clintonville residents to write to our Council Members in support of an architectural review for the commercial corridor. Katherine Cull recommended meeting next with City Council Member Priscilla Tyson.

Commissioner Minister is updating Clintonville's historical building records. This will be helpful when some of the later buildings are redeveloped. There will be a better understanding of the historic nature of each area in Clintonville. And, hopefully prevent buildings like the Verizon building from appearing. The architectural review will help the neighborhood get a better building product.

Consideration of prior meeting minutes – Commissioner Nemitz

Do we have a motion vote to approve the December minutes with the inclusion of the voting record?

Chair White moved to approve and Commissioner Vottero seconded the move. A vote was taking to approve the December minutes with the inclusion of the of the voting record.

Do we have a motion vote to approve the January minutes with the inclusion of the voting record?

Chair White moved to approve and Commissioner Vottero seconded the move. A vote was taking to approve the January minutes with the inclusion of the of the voting record.

Treasurer's Report – Chair White read Commissioner Carpenter's update. She worked with graphic person to recreate the CAC logo so she can outsource letterhead and business cards at a lower rate. A detailed report is tabled until March.

Zoning & Variance Committee - Chair Stephen Hardwick

The Clintonville Area Commission Zoning & Variance Committee did not hear any variance requests and did not meet in January. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26th at 7 PM at Clinton Heights Lutheran Church.

The **Honorable Maryellen O'Shaughnessy, Franklin County Clerk of Courts** had to cancel attending the meeting due to illness. Nick Toole, the Community Relations and Public Information Office, attended in her place. He reported that there are 200 Full-time Deputy Clerks that serve in five Divisions of the office: Administration, Fiscal, Information, Technology, Legal and Auto Title. The office has two major functions: The Legal Division Deputy Clerks are responsible for receiving, receipting, managing and retaining all legal documents filed through the Court of Common Pleas and the 10th District Court of Appeals. Staff executes responsibilities in strict accordance with record retention requirements established by Ohio law. The Clerk's General Division is an authorized U.S. Department of State Passport Acceptance Agent. An expert Deputy Clerk reviews the completed application, take the passport photo, and forwards all documents and payments to the U.S. Department of State. They have a very quick turn-around rate for this service.

They do not do licenses. They do auto title services very quickly.

They process over 100,000 court cases in the county from divorces to felonies.

Their auto title division was so efficient that they had a surplus of three million dollars which was returned to the county commissioner's central fund. Mr. Toole said do your auto title business in Franklin County to help make the county strong.

Someone from the audience inquired if the passport office was only downtown. Mr. Toole said yes, they offer a one stop passport shop at 345 South High Street.

Dan McCann – Clintonville Area Code Enforcement Officer had to cancel attending the meeting due to illness.

Community Liaison - Katherine Cull reported the following:

- Mayor Ginther is having is State of the City address on February 13th at 6pm at West High School and please rsvp.
- Dept. of Neighborhoods 2020 Lunch and Learn Series is taking place on Tuesday, February 11th from 11:00 to 1:00 at the Ohio History Connections Center.
- The Women's Commission Town Hall is taking place February 25 at 5:30 pm 315 Cleveland Avenue.
- Zoning Training is taking place this Saturday for commissioners. 111 North Broad street from 9:00 to 12:00. Parking and traffic studies will be discussed.
- There is a new police liaison whom Katherine is hoping to bring to the March meeting.
- Neighborhood Pride Center is having an open house. People can meet individuals working in and for the neighborhood such as area code officers and our police liaison.
- Office hours: 2nd Tuesdays, 2-4 p.m. at Whetstone Library, 3909 N High St, Columbus, OH 43214

Carmen Dunken - 311 Service Center - See attached presentation document. It is also posted on the CAC website.

Some of the most asked for service requests in 2019 for Clintonville are: schedule bulk pick-up, refuse container repairs, potholes and repair of street lights. The 311 Service Center is meeting with vendors to update the system to meet the needs of a growing city.

Katherine Cull showed that you can put an address into the system and see the trends for 311 requests in a neighborhood. You can also contact Ms. Dunken to see requests that are not shown on the map.

Chair White shared a card that she received from her long-time neighbor, Dr. Guiden, celebrating Ground Hog day.

Election Committee - Chair Ann Henkener

Districts 1, 2 and 9 are up for election. Election packets are available in the library on February 22nd. The election is on May 2, 2020. There will also be a candidate's night in early March. Once this date is confirmed it will be added to the election packet.

The CAC reviewed and approved updates to the CAC Bylaws Election Rules 2020. These rules can be seen on the CAC website.

Please see attached the red-line version showing changes.

Chair Ann Henkener said that there were concerns that came up during last year's election. It was determined by the election committee that there was nothing they could change in the rules. Commissioner Minister said that it seemed that there were adequate rules but they were not followed and that the problem was about the distribution of absentee ballots and what the intent was. She asked what the committee intended to do about this point. Chair Ann Henkener said they were going to clarify the language in the rules. The language will now clearly state that when returning an absentee ballot only one can be in an envelope and the voter must mail the ballot not the potential candidate. David asked if this will be explained at the Candidate's Night. Chair Ann Henkener said yes.

A post office box will be purchased for the election for \$34.

Commissioner Vottero asked if the ballots are tracked in any way. Yes, when a ballot is sent out the ballot is numbered upon return.

All updates that were made to the Election Rules will be updated in the letter to the candidates.

There was a request for volunteers for the Election Committee.

Mark Dravillas and Jackie Yeoman – Planning Managers, City of Columbus Department of Development

Columbus Citywide Planning Policies is known as C2P2. It is a new approach to land use planning. The policies were adopted by the Columbus City Council in the summer of 2018.

The focus is land use planning and development review. They are on the policy side of development. They work with communities to develop land use planning which are policies to guide future development. There are a base set of policies which communities and planners can take out and use to help communities in their efforts to develop. Columbus City Wide Planning Policies are a way for communities to access the most update date planning practices and policies. They work with each area to develop plans for their neighborhoods. The policies will be updated every two to three years and will apply to any neighborhood that has C2P2. Each area will also still have their own individual land use plan. Each area must agree to complete adoption to fall under the C2P2 plan. C2P2 will work with each area to come up with the best C2P2 plan. It takes 9-12 months. There are four communities that have adopted C2P2. There is also an early adoption option that can be supported by the residents of a neighborhood. This means when reviewing rezoning and variances a community and the city can refer to the C2P2 plan when making decisions. C2P2 provides a framework for planning and equitable treatment for all Columbus neighborhoods. There will always be community engagement when policies are updated.

Please go to <https://www.columbus.gov/planning/C2P2/> for a review of the presentation.

A resident asked about the development that is happening around OSU. Jackie Yeoman replied that their division did review the developments. The developers did ask for variances and areas were rezoned. This district is under the review of the University District Review Board. They reviewed all development in the area. The resident asked about the area where the bar B.J.s was located. What could happen there? Jackie Yeoman said that if the developers are following all the restraints of the zoning district they only need to ask for a permit.

Mary Rodgers asked if C2P2, if adopted by CAC, would it override the CNP if there was a conflict. Jackie Yoeman said yes, the C2P2 plan being a newer plan would override the CNP.

Jackie Yoeman said C2P2 is only about outlining development policies, not dictating specific guidelines that must be followed. The legislation of the C2P2 is written that city staff should rely on the most current policies when making decisions. Design guidelines can be reviewed on C2P2's website.

John Lathram - Chairman of North Linden Area Commission He had to call off as he had to attend his own commission meeting.

Terri Gehr – Spokesperson for The Citizens for Columbus State

She gave information about Columbus State being on the ballot as a bond issue. Columbus State is asking Franklin County voters to approve a 24-year bond issue of less than one mill (currently estimated at 0.65 mill) to generate an estimated \$300 million for capital improvements of the College's facilities located in Franklin County. The cost to individual homeowners would be less than \$2 per month per \$100,000 of property valuation and would enable Columbus State to continue providing high-quality, affordable, in-demand training for the jobs of today and tomorrow.

Commissioner Minister asked if the bond issue was also on the Delaware County ballot. Terri Gehr responded that although there is a CS campus in Delaware County, most of CS assets are in Franklin County and only Franklin County residents are being asked to fund.

8:55 p.m. Adjournment