



**Clintonville Area Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, January 3, 2019, 7-9 pm**  
**Gethsemane Lutheran Meeting Room**  
**35 E. Stanton Avenue**

**Commissioners in attendance:** David Vottero, Khara Nemitz, Libby Wetherholt, Judy Minister, Dana Bagwell, Randy Ketcham, B.J. White

**Commissioner(s) absent and excused:** John Eschenbrenner

**Commissioner(s) absent and unexcused:** Chris Allwein

**Commissioner(s) late without exercise of vote:** Randy Ketcham

- 7:00 p.m. Call to order by Chair & introduction of commissioners  
Announcing the passing of Nancy Stewart.
- 7:03 p.m. Consideration of prior meeting minutes – Commissioner White  
Correction on December voting record as suggested by Commr. Bagwell.  
Vote to approve November and December minutes 6-0

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

7:05 p.m. Community Update – Katherine Cull, Liaison  
Update on Commission Retreat. Continue the discussion on the proposed changes for the area commission bylaws. All commissioners to provide feedback from mid-March. Speed trailers will no longer be available. Traffic calming measures will no longer be available as a 311 request. Now traffic calming evaluation.

Commr. Nemitz: Please clarify what speed trailers are.

Liaison Cull: The temporary speed monitoring that neighborhoods can request.

Commr. Bagwell: Differentiated between permanent speed monitoring devices and the temporary speed trailers.

7:15 p.m. Election Committee – Ann Henkener, Chair  
E.C. Chair Henkener: Expression of sympathy for the passing of Nancy Stewart who was on the election committee. Try to work in conjunction with the Tech and Community

Relations committee to generate more enthusiasm about the CAC elections. We are going to use Social Media, The Clintonville Spotlight, The Clintonville Booster, CAC website to display it prominently. Discussing postcard mailing 4,700 homes in the 3 areas. An estimate for cost is \$600 plus postage which is approximately \$1,600. Likely will absorb most of the commission's \$2,500 budget.

Commr. Minster: Suggested bulk mail permit.

Commr. Bagwell: Stated that she was quoted \$613 for 5,000 postcards.

Commr. White: Can we lean on the city's resource for postage? (Request made of Liaison Cull)

E.C. Chair Henkener: We could follow up with you (to Chair Wetherholt) to coordinate this effort with Liaison Cull to see what the outcome is at a later date.

Liaison Cull: Suggested for participation of street captains to distribute the literature.

Mary Rodgers: Suggested Kenwell Printers and estimated that the postcard rate is \$.15 per postcard. The bulk rate is determined by zip code and there are only 2 zip codes.

E.C. Chair Henkener: We will likely be asking for an amount from the budget in February's meeting.

Commr. Bagwell: Stated the specific uses of the budget.

E.C. Chair Henkener: We will have more specific info after our next meeting.

Commr. Minister: You have established all of the important dates for the upcoming election timeline, correct?

E.C. Chair Henkener: Yes, we do have a draft. We will have it ready to be published after the next meeting.

Virginia, Croswell Rd: What is the source of your mailing list?

E.C. Chair Henkener: Our committee member was able to provide a list of residences probably from the Franklin County Auditor's site.

Mary Rodgers: How many signatures is the candidate required to collect? If you require more signatures, then that gets more door knocking so that the word can get out.

Commr. Bagwell: 50 signatures is the amount required for each candidate.

E.C. Chair Henkener: If the amount is raised to a number like 150 signatures, that could deter candidates.

Mary Rodgers: Maybe if you require the candidate to get more signatures then more people would know about the election.

E.C. Chair Henkener: We will put that to the committee.

Commr. Vottero: Recruiting good candidates to run is the first part of it. When someone runs unopposed then there's no point in voting. Maybe it's incumbent upon the commissioners to generate interest.

Chair Wetherholt: If you need me to draft a replacement for the Election Committee to replace Nancy Stewart, please let me know.

## **COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION REPORTS**

7:25 p.m. Clintonville Chamber of Commerce – Jenny Smith  
19<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Program – nominations are now being received for Business Person of the Year, Business of the Year and a Community Volunteer of the Year. Thursday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, dinner and a silent auction. There will be 5 luncheons for 2019. Golf outing at the Gray course at OSU golf course. Car cruise-In in August. Chili cook-off at the Clintonville Women's Club. <http://www.clintonvillechamber.com/>

Chair Wetherholt: The CAC is a competitor of the Chili cook-off. We will have a CAC flier to handout.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

7:30 p.m. City of Columbus Effort to Revise and Conform Area Commission bylaws  
“unofficial” presentation of the proposed changes of the area commission bylaws

Chair Wetherholt: Reflected from her observation at the area commission retreat. Regarding elections, the city would like to unify the area commission elections which would occur in September and certification would take place in October. Terms would begin in January. The term end date for the preceding commission would be December 31<sup>st</sup>. If unopposed, there would be no election and write-In candidates would not be allowed.

Stephen Hardwick: The reason is with consideration of the University Area commission which only has 2 commissioners.

Chair Wetherholt: All area commission meetings shall be open to the public as all times including special meetings. Establish a distribution list for anyone who would like to have advance notice of area commission topics. All commissioners will need to be

present to exercise a vote. Minutes to be timely and subject to public inspection. Public records are maintained. Conflicts of interest and reasons for recusal.

Stephen Hardwick: It's important to have an ethics rule. A committee member or commissioner should be biased. This is why we serve. No one can be unbiased.

Chair Wetherholt: We can we examine the bylaws changes once made official and readily make available to the public.

Liaison Cull: When I receive the official bylaws changes then I will send them to all commissioners which can be further disseminated and published on the CAC website.

Mary Rauschenberg, E North Broadway: When will the public be privy to the bylaws changes and will there be a public hearing?

Liaison Cull: I do not know if there will be a hearing. I can find out and circle back to you with that information.

Mary Rauschenberg: Transparency is really important to people living in Clintonville.

Chair Wetherholt: Especially for such items as scheduling special meetings. Special meetings must be published in the city bulletin no later than 7 days prior to the scheduled date of the special meeting. Until that day, I had not been familiar with the city bulletin or where to find it. I am not even sure the city bulletin is easily publicly accessible.

Liaison Cull: I had to post the change of venue for this meeting and that will be done for February. Due diligence is done so that it is for public knowledge.

Sandra Lopez, City Council Aid: How many special meetings do you have in any year?

Chair Wetherholt: Not many. Maybe 1 a year.

Gretchen Suhre, Westview: Were you given a reason for the notification rule or any other bylaws changes?

Chair Wetherholt: Our bylaws state a 3-day notice is required for a special meeting. I believe it is about the Sunshine Laws. A meeting is a quorum of commissioners. No more than 16 area commissioners and no less than 5 commissioners. No teleconferencing, etc. Recourse for not abiding to the bylaws.

Liaison Cull: We should have the bylaws changes in electronic format for a 2 month time period to review and allow for commissioner input.

Stephen Hardwick: I think that the bylaws changes that are proposed are to make the Department of Neighborhoods run more smoothly and create ease for the administrative offices.

Liaison Cull: I think it is more about uniformity so that the south side area commission runs the same as the Clintonville. Our goal is for the community to have equal access to commissioners.

Sandra Lopez: The Clintonville Area Commission is very professionally run and has technology and resources that are not available to other communities.

Chair Wetherholt: Having the elections for all of the commissions might make it more challenging for the city to digest.

Sandra Lopez: But it would create ease for training purposes.

Chair Wetherholt: Term limits for commission chairs will be uniform.

Stephen Hardwick: City council doesn't have term limits. They are trying to impose term limits on area commissions.

Commr. Bagwell: Clintonville cares and both me and Judy ran unopposed. Imagine what's like for neighborhoods who do not have that interest.

Gretchen Suhre: I am curious how a citizen could find out which commissions are having trouble finding people to serve.

Chair Wetherholt: Some commissions have only been around for a short time. Clintonville was the 2<sup>nd</sup> commission to be created. Some commissions have business reps.

Sandra Lopez: The University Area Commission has a student delegate for their commission.

Commr. Minster: It is not required that a neighborhood area have a commission. Berwick Columbus just created an area commission 2 years ago.

Chair Wetherholt: Clintonville is easily identifiable by most who live in Columbus.

Liaison Cull: Some people do not want an area commission because they do not want the oversight and regulation.

7:55 GreenSpot Neighborhood

Chair Wetherholt: The task force has been meeting and have generated some structure. What would a GreenSpot committee look like? Chair and priority area assignments. Referred to the the website. <https://www.columbus.gov/greenspot/learn/neighborhood/> Chair would be appointed by the CAC and the committee would meet quarterly. Social media facilitator, encouraging energy audits, etc.

Commr. Bagwell: Priority 1- 5 reads to me as matter of importance. Is this correct?

Chair Wetherholt: It can't be changed. It's an area not a hierarchy of importance.

Commr. White: How do we become better citizens and to become a GreenSpot Household? Then, see how this translates to a larger scale to GreenSpot Neighborhood.

Chair Wetherholt: Citizen driven. Exit ramp cleanups, and alleyway cleanups, etc. Business can participate, too. There are currently 58 businesses already and 1600 households.

Jenny Smith, Clintonville Chamber: We are trying to promote the GreenSpot Chamber, too. We could be calling upon Judy Robinson.

Chair Wetherholt: That is the update on the GreenSpot Neighborhood.

8:15 p.m. Public Comments

Stephen Hardwick: Write-in Candidates should be left in. If there is only 1 unopposed candidate, then they are found not to be a strong representative to the community. There should be a safety valve for this instance.

Rich Fowler, Westview Rd: Are there any enhancements for intersections like the one at Kanawha Ave and High St to improve safety?

Chair Wetherholt: They only do ladder crosswalks at schools and at community centers.

Commr. Vottero: I think that is worth pushing back on. Safety is something worth arguing.

Commr. Bagwell: We requested a crosswalk study at Cooke Rd where students cross. Also, requested a crosswalk at the new retail development in front of Hot Chicken Takeover. The city negated on both accounts.

Chair Wetherholt: We talked about the crosswalks at Indianola K-8 and couldn't get the city to respond positively.

Commr. Bagwell: Columbus is car-centric. We visited NYC and observed traffic stopping as we approached the curb to cross. There's a cultural element.

Commr. Vottero: On 5<sup>th</sup> Ave in NYC, the traffic lights are programmed for the pedestrians, not the motorists.

Commr. White: As a regular user of that intersection and as a pedestrian, motorist, and cyclist for 20 years. I am very aware of the pitfalls of that intersection. The crossing lights are so faded and illegible to motorists who are stopped at the intersection. What

needs to happen to get a traffic study? I would encourage the city's involvement and maybe replacement a signal.

Liaison Cull: I can request a traffic study at the intersection.

Commr. White: We have an abundance of people who live in our neighborhoods who either went to school at the OSSB/OSD. We have people who reside in our community who likely went to school there or are affiliated there as staff or faculty. When we make it safer for those members of the community, we make it safer for everybody.

### District Reports

Commr. White: Engage in productive conversation about the proposed development site for the YMCA. This is not a "greenspace" it is an undeveloped abandoned soccer field. Consider that we do live in an urban space. The city's direction is about creating places, not spaces. Are we fooling ourselves into thinking that the undeveloped land will remain undeveloped? Do your own research. Contact your state representative. Be practical and do not feed the frenzy of misinformation.

Commr. Ketcham: I truly do not think that Courtyard Estates will be easily dismantled. Preferred Living may back off from the development because they could take a major PR hit.

Liaison Cull: I shared with you the Legal Aid info to pass along to the Courtyard Estates Residents.

### Public comments about Nancy Stewart

Kevin Parks shared about Nancy's complaints about the Booster not being delivered to the neighborhood.

Randy Ketcham shared about when he ran for the commission. Nancy was performing due diligence on behalf of the election committee and stopped by his house late at night to ensure that he lived there.

Commr. Vottero: Spoke about how Nancy epitomized the civic minded person who was committed to community.

Commr. Bagwell: Spoke about Nancy always being respectful. We could all follow her lead.

Rich Fowler: Nancy opened her home for neighborhood meetings. She reminded people to go to the CAC meetings.

Gretchen Suhre: Shared about Nancy living in Russia.