



Clintonville Area Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 1, 2018, 7-9 pm
Whetstone Library Community Meeting Room

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

7:00 p.m. Call to order by Chair & introduction of commissioners

7:03 p.m. Consideration of prior meeting minutes – Commissioner White

COMMITTEE REPORTS

7:10 p.m. Community Update – Katherine Cull, Liaison
Introduces her guest, Carla with New Americans Program.
The City of Columbus hosting a series of Job Fairs, 11/15/2018 Wedgewood Middle School (fliers provided)
The Department of Neighborhoods is hosting My Brother's Keeper Conference 11/10/2018 at The Africentric School – All day conference targeting young black men.

7:15 p.m. Whetstone Prairie Committee – Commissioner Minister and Tina Mohn, Columbus Recreation & Parks

Commr. Minister: Tina has been very instrumental in helping facilitate the Whetstone Prairie revitalization.

Tina Mohn: Managing it loosely since 2003 with grant funding and community help. Private and municipal partners have provided some assistance. Goals, mowing, brush hogged to remove evasive plants and re-establish the prairie plants. Main objectives are to plant in the spring and evasive vegetation removal. The Ohio Prescribed Fire Council has been consulted. 5 year plan being proposed for the strategy of revitalizing the Whetstone Prairie. *A draft of the strategy for the 5 year plan was provided. Because the prairie is adjacent to the forest, the prairie is trying to be a forest so the revitalization strategy will be embracing the influence of the tree growth.

Commr. Vottero: How often will you be facilitating a burn? Every third year or so?

Tina Mohn: It will depend on the wooded vegetation and the fuel component of the prairie growth. Mowing efforts will continue but every third year is the plan for doing a controlled burn.

Commr. Vottero: Is the controlled burn based on the need to regenerate growth?

Tina Mohn: It will help regenerate the seed bank, keep the soil acidity low, and balance

everything.

Commr. Vottero: How is the trash element being managed?

Tina Mohn: We will have a maintenance crew routinely empty trash cans and remove debris.

Commr. Vottero: The absentee landlord has returned, correct?

Tina Mohn: Yes. That is correct.

Commr. Minister: We were working there as a community volunteer day a few weeks ago and it was amazingly trash-free.

Tina Mohn: Whetstone Park is relatively clean especially after the large scale events.

Martha Preston, public attendee: I was part of the original volunteers who helped create the prairie. Are you re-seeding everything? Are you allowing the cup plants to continue?

Tina Mohn: No to the cup plants. Not using herbicide rather by hand selection. This is why we are reaching out to volunteers. We will over-seed to help manage this.

7:30 p.m. Treasurer's report - Commissioner Eschenbrenner

Commr. Eschenbrenner: Reimbursed Commr. White for an expense. Balance stands at \$2,513.11

7:35 p.m. Zoning & Variance Committee – Stephen Hardwick, Chair
Building used to be office space for accountants now proposed for tutorial use.

3455 Indianola, District 4.

The Sewing Hive (c/o Gail Kelley) seeks variances “for change of use of the building and to acknowledge the existing conditions found on the property.” Specifically to:

1. Decrease the required width of the driveway from 20’ to 6’ ([3312.13](#)).
2. Reduce the green space screening from 4’ to 1’ ([3312.21](#));
3. Reduce maneuvering from 20’ to 0’ ([3312.25](#));
4. Decrease the aisle width from 13’ to 0’ ([3312.09](#));
5. Reduce parking spaces from 6 to 1 ([3312.49](#));
6. Allow 2 stacked spaces behind ADA space ([3312.29](#)).

December 18th will be the January Z & V meeting due to the holiday schedule. This was the reschedule date.

Jack Reynolds, Atty. with Smith & Hale, LLC: Introduces Gail Kelley

Gail Kelley: I am going to teach people how to sew. I will source fabric and suit patterns for people. No retail operation. The average class size is 4 people.

Commr. White: Shared personal story about sewing class in home ec.

Commr. Allwein: The official variance is for reducing the parking spaces from 6 to 1. There is legally space for 5 parked cars, correct?

Atty Reynolds: Correct. The ADA space is a viable parking space because it allows maneuverability. The other ones, you cannot maneuver for ingress and egress. Asking the city to park behind the ADA space.

Commr. Eschenbrenner: What was the space before?

Atty. Reynolds: It was an accounting firm.

Commr. Eschenbrenner: Is it logistical possible to get 4 cars in the designated parking area?

Atty. Reynolds: You can logistically get 6 cars to fit but the change of use requires an ADA space. This is why we lost a space.

Kari Engen: E Kanawha Ave, public attendee: Do you expect there to be walk-up business?

Gail Kelly: No, it will be appointment only. If someone approaches us as a walk-up, then we will greet them at the door and provide information about our classes but no walk-up services are being offered.

Unnamed public attendee: I don't understand the greenspace at the property.

Atty. Reynolds: It is an existing condition. The lot is already paved to that point. We are only changing the parking on site.

Commr. Wetherholt: None of these conditions were registered with the city. This is merely a way to make this site legally non-conforming.

Unnamed public attendee: How will you advertise your business? Is there a website.

Gail Kelly: Yes, thesewinghive.com

Chair Hardwick: The building existed before 1961, so zoning law requires that you "keep it the same" until there is a change of use.

Voting for all 6 variances: 9 YES - 0 NO

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION REPORTS

7:50 p.m. 2018-2019 Snow and Ice Control Plan – Michael Liggett,
Department of Public Service
Jeffrey Ortega is no longer with Dept of Public Service.

5,000 miles of roadway way to be cleared.
Priority 1 (major routes like the arterial streets), Priority 2 (collector streets), and Priority 3 (residential streets). Auxiliary routes, like school routes, get bumped up to Priority 1 if snow event occurs during school hours. The goal is to have roads cleared within 24-48 hours. If a secondary snow event occurs before the first phase of snow removal is completed, then everything starts over with tending to Priority 1 routes.

Warrior Watch live feed will show you the plows in progress.

Commr. Bagwell: Are you familiar with the paint-a-plow project? Will the plow be in the area where its plow was painted?

Michael Liggett: Yes, I am. I am not sure if those plows that were painted actually are assigned to that specific area.

Commr. Bagwell: It would be really nice to see those plows actually at work in the area where they were painted.

Commr. Allwein: Where does the salt brine come from?

Michael Liggett: We mix that in-house from the salt supply that we get.

Commr. White: I love the snow warriors website. I also like the decorated snow plows because it attaches a great deal of humanity to something so mechanical that we tend to complain about. Are there any alternative uses for snow plows?

Michael Liggett: I am not aware of any.

Commr. White: I have traveled to other cities where I have seen snow plows used as road blocks on streets during festivals.

Michael Liggett: I believe there may have been snow plows used for road blocks during Columbus Pride Festival.

Commr. Vottero: Is there any coordination between the snow plow protocol and COTA? More specifically, plowing snow on the sidewalk which becomes impassable. Many bus users rely upon the sidewalks for getting to the bus stops. Is there any coordination between the city and COTA to keep the bus stop areas clear?

Michael Liggett: There is not anything that does coordinate the snow plowing efforts and COTA. As an avid bus user, I will make mention of this.

Commr. Minister: Aside from 51% more deicer, are there any other changes? Like are there changes to what a Priority 1 route is and so on?

Michael Liggett: There have been some minor changes. Frank Williams, who is our new administrator of construction who runs our snow and ice patrol program. He has streamlined our program to make clearing routes more efficient. The plan is a living document. There is likely to always be changing. What's new is that there are outpost areas are broken down into district zones which increases the service level to the residential streets.

Commr. Vottero: What's the interface between the city and state routes like?

Michael Liggett: Every roadway within the City of Columbus is being handled by the City of Columbus. I-270 is entirely the responsibility of The State of Ohio.

Public attendee: I would like to add to Commr. Vottero's comment about snow being thrown on the sidewalk. It also carries with it gravel and stuff from the road. I don't see any efforts for that getting cleaned up. I just wanted to make mention of that.

John Kelley, Garden Rd: Is it still the case that Priority 3 routes must have a minimum of 4' of snow before it will be cleared?

Michael Liggett: Yes, I believe that is still the case.

Commr. Wetherholt: Is there something about leaving a small layer of snow like when the blade doesn't touch the street?

Michael Liggett: I am not sure about that.

Rose Cranston, Sharon Park: Some streets never get plowed. I have lived on my street for 25 years and it has been plowed 4 times. The neighbors would get together and shovel the street.

Michael Liggett: That is something that we are trying to address with the districting of the plows.

Kari Engen, E Kanawha: Are rain gardens, bump outs, and other construction marked on the snow plow routes?

Michael Liggett: That is something that has been constant in marking these items on the routes for the snow plow drivers so that they are aware. *Brochures were provided.

8:00 p.m. Blueprint Columbus – Leslie Westerfelt, Department of Public Utilities **

6 project areas in Clintonville and 2 areas that are still in construction. Blenheim-Glencoe is wrapping up. Punch list items like re-paving and grass restoration. Morse-Indianola is still in progress. Some basins have been planted and restoration and punch-out items will resume spring/summer. Paving is a hot topic. Coordinating re-paving with public service. Calling upon the public to bring paving issues to their attention. Repairing some curb cut-out areas. Not all curbs will be replaced. Phase 2 is private property work Lateral lining work will begin. Clay pipe is breaking down and it will be re-lined with the resin process. Those homes affected by this work will receive a letter. Then they survey the work and leave a door hanger. The city will schedule an appointment to discuss the work. *Brochures were provided. Sump pumps are also being installed.

Commr. Bagwell: The construction workers I have encountered have been very helpful in answering question. What is the process for repaving streets? Is it just the side affected or what?

Hunter Kelly, Blueprint Project Engineer: The efforts are being coordinated with DPS to get the whole street paved and some curb reconstruction. The focus is on the level of disturbance by the Blueprint Construction. The plan will be pave curb-to-curb beginning next spring. Doing some temporary and spot repairs until next spring.

Commr. Wetherholt: Any ideas on the next Blueprint Meeting?

Leslie Westerfelt: The reason Clintonville 3 is being paused is because there is too large of a gap between the construction begin date and the discussion. Trying to close the gap between public discussion and construction.

Commr. Vottero: Can you describe the rough boundaries of the 3rd phase.

Hunter Kelly: South of Glencoe to Glen Echo Ravine and Indianola to the Olentangy River.

Commr. Minister: Does Blueprint have to go before the Historic Committee?

Leslie Westerfelt: Old Beechwold is part of Clintonville 2 area. Hoping to have a public meeting in December.

Commr. Minister: Manhole covers blowing off is a big problem. Is Blueprint the solution for that?

Hunter Kelly: Blueprint is the solution for that. The next phase is the private property work which will be a remedy for the sanitary sewer covers that are blowing off.

Leslie Westerfelt: If you are seeing street flooding or dirty water in the basement. It will prompt the

maintenance crew to look at it immediately. 24/7 (614)645-7102 is the Blueprint number to call.

Commr. Minister: Wahalla Meeting, there was someone there who was very knowledgeable about stream restoration. It seems like so much water runoff is from the east side of I-71, it goes under and explodes after Indianola.

Leslie Westerfelt: We will bring this concern to the Blueprint Engineers.

Commr. White: I had an experience with a client who sold a home on Chatham Rd and I consulted Commr. Bagwell if she had received any calls about water backups in the basement. 311 was contacted and there was someone there within the hour to investigate the issue.

Leslie Westerfelt: We do have an emergency crew dedicated to respond to these calls.

Commr. White: Regarding Phase 2, for the sumps pumps, these are new installs, not replacements, correct?

Leslie Westerfelt: Correct. We disconnect the sanitary drain from the storm sewer drain.

Commr. White: What if there is an antiquated waterproofing system, like a French drain?

Leslie Westerfelt: Always call us for an assessment whether or not you think you will require a Blueprint Remedy.

Commr. Ketchum: My district hasn't been affected by this yet but there has been some conversation about the cost effectiveness of these solutions. What is the budget you are working with?

Leslie Westerfelt: There's 17 Columbus area neighborhoods \$80 Million just for Clintonville. Most major cities do have sewer overflow issues. What makes Columbus different is the green infrastructure. Rain gardens is for the extra water that collects in the yards and the street. They are implemented to capture the storm water that is blocked from entering the sewer system.

Commr. Ketchum: Has this been proven effective?

Hunter Kelly: Yes, these measures are being implemented in other major cities.

Leslie Westerfelt: This is the first time the city has done any measures like this. It has not gone well because communication lacked and expectations were not set. We are listening to public feedback and addressing it accordingly.

Commr. Bagwell: The rain gardens are good for traffic calming and environment. What is your response to the people who say this is Blueprint's fault when water is collecting in the street during copious amounts of rain and people are literally kayaking down the street?

Leslie Westerfelt: With pop-up storms like the one that we experienced Labor Day, the drainage was not working as it should have. The emergency maintenance crew responds to these issues. Email with follow up questions Blueprint@Columbus.gov We are being responsive.

OLD BUSINESS

8:20 p.m. GreenSpot Neighborhood Task Force Update – Commissioner Libby Wetherholt
Many community volunteers are heading up these initiatives. We met David Celebrezze who heads up these initiatives for us. 1600 households and 58 business who are already Greenspot certified. We would like to add 10% to this number. Includes houses, business, schools, and community gardens. We want to meet with specific neighborhoods and promote this. We've scheduled 2 Clintonville neighborhood bike rides. Encourage residents for energy audits. Linking the CAC website and social media to the Clintonville Farmer's Market. Promote LED holiday lights. Plant native trees throughout Clintonville. Improve the canopy throughout Clintonville. Clintonville electric initiative working with solar panels and CRC. Conserving and protecting water, such as the Whetstone Prairie project. Promote neighborhood cleanups. Litter cleanups at freeway exits. Identifying recycling dumpster sites. Promote compost buckets in households. Clintonville Bikeway expanded into District 9. Monthly walk with the doc at Sharon Meadows Park. Clintonville Electric Coop would like to add charging stations in Clintonville. This is a 3-year program. An annual progress report is expected and this initiative to be citizen-driven. The Greenspot application is available on line?

Sharon, Amazon PI: So you still need volunteers for the Greenspot Neighbor?

Commr. Wetherholt: Do we want to approve it?

Commr. Allwein: Do we want to make sure the criteria is established first before we vote on it?

Commr. Vottero: Maybe we establish a one page document that explains the criteria and the goal, what the CAC role is, and how it's citizen-driven? Who is the head of the task force?

Commr. Wetherholt: According to the bylaws, the task force is good for one year. It will likely be a standing committee after that. I have no other answers beyond that.

Commr. Bagwell: The application will be a matter of public record. The CAC role is a facilitating body. After the application is complete, then we can talk about what's next.

Commr. Wetherholt: David Celebrezze is the responding body for the city.

Vote for submitting the application. Shall we approve the Greenspot application?

Allwein, Ketchum Abstained, 7-0-2

Commr. Vottero: Describe the narrative about the commission's role.

8:40 p.m. Public Comments

District Reports

Commr. Eschenbrenner: Thank Kathryn Cull for her assistance in responding to

Commr. White: Attended a meeting by invitation only at the Ohio School for the Deaf hosted by Lou Maynus.

Commr. Nemitz: Attended a focus group for how an area commission functions.

Public attendee, Fenway Rd: Moo-Moo Car Wash, amplified radio issue. Resolved.

8:55 p.m. **ADJOURN**

Upcoming Events:

- November 6 Election Day
 6:30 am – 7:30 pm
- November 22 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
- November 27 Planning & Development Committee
- December 4 Zoning & Variance Committee
- December 6 Clintonville Area Commission

** Note: The Commission will need to maintain their time frame. Cards will be passed out to attendees with questions they wish to ask Ms. Westerfelt. Should there be no time for questions, those questions will be given to Ms. Westerfelt so that she can contact attendees directly.

Rules for Presentations at Clintonville Area Commission

In most instances, CAC will follow this procedure for discussions:

- 1. Presentation
- 2. Questions/comments by Commissioners
- 3. Questions/comments by Public

PLEASE NOTE: If you wish to ask a question or make a comment, follow the below listed procedures:

Raise your hand and wait to be acknowledged by the Chair;

Once acknowledged, please stand and clearly provide your full name and street address (comments are entered into the meeting minutes);

Address your questions/comments to the Commission Chair (not to the presenter).

Remarks should be courteous in language and deportment.

No participant may speak twice to the same issue until everyone else wishing to speak has had the opportunity.

- 4. Follow-up by Commissioners

NOTE: During some meetings the commission may need to impose time limits and the collection of speaker cards to identify how many wish to speak.

Please remember:

We are all neighbors. Treat every person as though you will see these people at the grocery or a coffee shop tomorrow.

Should your issue or question not be fully answered during the time for discussion, feel free to email additional questions or inquiries to your commissioner or to the entire commission. commissioners@clintonvilleareacommission.org