



Clintonville Area Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 5th, 2022, 7:00 – 9:00 PM
Whetstone Library, 3909 N High Street

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

Commissioners with an excused absence: Hugh Crowell (D4)

7:00 Call to order

Welcome, Housekeeping, Approval of Agenda – Commissioner Vottero, Chair Commissioner Introductions and District Updates

District 1, Commissioner/Chair Vottero: Had 2-3 complaints, helped residents navigate 311. Recurring problems behind Lucky's; localized flooding- involves 3 property owners. A lot of follow up with Indianola complete streets letter. Met with w/ CW De Padilla and city seems to be taking it seriously.

District 2, Commissioner Peifer: Still confident Weber Rd & High street coming. Nothing yet. Several people reached out about Beechwold connector. New updates on Olentangy trail completion received. Able to be searched for online. Masonry work done on the Clintonville electric building.

District 3, Commissioner Wetherholt: Had questions/concerns on 100+ trees having a bright pink ribbon on North Broadway. The tree ribbons then removed. Continued conversation with Clintonville 3. Talking with several people on the connector. Inquiry with NCIL about people using baseball diamonds and leaving trash. Clintonville Women's Club Art and plants

District 5, Commissioner Boulton: Received 1 complaint about Chatham Rd. speeding. Reaching out to neighbors directly. Attended a focus group on rain gardens. Attended Clintonville Business Association event. Next meeting is on May 17th from 5:30-7pm at Diamonds Pearls Jade. Received a nuisance complaint from someone on Acton about their neighbor doing noisy carpentry. Suggested conversation with neighbor. M Stinziano coming to Whetstone Library Tuesday at 5:30pm; meeting on homelessness and affordability.

District 6 Commissioner Motil: Met at the house of Russell Moeller on April 28th along with a handful of his neighbors who live on Olentangy Blvd. to discuss the construction of a new garage. Russell went before the Zoning Committee in March requesting a height variance of 15- 22 feet that received some objections from neighbors. Russell presented some drawings of lesser height of 17'-6" that he thought at the time was the same height of a garage that had received a variance in 2016 that was a few doors down. At the end of the meeting everyone was satisfied and came to an agreement. Until later, Russell informed the commissioner that he discovered that the height of that garage a few doors down is actually 22 feet.

Received a complaint from a resident on West Dominion of a vacant home on Rosemary Parkway that the particle board which is covering a couple of the windows was coming free and needed to be resecured along with the back door wood protection that was not secured. Although the doors house

were locked. They have also complained about 3 vehicles that are being stored in the driveway. The commissioner was told the house has been vacant for about 30 years. Code enforcement is looking into the complaint. The owner of the property also owns the parcel that sits on the southwest corner of Brighton and North High Street near the tunnel entrance by Clinton Elementary.

The commissioner filed a complaint with the code enforcement officer Daniel McCann regarding the lighting on the south side of Kroger that is shining onto the homes on Girard. The lighting was recently upgraded and is not down lighting which is required by code.

The commissioner spoke to the property manager for Graceland flats about extending the fairly new wood fence that runs east to west along the southern Graceland service road and if she could have someone contact Kroger about doing a little better job of removing trash that accumulates along that fence. These were all issues brought to my attention from Delawanda residents.

The commissioner received a phone call from the President of NCIL Baseball Mr. Kurt Kernan seeing if he could do anything about getting diamond #4 prepared for the upcoming June 4th baseball season. This is the diamond that is closest to the Clintonville Women's Club. The commissioner sent an email to Jake Diefenthaler who is NCIL's contact person for baseball diamond maintenance to see what was going on. And the Assistant Director Jack Castle contacted him with an answer which was then forwarded to Mr. Kernan.

Regarding the letter on May 2nd from Old Beechwood President Jennifer Alexander and some additional concerns regarding the Bikeway Connector, the Commissioner responded with a letter to Terry Stewart asking him to please give me an answer to the nearly 10 questions that Jennifer and he requested. The commissioner and Chairman Vottero met with the Delawanda Residents Association on April 21 st in the backyard of their President Rosie Quinzon-Bonello. There was about 25 residents in attendance along with the Terry Stewart who is the project engineer of the Old Beechwood Bikeway project and senior planner Luis Teba. Terry and Luis gave residents an overview of the project and answered questions from the residents.

District 7, Commissioner Weinman: Expressed disappointed that other blocks of sidewalks on Indianola not being completed along with work currently underway elsewhere on the street.

District 8, Commissioner Garrison: Heard from Morse Dominion Blueprint residents that surveys on the rain gardens are being received. Residents who do not receive a survey can email 2 contacts at OSU to opt-in to Participant email addresses are being sent to vocal residents and applicable Facebook groups.

A cluster of 8 residents on E Beaumont are still experiencing flooding in their backyards 1 year after contacting me last year and hoping the city could help but there is resistance because the city claims it's private property despite most residents installing supplemental drainage in their yards. Currently, 3 of the houses affected are for sale or going up for sale due to people giving up.

Sidewalks are being installed on Indianola from Morse down to Garden and some residents vocal about some streets further south missing sidewalks. Working with Andrew Overbeck on possibly making this happen but was not possible originally. A resident on E Beechwood at Indianola lost a significant amount of their flowering shrubs and bushes to the work in addition to fence damage. City has been notified and working directly with the resident.

Several more letters of support from community as well as a letter of request to delay votes from the Old Beechwood Association.

District 9, Commissioner White: Fine in District 9. Stanton Ave underwent waterline construction. But the city only repairs small portions until another area has problems. Storm water drain tiles are getting fixed. Construction workers were very helpful. Beth Fairman Kinney helped resolving a large boulder left in a resident's front yard. Relocating it to Sharon meadows park; working with dept of public utilities. "Sharon Heights Rocks".

Some activity happening at the old billiards building; potential wellness center.
Residents in D9 are supportive of the Beechwold Connector and recognize need for accessible path in contrast to what has been omitted on Indianola north of Morse.

7:28 Consideration of prior meeting minutes – Commissioner Garrison, Secretary

7 yes, Commissioner Wetherholt abstained due to being absent from the meeting.

7:30 Treasurer’s Report – Commissioner White, Treasurer

Began month with \$1037.31, After a deduction of \$200.88 for cac.org and cac.com domain renewals, there is \$836.43 leftover. Year end fiscal summary coming soon.

7:32 Neighborhood Updates

Beth Fairman Kinney, Department of Neighborhoods

May 14th informational session on Robert’s rules postponed to another day

June 23rd – rise up CBUS – Weiland park

Mayor conference with “operations wheels down” – crack down on ATV and motorbike safety/dangerous operation.

Commissioner Wetherholt mentioned that in the paper, she saw something about the noise. Does dangerous operation apply also to cars and motorcycles? City is working on the issue. Initial focus was on dirt bikes and ATVs

ATVs not allowed to be on road.

Commissioner Motil asked on the advertising bench issue status. Response was that , there was nothing yet. Commissioner White remarked that they were reconstructed with concrete and not movable now; it is an accessibility issue. New 311 with geotracking allows for reporting the advertising bench. If you do find some in the way, you can report them.

Harrison PokuYeboah, Columbus City Council

Remy - authorized purchase of new garbage trucks

Dorans – sponsored workforce item

De Padilla – Asian American islander heritage month

Brown – honored parks rec employee Rakowski

Introduction of Council Member Barroso De Padilla

Not able to attend

7:42 Clintonville-Beechwold Community Resources Center Presentation on Dementia-Friendly Community Initiative + Events – Phoebe Allebach, Assistant Director of the Village in the Ville

The initiative is part of wider national movement; provide services and connection to older adults.

There are 6 groups in Columbus and they use a network of volunteers to help residents.

Intergenerational events, field trips, tai chi, virtual bingo are all tools as well. The group is looking to promote a dementia friendly community in Columbus. Applying to dementia friendly America.

For those interested in helping, they are encouraged to

- Join the action team. They meet monthly, plan goals, and need more community involvement.
- Become a dementia friend – Wednesday June 22nd training event.
- Come to community forum – Wednesday May 18th, partnered with Alzheimer’s association.

7:48 Zoning and Variance Agenda – Committee Chair Stephen Hardwick

BZA22-019, 225 Tibet - To legitimize an existing retaining wall, the homeowner seeks a variance to increase the maximum height of a wall within the vision clearance triangle from 2.5’ to 4’ above the centerline grade adjacent streets.

Wall is about same height as before but grade is roughly the same height as new wall.
School contacted and they did not have opposition to the wall.

7 yes, 0 no, Chair abstains

BZA22-038, 583 Tulane - The homeowner requests a variance to increase the maximum height for a garage from 15' to 22'.

Commissioner Motil

- Is garage to south of house? SE corner tear down shed? Yes.
- What's height of house? 16' Has issues with the design not compatible with the house

Commissioner Vottero

- Regrettable with no site plan. There is a site plan.
- What will happen with materials on site during construction? Prefab garage. Stuff stored on east side.

Commissioner White

- Is the garage to be occupied? No.
- Storage on site to be in garage? Yes.
- Do you have storage in residence now? No.

Commissioner Garrison inquired about the height of the adjacent trees and whether the noise of train was significant enough that a new structure might shield some noise.

5 yes, 2 no, Chair abstains

BZA22-037, 209 DeSantis - To construct a rear room addition, the homeowner requests a variance to reduce the minimum side yard setback from 5' to 3'.

Commissioner Garrison asked the applicant if they were aware that added square footage would increase property taxes? Yes.

7 yes, 0 no, Chair abstains

8:20 Sidewalk Seating for High Street Businesses – Commissioner Garrison (D8)

Commissioner Garrison gave overview of the process for sidewalk dining leases for local businesses. Depending on the situation, there are 2 process; one if the area is within the R.O.W. and another if behind or outside of the R.O.W. For within the R.O.W., there is a sidewalk dining lease process filed with the Public Service Division of Infrastructure Dept. For outside the R.O.W., Building and Zoning request to an analyze square footage of the area to determine the impact on occupancy and parking. The following is an email from the Commissioner to the rest of the CAC sent April 29th and recounted in the meeting:

I stopped by Seitan's Realm as well as Destination Donuts this afternoon as well as spoke with the city ROW and zoning departments on a few different facets of the process and wanted to share. I am blaming the weather on all of this coming up at once. Interesting that we have 2 very similar but different scenarios in these.

1. Destination Donuts - want to place bistro tables out front of their store - The building is set back from the ROW so a large portion of the sidewalk is within the parcel of the property and where they want to place tables. Because of this, they do not qualify for the sidewalk dining lease. Instead, this request has to go through zoning because they still want to review the condition to verify whether or not occupancy and/or parking requirements are affected.

Contact for questions/review materials:

ASBeard@columbus.gov

Andy Beard, P. E.

Chief Plans Official

*Engineering Section
Building and Zoning Services Department
111 North Front Street, Columbus, OH 43215
614-645-8458 - and - ZoningInfo@columbus.gov*

2. Seitan's Realm - also want to place bistro tables out front of their store - But the building is ON the ROW so all of the sidewalk is in the city ROW and sidewalk dining lease process is followed.

Contact:

*Colin Harding – Engineering Associate I
Office (614) 645-7894
Mobile (614) 313-2338
CJHarding@columbus.gov*

For the former, you can already see where this may be going so owner needs to look over occupancy and total building parking requirements and since they really don't have parking anyway, the city may require them to apply for a variance on parking which would come back to us, etc. etc.

For the latter, Colin Harding has sent as the official package of information for applying.

In that information, they include:

- ADA guidelines for sidewalk dining (6 foot clear suggested)*
- Sample submittal*
- Application form*
- Checklist requesting "certificate of appropriateness or letter of support from the appropriate area commission"*
- rules and regs. on the allowances of the license/lease*

After describing the proposed work included in the sidewalk dining lease work from Seitan's Realm, a letter of support drafted by Commissioner Crowell was read and voted on. The CAC approved the letter of support 7 yes, 0 no, with chair abstaining.

8:40pm – Public Comment

Sandy Simbro – District 2 – Sorry to hear that Destination Donuts is not open on Sunday and Monday and it is a hardship on the business; encourages the business to just put tables out.

Future agenda item – COTA lot on Leland, Bob's bar using as parking. Green space a good option for site. Commissioner Motil – gravel lot may be in violation of code.

Monica – Delawanda – connector is important to her and her family. Loves walking through the area but walking poles stuck in the mud. Daughter lives off Weisheimer.

Ryan Foshee – April was earth month – citizens of Clintonville came out. Community groups got out and cleaned up ravines and highway ramps.

Support of connector (not identified). Family uses connector area. Cut through yards (with permission). Son is very able-bodied but

Jennifer Alexander – President of Old Beechwold Association - Asked for proper protocol of engaging community on the process. Felt that appeals to Commission have primarily gone unanswered and that Old Beechwold neighborhood has been ignored. Interested in getting together to work towards a solution.

Member of Old Beechwold Association – Concerned on a lot of side conversations happening on the connector. Feels there is no definitive answers and no accountability on the maintenance of the path in future.

Jim Silcott – Our Lady of Peace Principal – Wanted to offer some updates. Redoing gym, ramp for accessibility, thinks connector is positive

Enrico – Delawanda – What options are for having a listening session on the connector?

Commissioner White noted it was important that we speak in proper terms. Mobility path, not a bicycle path.

9:00pm – Meeting adjourned