



Clintonville Area Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 2nd, 2022, 7:00 – 9:00 PM
Whetstone Library, 3909 N High Street

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)

Commissioners with an excused absence: N/A

7:00 Call to order

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

District 1, Commissioner/Chair Vottero:

Received a Number of inquiries from residents following Blueprint project. Crestfest being rebooted by Former Commissioner Rob Wood. Planned for August 20th, looking for volunteers, check website for more information. Working with owners of 4 properties north of Lucky's Market on flooding issues. Had informal meeting on Indianola proposed work, very encouraged on the direction of the project. Studio 35 planning an event on the project to get more information; date TBD.

District 2, Commissioner Peifer:

Weber and High project coming, not yet, but keep on radar for those interested. Resident reached out interested in fence height restrictions. Received some for and against views from residents on the shared use path in Old Beechwold.

District 3, Commissioner Wetherholt: Met with Blueprint with Commissioner Crowell and helped address some misinformation on project. Will be in contact with residents who have work to be done. Checked in at Fire Station 19 green spot project. Several people worked a lot to get 2 flower beds' weeds pulled.

Mural on East N Broadway restoration coming along well. East end of project will be covered over; paint color being chosen. Attended Planning and Development Committee meeting.

District 4, Commissioner Crowell: Fair amount of activity in district. Mainly concerns about the Blueprint project by people affected by Clintonville 1 project, rain garden, sump pumps. Met with Tiffany Conn of Blueprint with Commissioner Wetherholt to discuss concerns as well as flooding issues. An issue with District 8 as well. Speculation is that lateral lining is preventing groundwater from getting into lateral drains. Blueprint reaffirms that resident flooding is a resident's problem to solve. Blueprint looking into paving issues preventing water from getting into drains. Beth Fairman Kinney and Commissioner contacted about camping on an Olentangy River peninsula. Campers observed leaving in a truck with New York plates.

District 5, Commissioner Boulton: A resident on Fallis road complained about evening noise from the volleyball court area at The Ave. I reached out to The Ave's property management team and our

liaison Beth Fairman Kinney, who also spoke with the Ave. Their quiet hours are 10 PM - 10 AM and they have on-site security as well. If noise continues, neighbors can use the non-emergency line: 614-645-4545. I am also planning to hold my next Coffee with your Commissioner in my front yard on Sunday June 26th at 10 AM, 475 Chatham Road. I'll have coffee, pastries, and lemonade and all neighbors and fellow commissioners are welcome to stop by.

District 6 Commissioner Motil:

Delawanda

Code enforcement officer Dan McCann spoke to the Kroger manager about the south exterior lighting that shines onto the homes on Girard. The manager told Dan that they are having light fixture "hoods" fabricated in order to create downlighting which should solve the problem.

With regards to the vacant COTA lot, it was inspected by a code enforcement officer and the city also contacted sewers and drains in Utilities Department about the storm sewer inlets around the parcel. Sewers and drains will be dealing some flooding issues that have occurred.

The zoning code officer wrote up an order not to allow parking on the gravel. She suggested that COTA block the curb cut to deter any future parking. Unfortunately it is not illegal to have a gravel lot, but it becomes illegal when cars are parked there and "becomes" a parking lot. The code enforcement officer will periodically check the lot to make sure it is not being used as a parking lot.

The No Thru traffic sign located in the little island at Milton and Girard was removed . A complaint as filed with 311 but the sig has not yet been replaced. The Delawanda neighbors are kicking around ideas about closing access into the neighborhood from Graceland, speed humps on Leland, Milton and Rathbone, or landscaping bump outs and other traffic calming devices. And asking for an updated traffic study due to the completion of the Graceland Flats development.

Courtyard Estates

I received an email and visited a long-time resident of the Courtyard Estates Mobile Home Community regarding concerns about the renting and or sale of mobile homes to individuals younger than 55 years of age, the possible selling of drugs in the trailer park, the need to thoroughly review new tenants, and overall better management of the community standards by the onsite property manager. I sent a letter to Preferred Living President Michael Kenney about the residents' concerns on May 26 th and received a reply today.

Whetstone Outdoor Basketball Court

I will be meeting with Craig Murphy of Recreation and Parks on June 10th to look at possible locations for an outdoor basketball court or courts at Whetstone Community Center.

Aldrich Road Parking

I received an email from an Aldrich Road resident about excessive on street parking by those other than residents. The resident requested that the CAC recommend making a formal request to the city for imposing parking restrictions. (Not passed Rosemary Pkwy)

Rosemary Park Vacant Home

The city has issued a new zoning order for the 3 vehicles and are working closely with the city attorney's office and the owner. The owner also has a timeline to get them removed from the driveway.

I attended the mayor's press conference on increasing police staffing and lighting that was held at Westgate Park. 22 city parks

I attended an event held by the social and racial justice organization Faith in Public Life this past

Tuesday with guests Chief Bryant and assistant Chief Potts.

District 7, Commissioner Weinman:

District 8, Commissioner Garrison: Has received a few emails of support on the Old Beechwold / Delawanda shared use path.

Freecycle/garage sales happening right now. Be on the lookout for events on social media.

District 9, Commissioner White: Kudos / thank you to those who displayed American flags from Morse to Chase rd. Displayed from Memorial Day to Veterans Day. For those who donated to Flags on High or purchased flowers at the Darby Nursey sale, thanks for your contributions. That program is not for profit and with permission as opposed to the advertising benches.

Shout out to Beth Fairman Kinney on helping move boulder from Stanton Ave to Sharon Meadows Park.

Aldi going up, no complaints by neighborhood. Calm construction site.

Billiards building is showing some progress, dumpster and construction crews have been observed.

After Commissioner White's 5th year representing District 9, went to first Sharon Township meeting.

Police, Fire, and Trustees were in attendance. City of Worthington has implemented a deer feeding ban. Planning on hosting a meeting about the topic of voluntary ban for feeding deer in District 9.

Call for approval of the agenda – Chair Vottero

No objections.

7:25 Consideration of prior meeting minutes – Commissioner Garrison, Secretary

Some comments received, and revision was distributed prior to the meeting. Commissioner Boulton moved to approve, Commissioner White seconded. No objections.

7:26 Treasurer's Report – Commissioner White, Treasurer

2 transactions; reimbursement for streaming camera \$501.99, domain renewal \$200.88

End of May 31st balance (end of fiscal year) at \$334.44

7:28 Neighborhood Updates

Beth Fairman Kinney, Department of Neighborhoods

Thanks to Commissioner White for the end of year report, next thing is needed by June 30th is the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) for next period.

Rise up CBUS – June 23rd – Weiland Park 4:30-7:30

Application for community development block grant for groups needing funds for public facilities programming. Barnet Branch library on June 7th next meeting.

Keep Columbus beautiful looking for volunteers to collect environmental data on hottest and coolest areas of the region for tracking heat mapping. Email David Celebrezze

Bug your bike – program / registration effort for registering bikes to aid in theft recovery.

Chasity Bareham, City Attorney's Office

Handles zone initiative which handles public nuisance abatement actions.

City is split into 5 zones, Ms. Bareham serves in zone 4 which includes Clintonville, Linden, University Area, 5th by Northwest, and North Central

Problematic properties throughout the city which may have code issues or criminal activity.

Bench billboards – Ms. Bareham noted not being the assigned attorney – action filed against the company which is set for a status conference on Sept 22nd, Courtroom 15A, 2pm.

The city is looking for finite cap on number and locations of benches. Working against court ruling from '80s but looking to confirm locations against permit and define what is allowed and prevent any new benches. Looking to cross check 311 report locations against permits on file. Three main bench billboard companies secured permits but the companies are consolidated under one which does not

seem to invalidate the permits.

Commissioner Motil: Who is the assigned attorney? Sarah Pomeroy

Which court will this be? Environmental court

Resident Kathy Walters, lives north of Morse Rd – 13 benches between Morse and Worthington, claims benches get moved around. Unit by Morse COTA stop was hit by a vehicle and destroyed a utility box needing to be replaced by City of Columbus. It was a hit and run. Something should be done to protect citizens of the city.

Commissioner Garrison: Is there any language in permits on maintenance of the benches? Not aware but Sarah Pomeroy may know.

Commissioner White: Understands that city R.O.W. is city property. In an attempt to maintain the benches, they have changed from wood to concrete. The benches are not ADA compliant and not able to be moved by property owners to maintain the R.O.W. effectively. Ms. Bareham made a note to convey to Sarah Pomeroy and added of an upcoming maternity leave in immediate future.

For any reports, contact code enforcement first (CPD) and then follow up with City Attorney's Office.

7:44 By-Laws Update and Election Committee Rules – Commissioner Wetherholt

Back in January and February, the CAC discussed changes to the by-laws in order to align the election timing with the City of Columbus's election cycle.

Under number 1b – membership – Annual meeting in July to be updated to January

Under number 3b – Same issue of changing July to January.

Under 8a – "The first Saturday in May" to be changed to "last Saturday in August"

Table of contents page numbers needing to be updated.

Last page to receive timing of changes.

Commissioner White: Noted that under "Election of officers," the Treasurer has to sign a memorandum of understanding coinciding with fiscal year and that deadline is June 30th. Therefore, because the fiscal year does not change, the treasurer election may need to align with the fiscal year and timeline should be investigated.

Chair Vottero: May be odd but seems like this issue would be typical across the city.

Beth Fairmen Kinney: Has worked with commissions with this issue and if a new Treasurer and Chair comes in, there is a new form and bank changing the signatories.

Changes to election rules also require modification as noted

Section 2c, paragraph 2, add to media distribution "and to the CAC website and social media"

Section 4a eliminates paragraph regarding email signatures enacted during the pandemic.

Additional sections require modification to month of the year as related to previous discussions on timelines.

Lastly, eliminating mail-in ballot is proposed.

Chair Vottero: Does this include the revised timetable? It does not, that is a third form.

Commissioner Wetherholt then reviewed modified timeline.

Commissioner Garrison added that he made changes to the by-laws through those adopted in February and corrected basic formatting errors within the word document and had the latest document available for other Commissioners to utilize as needed.

Commissioner Crowell moved to adopt election rules updates and Commissioner Colton seconded. All Commissioners voted yes.

7:59 CoGo Bike Share Presentation – Chet Ridenour, CoGo

Lyft committed to spreading 5,000 free bike memberships. Asked if any Clintonville organization or the Commission interested in spreading awareness on the project. The bike memberships are a \$85 value and good for regular bikes as well as discounts on the e-bike. Chet Ridenour was looking to share 50-100 memberships to share.

Will Koehler – Claimed that no stations or bikes located in the northern area of Clintonville.

Chair Vottero: May be good to connect with Clintonville Area Business Association and Nancy Kuehl.

8:08 Consideration of Vote to Reaffirm Support of UIRF Funding for Beechwold Connector

Before starting, cards and pens were distributed to have attendees fill out ensuring comments are recorded.

City of Columbus Planner Luis Teba explained that CAC has been asked to reaffirm support of the shared use path project initially voted on in 2017. He explained UIRF process and its phases.

Phase 1 – wayfinding north to Weisheimer, Phase 2 connects further north and continues signage. Goal is to avoid High Street with an alternate route.

Background from 2009 Neighborhood Plan encouraging North/South connectivity.

Commissioner Weinman: Is the path meant for bikes or accessibility? Intent was for bike but design guidelines made sure accessibility was provided.

Are there investigations on making High Street more compliant? There are ROW issues.

Are there plans for a bridge from Olentangy trail to Kenny park? No

Commissioner White: Broadmeadows Bridge exists, crime on Broadmeadows lower than rest of Clintonville. There is no other connector south of Graceland though.

Jennifer Alexander – President, Old Beechwold Association

- Doesn't understand need for the connector, funds could be better used
- Increasing bike traffic could pose safety concerns
- Aware that decision is not only up to them, but would like changes
 - o 6 foot width
 - o Permeable surface
 - o Privacy and screening important
 - o Would like no signs (designated as a nature preserve)
 - o Would like to work with the community

Rosie Quinzon-Bonello – President, Delawanda Residents Association

- Association in support of the project

Chair Vottero: Reading of the resolution

Commissioner Motil: Gave background on his involvement on the project. Was given some standards day before the CAC meeting.

Commissioner Motil: Read proposed amendments to the resolution

Motion (Motil) /second (Piefer) to amend the resolution

Chair Vottero: Doesn't want to muddy waters by inserting a statement of what HRC allegedly "recommends" and objects to stating fact of authority on CRPD. Followed with mentioning personal experience with permeable materials and how they need additional maintenance.

Commissioner White: Sees City of Columbus giving Old Beechwold a nice Shared Use Path and neighborhood says no. If that's the case, give the money to someone else.

Motion (Motil) /second (Piefer) to amend as a whole; voted 3 yes, 6no. Motion failed.

Motion (Motil) /second (Piefer) to amend page 2 individually

Chair Vottero expressed objection to the proposed 3 bullet point changes from Commissioner Motil.

Commissioner Wetherholt added that resolution should not "direct" City of Columbus to do anything.

Commissioner Garrison summarized that there seemed to be support for alternative materials to be used in the shared use path but not at the sacrifice of accessibility and therefore strike the wording "for aesthetics" from the resolution.

Additionally, Commissioner Garrison offered to include Commissioner Motil's amendment of directing the city to make design changes with "directs" being replaced with "advises."

Chair Vottero moves to accept the resolution changes, Commissioner Boulton seconded.

All Commissioners voted yes but Chair abstained

Chair Vottero asked for consideration of approval of the amended resolution.

Commissioner White moved to approve seconded by Commissioner Boulton.

All Commissioners except 1 voted yes to approve.

9:00pm – Meeting adjourned