



City of Columbus  
Mayor Michael B. Coleman

## University Area Commission

Northwood High Building  
2231 North High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43201  
(614) 441-8174  
[www.universityareacommission.org](http://www.universityareacommission.org)

*Serving the University Community for over 30 Years*

Doreen Uhas-Sauer  
President

Susan Keeny  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

David Hegley  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Sharon Young  
Corr. Secretary

Terra Goodnight  
Recording Secretary

Seth Golding  
Treasurer

Jim Bach

Lucas Dixon

Bill Graver

Ethan Hansen

Joyce Hughes

Colin Odden

John Risteter

Charles Robol

Joaquin Serantes

Gena Shelton

Laura Shinn

Richard Talbott

Tom Wildman

### MINUTES

October 16, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 by President Uhas-Sauer. Roll call was conducted, 11 members present.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- September minutes approved by a voice vote (motion: Dixon, second: Golding).

### TREASURER REPORT

No activity. Current balance is \$724.53. Wrote some year-end checks and will write another \$16 for nameplates. Invoiced from UDO for Gateway advertising.

### DISTRICT CONCERNS

- Golding – Lucky's market will open 10/23. New Clintonville sign is in portal park.
- Dixon – commends SoHud blockwatch for graffiti removal efforts.
- Uhas-Sauer – Howard Skobovius passed away; former UAC member, active in community. Memorial held 10/12. Commissioner Young sent something from UAC
- Wildman – in the past, City promised to beautify alleys; now they say alley easements will be treated like sidewalks, make owners responsible for area outside their property to clean it up. Uhas-Sauer asked Wildman to bring written information about law/policy.

### REPORTS

#### Isom Nivens, City of Columbus:

- Neighborhood signs – Clintonville's are up. City needs more information from UAC on sign locations. Commissioner Uhas-Sauer will follow up.
- New program to offer youth a way to contribute to community - 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting tomorrow at Pride Center 6pm.
- Rat control – Clintonville formally asked City to reinstitute rodent program. Mr. Nivens would like to know if there are rat issues in the University District. It is unlikely program will be restored for just one city area.
- Dr. Good, interim superintendent of Columbus schools at Brookhaven HS tomorrow at 6:30. Public meeting to ask questions.

#### Erin Prosser, Campus Partners

- Weinland Park collaborative final report are available electronically, in print. Reflect 3 years of work – housing, safety, education and other accomplishments/outstanding issues. Will do annual reports to update it.

- Wrapping up NSP – sold third of houses at N 4<sup>th</sup>/E 8<sup>th</sup>. Will start construction of market rate housing next.
- Demolitions have not yet started; maybe in next 30 days.

### **Matt Hansen, University District Organization**

- UDO video is up and running at Gateway Film Center – will have been seen 75 times by end of October.
- Safety meeting coming up on fifth Friday at 2231 N High, Room 100 at 6pm. Will bring blockwatches, other neighborhood groups and police together to coordinate communication, discuss safety concerns.
- September 24 – UCBA member meeting initiated two projects – sidewalk repair between Chittenden and Lane; reviewed inventory and will go out to get pricing to fix missing bricks on streetscape. Also heard about panhandling, loitering laws in Columbus; will develop a strategy to combat those concerns.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **Steve Cordetti, City of Columbus – Neil Avenue Signal Replacement**

- New project on Neil Ave intersections (Buttles, 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, King, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>); no new signals, just improving existing intersections part of citywide effort to refurbish traffic signals
- New signal mast arms, countdown signals, ADA ramps, video detection cameras, pedestrian pedestals
- Cameras will sit on a higher mast arm above signals
- Two trees will be removed & replaced by city forester – one at NE corner of 5<sup>th</sup>/Neil to install mast arm pole and ADA ramp. Another at SE corner of King/Neil is in pedestrian access route.
- Status: in final design (cost: \$300K), budget \$80K right-of-way, construction \$3m, other \$100K
- Signals will change to allow cross-street traffic when actuated by a car, pedestrian
- Commissioner Wildman encouraged placement of poles away from ADA ramps and limit signage on poles
- Neighborhood resident M. Morrison spoke of concerns about removal of existing slate sidewalk; City indicates concrete sidewalks are required for ADA compliance. Uhas-Sauer recommends sale of slate for preservation.
- Neighborhood resident P. Anderson requested consideration of smaller-scale signal arms that are taller than many of the houses; expressed concern about impact of computerized signals on traffic speed, volume.
- Commissioner Hansen says project will make area less pedestrian-friendly, reflects 20<sup>th</sup> century car-centric values.
- Fact sheet at [publicservice.columbus.gov/projects.aspx?id=32466](http://publicservice.columbus.gov/projects.aspx?id=32466)

### **Paul Rakosky, Director, Dept. of Finance & Management, City of Columbus – Voted Bond Package**

- Bond package is a mechanism the City uses to fund general obligation debt, allowing it to save money on interest and spread capital budget further. General obligation debt is issued, secured by *ability to* levy a property tax if necessary to repay funds. City has never imposed a tax; instead setting aside 25% of income taxes to retire debt.
- Asking for \$842 million in total
  - \$52 million for safety & health, will construct new police and fire stations, purchase fire equipment
  - \$124 million to add HVAC, pools, playgrounds and acquire park land.
  - \$220 million for Public Service - \$65 million resurfacing; also curbs, sidewalks around rec centers, schools. Heavy refuse collection and recycling containers. Maintenance of bridges.
  - \$445 million for Public Utilities – upgrades of water and sewer plants, large reservoirs.
- More information at <http://www.mayor.columbus.gov/2013bondissues/>

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Gwen Callender – candidate for Municipal Court Judge. From Cleveland, attended OSU law school and has worked as a labor attorney for the Fraternal Order of Police. Was PTO President in Dublin where a parent was killed in an

accident at Sawmill Rd. – testified at Columbus City Council for installation of a traffic light. Was later elected to Dublin school board – in eighth year, 2<sup>nd</sup> term Vice President & former President.

- Kyle Burns – resident at 109 W Tompkins. Attempting to get residential permit parking on their street (West Tompkins from Neil to Tuttle Park). 15 houses – 3 owner-occupied, 9 long-term owners, 1 management company. Pressures from student parking during the day, bar parking at night and football Saturdays. Have sufficient signatures but used the wrong form. Commissioner Talbott provided guidance on working with the City – ask them to bless the petition wording before you circulate.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Zoning, Susan Keeny**

- No cases for full commission but the committee did good work to move a few cases forward.

### **Code Enforcement, Tom Wildman**

- Discussed outbreak of handbills, scappers and a proposal that scappers get a permit from the city to operate, revisit City's recycling program and look at expanding to include more materials. Commissioner Uhas-Sauer suggested working with Pasquale Grado on handbill legislation.

### **Governance, David Hegley**

- Supercommittee meeting in December for new commissioner training. Suggestion to bring in 311 or Code Enforcement to explain processes. Commissioners asked to submit questions to Commissioner Hegley.

### **Planning, Laura Shinn**

- Committee had debrief on first public meeting. Felt it went well, City staff did a good job of explaining process and answering questions. Took another use of land use map and thought idea of agreeing/disagreeing with categories was tough. Next month will talk about historic materials in the ROW on public projects and to discuss whether we want to take on issue of transportation systems that move through the University District.

### **Community Relations, Charles Robol**

- Commissioner Robol not present. Commissioner Goodnight updated the Commission on the committee's discussion of putting out information about upcoming elections

### **Ad Hoc Committee on Education, Gena Shelton**

- Commissioner Shelton not present. Commissioner Uhas-Sauer said that Columbus Landmarks Commission President wants to talk about vacant and abandoned schools

### **Elections Committee, Sharon Young**

- Wednesday 5-8pm voting shifts are covered. Still need volunteers on Saturday afternoon at Northwood, all day at library. Saturday shifts are 10-1 and 1-4.
- Next meeting Sunday at 5pm, Commissioner Young's office.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Commissioners Uhas-Sauer serving on new board looking at Parks and Recreation facilities citywide and requested that commissioners send any suggestions to her.
- Commissioner Uhas-Sauer will send out a survey for the graduate student looking at neighborhood attachment, also looking for responses to Columbus Landmarks Foundation survey on sites for historic preservation.

Adjourned at 8:31.

## RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

| <b>Commissioner</b> | <b>Attendance</b>  |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Doreen Uhas-Sauer   | Y                  |
| Susan Keeny         | Y                  |
| David Hegley        | Y                  |
| Sharon Young        | Y                  |
| Lucas Dixon         | Y                  |
| Seth Golding        | Y                  |
| Jim Bach            | Y                  |
| Terra Goodnight     | Y                  |
| Bill Graver         | Excused            |
| Joyce Hughes        | Absent             |
| Colin Odden         | Excused            |
| Ethan Hansen        | Y                  |
| John Risteter       | Excused            |
| Charles Robol       | Absent             |
| Joaquin Serantes    | Excused            |
| Gena Shelton        | Excused            |
| Laura Shinn         | Y                  |
| Richard Talbott     | Y                  |
| Tom Wildman         | Arrived Late       |
| <b>Result:</b>      | <b>12 attended</b> |