



City of Columbus
Mayor Michael B. Coleman

University Area Commission

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Serving the University Community for over 30 Years

Doreen Uhas-Sauer
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Gena Shelton

Richard Talbott

Tom Wildman

MINUTES

December 18, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 by President Uhas-Sauer. Roll call was conducted with 10 members (no quorum) present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- November minutes approved (with changes suggested by Commissioner Keeny) by a voice vote (motion: Keeny, second: Young).

TREASURER REPORT

- Current balance is \$1,650.33. Will be purchasing a sound system before the first of the year and will be paying for the UDO sponsorship at the Gateway Film Center. Will also be purchasing a white board.

DISTRICT VACANCIES

- Multiple vacancies exist on the Commission; will be discussed in January

REPORTS

Isom Nivens, City of Columbus:

- If we have close to \$1,250 to turn in, we should turn it in soon. If submitted by year-end, can get second allocation from the City this month.
- Two more Area Commissioner trainings in January: 1/8 on Planning by senior planner Kevin Wheeler and Land Development by John Turner at the Land Bank on 1/22. Both will be at the Near East Pride Center at 1393 E Broad St. from 6-7:30.
- City is asking area commissions to make copies of signed nominating petitions and sign-in sheets available to the public if requested due to an issue with another area commission's election.
- Car2Go program is going really well. \$.38/minute all-inclusive.
- Council agenda featured multiple resolutions for rejection of liquor permit renewals citywide including Charlie Bear's at 1562 N High (the establishment has subsequently moved to Olentangy River Rd).
- Rat control program will receive funding in 2014.
- Commissioner Golding asked about development of very dense housing near Chambers and Kenny, which while it is not in the University District, is still university-adjacent; asked if it is consistent with zoning. Mr. Nivens has also heard concerns.
- Commissioner Wildman complimented Isom on the work they are doing with needy families this holiday season at the Pride Center.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Tim Lai, 2576 Summit St: gave feedback on zoning process. Mr. Lai shared his perception that often the concerns of only the nearest neighbors are weighed in decision-making when – with commercial properties such as restaurants in particular – the impacts of development are felt by the community at large. While many commissioners indicated that they were only interested in the thoughts of commission heard from residents far and wide, not just from near neighbors because redevelopment is important to them. Many of these people have donated money to beautify the community, want to see improvements and support locally-owned businesses. Mr. Lai submitted more extensive written comments.
- Jerry, Indiana/Wyandotte: wished all the Commissioners happy holidays.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning, Susan Keeny

- No quorum in December, but had discussion on one case -- preliminary meeting on expansion of Kappa Kappa Gamma house on 15th Ave. Involves addition of two-level parking structure in rear. Will be a challenging case. Was presented as a response to the university's needs to fill up more beds in response to the sophomore rule, but there is a lot more behind this. Has come before the UARB already and a number of issues have come up. Part of a potentially controversial plan held by some elements of the university to expand the number of beds in fraternities and sororities by 1,000.

Code Enforcement, Tom Wildman

- Commissioner Wildman is encouraged that Short North Posse was busted this month. Interested to see how it will shake out as other organizations step up to fill in the gaps where that one was doing business.
- Seeing a lot more robberies at gunpoint in the core campus area. Wildman recommends more organized blockwatches.
- There is a duo going around ransacking properties; gold-colored late 90s Chevy 4-door sedan with no plates, 2 white males with neck & arm tattoos who approach homes asking for radiator fluid as a excuse to case properties.

Governance, David Hegley

- No meeting in December, asked commissioners to attend training instead.

Planning, Doreen Uhas-Sauer

- Commissioner Uhas-Sauer reminded commissioners that in January we will be signing up for committees, encourages new participants on the planning committee.

Community Relations, Gena Shelton

- No meeting held in December.

Ad Hoc Committee on Education, Gena Shelton

- No meeting held in December. Will schedule one for January.

NEW BUSINESS

- Commissioner Uhas-Sauer still working on business cards.
- Still pursuing the City to get University District signs posted.

- Based on a follow-up email, Commissioner Uhas-Sauer will attempt to get a representative from Crew Stadium to attend a future meeting.
- Committee sign-ups will take place in January. Committees themselves will elect leadership, so Planning will elect a chair now that Commissioner Shinn has resigned.
- Commissioner Young reminded that new commissioners will be seated in January, have to submit City Legistar forms. Commissioner Shelton will be absent in January, can be seated when she returns.
- Commissioner Uhas-Sauer attended the special hearing of City Council about problem landlords. Will pass along copies of presentations that were

DISTRICT CONCERNS

Adjourned at 7:24.

RECORD OF VOTES

Commissioner	Attendance					
Jim Bach	Y					
Lucas Dixon	Arrived at 6:42					
Seth Golding	Y					
Terra Goodnight	Y					
Ethan Hansen	N					
David Hegley	Y					
Joyce Hughes	N					
Susan Keeny	Y					
Colin Odden	Y					
Gena Shelton	Y					
Richard Talbott	N					
Doreen Uhas-Sauer	Y					
Tom Wildman	Y					
Sharon Young	Y					
Result:	10 present at meeting start; 11 total attended.					