



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
President

Susan Keeny
1st Vice President

David Hegley
2nd Vice President

Sharon Young
Corr. Secretary

Terra Goodnight
Recording Secretary

Seth Golding
Treasurer

Jim Bach

Craig Bouska

Lucas Dixon

Ethan Hansen

Joyce Hughes

Jen Mankin

Brandyn McElroy

Colin Odden

Charles Robol

Gena Shelton

Richard Talbott

Tom Wildman

MINUTES

March 19, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Commissioner Dixon.

Roll call was conducted with 11 members present.

TREASURER REPORT

- Current balance is \$1,258.32. Sound system was delivered and a check written for \$24 for three new name plates.

DISTRICT CONCERNS

- Keeny – next Neighborhood Planning KUMC April 9th
- Bach – April Fools Parade in SoHud on April 5 at 2pm. Several people have complained about dogs off leash and attacking people.
- Robol – Neil Ave speed limits have not increased yet. May ask Council about it.
- Golding – Planning a peaceful rally to raise attention about the demolition of Clinton Elementary annex

REPORTS

Officer Smith, Columbus Police

- Does not know when traffic speed changes will occur.
- Spring break was quieter than past years.
- Theft from autos up, burglary arrests of theft from car and bikes.
- New liaison offer for District 3 is Ted Stacy (tstacy@columbuspolice.org, 645-1403)
- Commissioner Hansen reported that the southern blockwatch has disbanded.

Erin Prosser, Campus Partners

- Weinland park – first four houses to start on Grant (Grant Park).
- Columbus Foundation funded a study for housing. Dispatch story this Sunday on the data.

Isom Nivins, City of Columbus

- Sending the commission a memorandum of agreement – has had questions about what could be purchased.
- Some university District streets are scheduled to be resurfaced.
- Regional Network Conference will be held September 11-16 in Indiana. Area Commission funds can be used.
- Bossy Girl Tavern owner wants to reestablish North Business Association.

- New 311 system allows residents to send photos, view a map showing status of street repairs.
- City is talking with ODOT about Neil Avenue speed limit.

Matt Hansen, University District Organization

- Public Service meeting coming up, comments about 300 gallon trash containers – an assessment is being done about their replacement. Call 311 to report with serial #.
- Water line breaks are being worked on.
- John Hughes, code officer, stated that 7 new code officers are being hired for the City.
- UCBA luncheon for the year is coming up thursday . Mr. Hansen distributed information sheets. CoGo will speak and updates will be provided on several OSU programs.
- New speed signs are coming for Neil.
- Safety network of the University District block watch – upgrade is needed for reporting crimes or getting updates online.
- Commissioner Hansen advised that ODOT has approved the new, higher speed limits on Neil, King and 5th Aves.
- Commissioner Golding inquired about the hiring of new Code Enforcement officers. Mr. Hansen advised that they will be on board by July.
- Commissioner Robol advised that, while he is not a lawyer and it did not constitute legal advice, his reading of state law is that municipalities should control the speed limit within their own boundaries and expressed disappointment with the actions of City Council on the matter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Zoning, Commissioner Keeny

- 293-295 East 11th. Approved in 2012.
- 1303 Highland (demolition of existing garage – UAC approved variance for new garage
- 1271 N 5th – wood frame structure in disrepair
- A couple of cases were tabled until April.

Code Enforcement, Commissioner Dixon

- Commissioner Wildman was re-elected chair.
- Set agenda for 2014. Will take meetings into the neighborhoods, meeting with block watches. Will look at fire pit legislation and housing issues in SoHud.

Planning, Commissioner Bach

- Time was extended to submit input on UD plan until the end of March.
- Seeing common concerns expressed as part of planning process (density, people-packing) that it is becoming clear will not be addressed as part of the process, but will instead fall to code enforcement. The committee will try to move forward on the work that was done on researching boarding house legislation.
- Also attempting to tackle parking and traffic issues – meeting with neighborhood groups on mobility concerns such as bike lanes on 4th and Summit.

Community Relations, Commissioner Goodnight

- Committee is working on its agenda for 2014, particularly focusing on updating the website with biographical information for each commissioner and to establish an email announcement list.

- Discussed a super-committee meeting to exchange information about various committee plans for 2014 at the April 2 committee meeting times.

Governance, Commissioner Hegley

- Working on a bylaws update for how zoning matters are handled at Commission meetings.
- Also working to set agenda for 2014, which will include another look at sunshine laws, bylaw requirements for attendance, requirement of committee chairs and definitions of members.
- Will also be distributing electronic handbook to commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Greg Maynard, 2095 Iuka – in response to community concerns, Ohio Dept. of Agriculture has agreed to use a different application for treatment of gypsy moths. Will be applied aerially in the early morning one day in early April. Had a great meeting with the ODA officer in Iuka Park who showed them how to recognize egg casing, which are everywhere. There may be multiple approaches necessary to combat the species such as moth traps in July/August that require involvement of homeowners. Also noted they missed the UIRF deadline because they hadn't heard about it. Requested more information from the commission, perhaps via an email list.
- Deb Supelak, 415 E Maynard Ave – representing SoHud block watch. Reminded commissioners that Rock on the Range returns to Crew Stadium in May and in the past year the stadium officials have failed to come before the UAC. Her group will resume its effort to address them directly. Last year noise at 50db continued until 1am. Another concern is that each year, cell phone service is disrupted as so many people are using the limited capacity.
 - Commissioner Bach advises that the stadium owner should be in attendance to opening night festivities in the neighborhood next Friday night and he will attempt to raise the issue.
 - Commissioner Robol suggested that spectrum is reserved for emergency responder traffic. Commissioner Hansen clarified that is for radio traffic, not personal cell phones.

PRESENTATIONS

Eric Van Dussen, Recycolumbus - Update to Citywide Recycling Program

- Program expanding to townhomes and collection day changes are coming.
- Rumpke has become overwhelmed by program participation. Main change in response is to collect yard waste and recycling on the same day, every other week.
- Expanding the program to townhome and multi-unit apartment complexes that use city provided 90- or 300-gallon trash containers.
- Commissioner Mankin asked what to do if residents are using recycling bins for trash disposal and was told that Rumpke will typically not collect it. Mr. Hansen of UDO advised that bins that are misused are supposed to be removed and perhaps Rumpke could use a reminder. If she provides a bin #, he can send to Public Service.
- Commissioner Robol asked how the city is saving money with the program and was advised that it is by a reduction in tipping fees paid to landfill. Commissioner Kenny added that the program is very costly but was implemented in response to citizen demand.
- Commissioner Odden advised that future containers should include drainage holes.
- Commissioner Golding asked whether he is permitted to keep his can if he doesn't current use it for recycling and was advised that he is.
- Commissioner Goodnight asked about compliance rates and what it would take to get weekly pick-ups and was advised that Rumpke is already overwhelmed (necessitating the switch in pick-up schedule), so that seems unlikely.
- Commissioner Hansen asked if yogurt containers are recyclable and was advised they are not.

- Commissioner Odden recommended that all commissioners take the free tour of the facility.

Block party permit request – Laura Kogan, Dennison Place

- May 24 on Forsythe Ave between 5th and 6th Ave from 3-7 pm. 86% of residents have signed the petition to approve. Plan to offer potluck food, alcohol limited to private property. No portable restroom – most attendees live on the block.

Block party permit request – Jim Maniace, Little Bar

- Requesting to close the alley west of High from Norwich to West Lane for every Ohio State football home game until 8pm unless it's a night game, in which case it would end at midnight.
- This is a 5-year old block party which has never previously required a street closure. The party flows into the lot across the alley from Little Bar. They are asking for a permit as the police desire some measure of control over traffic to protect pedestrians.
- Businesses south of the bar would be unaffected by the closures if they are entering from Lane. They will provide more than 12 porta-potties, trash receptacles and a for-hire trash clean-up crew. 100% of property owners have signed off.
- Commissioner Talbott clarified that nearby businesses would be unaffected.
- Commissioner Young clarified that the Baptist church would be unaffected.
- Commissioner Dixon clarified that alcohol consumption and the party itself would effectively spill out into the alley and the lot on the opposite side of it.
- Commissioner Golding sought further information on the nature of the permit that allows public drinking – it is an F2 liquor license issued by the state, with a charity designated.
- Commissioner Dixon thanked the applicants for being proactive and ensuring safety, but asked that commissioners consider whether it is appropriate to extend Lane-avenue style tailgate parties further north along High Street and into residential neighborhoods.
- Motion failed 5-6 with 3 abstaining. Commissioner Dixon advised the applicants to attend the Zoning committee meeting to discuss the commission's objections. That meeting is held Monday, April 7 at 6:30pm, 248 E. 11th Ave.

Andrew Smith, Central Ohio Workforce Investment Corporation

- Support the needs to businesses to meet workforce needs.
- Two primary functions: help job-seekers find work-readiness skills to find a career, help companies find workers to fill vacancies.
- Have a mobile capability that goes out into the community to assist job-seekers at locations around the community.
- In response to Commissioner Talbott, Smith indicated that if job-seekers come to COWIC first, they can be qualified to receive free professional (medical, commercial trucking) training.
- Mr. Smith offered to get the mobile van out to a location in the University District if commissioners have on to suggest.

Karen Burke, Graham Primary School

- Want to do a block party picnic fundraiser on 4/25 for the Graham primary school.
- Requesting that a portion of 16th Avenue from Indianola north to the school entrance. It will not obstruct traffic on 16th. Food trucks will be there.
- Commissioner Keeny instructed the applicant that she must get resident signatures. Commissioner Dixon advised that we will proceed to a vote contingent on the applicant going to get the signatures – Commissioner Keeny

NEW BUSINESS

- Commissioner Uhas-Sauer (absent) proposed a potluck and joint meeting of all the committees on the regular April meeting night (April 2) in lieu of regular meetings of Governance, Planning and Community Relations. Approved by a voice vote.
- Commissioner Dixon also advised that Commissioner Uhas-Sauer is working to schedule a bus tour of the district for commissioners, paid for with Commission funds. Commissioner McElroy noted that it could serve as a portion of the required commissioner training time.
- Commissioner Robol asked whether the commission could request the assistance of the FCC and Columbus Police in securing assistance. Commissioner Dixon encouraged Robol to do some research and draft such a letter.
- Commissioner Robol asked that the UAC draft a letter to the City Attorney in protest of their rejection of the city's removal of a ballot measure by Citizens for Responsive Government. Commissioner Dixon encouraged Robol to draft a letter or bring it to a committee. Commissioner McElroy noted that letters should be drafted by the commission when we are speaking on behalf of the community.
- A conversation ensued among commissioners about whether commission business can be carried out via email exchange without violation of sunshine laws. Commissioner Hegley advised that we cannot carry out the business of the commission in private such as discussion of a future motion. Sending out informational material is fine.
- Commissioners then heard follow-up explanation from Commissioner Bouska about the availability of 911 services on cellular networks even when the network is otherwise

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Commissioner Dixon made a motion to approve the February minutes. Talbott seconded. Minutes were approved by a unanimous show of hands.

RECORD OF VOTES

Commissioner	Attendance	Dennison Place Block Party	Little Bar Block Party	Graham School Block Party
James Bach	Y	Y	N	Y
Craig Bouska	Y	Y	Y	Y
Lucas Dixon	Y	Y	N	Y
Seth Golding	Y	Y	N	Y
Terra Goodnight	Arrived at 7:15	Y	Y	Y
Ethan Hansen	Arrived at 6:52	Y	N	Y
David Hegley	Y	Y	N	Y
Joyce Hughes	Excused	--	--	
Susan Keeny	Y	Y	Abstain	Y
Jennifer Mankin	Y	Y	N	Y
Brandon McElroy	Y	Y	Y	Y
Colin Odden	Y	Y	Abstain	Y
Charles Robol	Y	Y	Y	Y
Gena Shelton	Excused	--	--	

Richard Talbott	Arrived at 6:47	Y	Y	Y
Doreen Uhas-Sauer	Excused	--	--	
Tom Wildman	Excused	--	--	
Sharon Young	Y	Y	Abstain	Y
		14-0	5-6, 3 abstain	14-0