



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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Ethan Hansen

Joyce Hughes

Jen Mankin

Brandyn McElroy

Colin Odden

Charles Robol

Gena Shelton

Richard Talbott

Tom Wildman

MINUTES

April 16, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 by Commissioner Uhas-Sauer.

Roll call was conducted with 16 members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Minutes from the March meeting were not approved – will be a vote at the May meeting.

TREASURER REPORT

- No new activity. Balance is the same as last month.

COMMISSIONER CONCERNS

- Dixon – graffiti really bad E of 4th.
- Golding – CAC sending letter on Clinton Elementary Annex; Gena has a petition. Also reports the Skate Park @ OSU being closed according to the Dispatch
- Uhas-Sauer – Clinton Annex will be subject of CPS meeting next Tuesday.
- Odden – CGS will hav a housing committee to address living in the area
- Shelton – Made inquiry into last year's train crash; NTSB is lead agency.

REPORTS

Officer Smith, Columbus Police

- 3rd Precinct now has a liaison officer, but he is attending training.
- Robberies in area with home invasions – may be drug-related.
- Trying to keep Student Life safety program together.
- Blockwatch coordinators meeting coming in May at Police Academy

Isom Nivens, City of Columbus

- Attended SoHud Blockwatch meeting last week about concerns over recent rape
- Steret resurfacing information sent out for streets north of Lane
- Mumps outbreak as of April 10th was 120 cases in OSU area
- Free eWaste drive in Harrison West

Matt Hansen, University District Organization

- Received a neighborhood partnership grant to do more University District promotions at the Gateway Theatre.

- Safety meeting coming up
- Earth day – many clean up events on April 20

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Uhas-Sauer gave the floor to State Representative Stinziano who gave updates on budgets, pending legislation on Entertainment Districts.

Zoning, Commissioner Keeny

- 1379 N High St. Lisa Minklej, homeowner. Asking for a variance for the apartment building with first floor residential to become a permitted use in a commercial zone (now a non-conforming use). The zoning committee recommended yes. Approved 17-0.
- 1424 E Hudson St. Jack Reynolds, Attorney, Smith & Hale – rezoning application, to add to the list of permitted uses for this mixed use building - not a variance. Zoning committee recommended. Approved 17-0.
- 160 King Ave. Mike Shannon, Attorney – Council Variance as requested by UAC. Zoning committee unanimously recommended disapproval of the request.
 - Speakers Against
 - Wendy Vincent, 1406 Hunter – Lives directly adjacent to the church since 2007. Spoke about the owner occupied homes all bordering the property, the degradation of the area, presentation of area and attracting new neighbors.
 - Terrance Odlin, 1387 Forsythe – same sentiments with several comments about parking problems and late-night noise; concerned that new development is in harmony with the area.
 - Chris Pflum, 120 King Ave – believes the development is not appropriate for the area. It includes 2 6-bedroom units, 23 4-bedroom units. Building will have a FAR of 0.9 - argued that the R4 zoning was put in place to avoid this type of growth. 104 parking spots for 150 bedrooms, setback reductions and traffic problems at Hunter Ave intersection.
 - Speakers For – none
 - Mike Shannon, rebuttal – City staff has reviewed and supports the project. Traffic passed line of sight and other City staff has passed and supported. Copies of staff report provided to UAC members.
 - Commissioner statements
 - Bach – wrong development, especially as we go through the planning process
 - Hansen – against it as a resident of King Ave. Objects to the design – it is not appropriate. Would like to see FAR of 0.6 or lower, grad or professional student residents.
 - Robol – thinks owners should do what they like.
 - Uhas-Sauer – UARB has seen this as a work in progress, changes made following suggestions from UARB, who supported the variance, but did so ahead of UAC zoning. Was not supported unanimously.
 - Hughes – feels the UAC should listen to neighbors and concerned the design does not fit in.
 - Golding – many aspects of the design did attempt to fit in with the neighborhood, but at the same time, people in the neighborhood are concerned and rightly so and we should support them.
 - Dixon – feels UAC is being asked to make changes to established rules; this is a unique situation in the U-District. Less density is preferable.
 - Wildman – project is way too big, more parking is needed and apartments cater to undergrads. Not a smart design, facades don't compliment the neighborhood, too little greenspace, line of sight issues are still there.

- Odden – concerned that the applicant had not contacted the office of Student life or any OSU departments given their many references to attracting graduate students
- Keeny – King Avenue is a good street with some faults, but some nice examples of early 20th century architecture. Off King it gets far more dense to the north. OSU Medical Center is up against the neighborhood. Need balance between dense student housing & single family owned/occupied. Proposed higher density development could tip the balance.
- Commission voted 16-1 against approval of the variance.

Other

- Commissioner Uhas-Sauer reminded commissioners that zoning, planning, community relations and code enforcement committees had been replaced with a supercommittee in April. She asked that everyone look over the notes for the meetings, make comments and the final version will be posted online.
- Commissioner Uhas-Sauer noted that Crew Stadium officials had been invited to attend the meeting but were not present. After discussion about noise concerns, profanity and the absence of stadium officials, Commissioner Hughes made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Robol, for the UAC President to create a letter. Passed 17-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Deb Supelak, 415 E Maynard Ave – representing SoHud block watch. Passed out data on sound levels during Rock on the Range in 2013. Noise went to 1:09 AM, even when it was supposed to end by 11 pm. Safety concerns with cell networks unavailable and parking concerns as alleys and driveways were blocked by concert attendees. SoHud's recent April Fools Day parade was a fun event. Concerned that information about a rape & abduction near Hudson & Summit took five days to surface, concerned police do not want the public to know.
- Mike McLaughlin, President CUGR (includes Friends of the Ravines and Friends of Glen Echo Park) – discussed walking path project to the bike path. Would require some land acquisition along the path – a study is needed and the coalition will apply for a grant from the Columbus Foundation. Commissioner Uhas-Sauer noted the project was ambitious and that Commissioner Bach had agreed to help and serve as the UAC liaison for keeping up with the project. Commissioners Golding and Wildman volunteered to help as well.

PRESENTATIONS

Jamal Donaldson, South Campus Block Party Permit

- May 8, 2-10 pm on 15th Ave from N 4th to Big Four Alley. Will be a festival to highlight student arts and music talents after finals. 40 volunteers will help set up and clean up. Commissioner Robol motioned to approved, which was seconded by Commissioner McElroy. Passed 17-0.

Permit Parking for West Tompkins

- Louis Hendricks, resident – the group came last fall to start the process of getting permit-only parking on their area of Tompkins in response to multiple issues including cars left on the street for weeks at a time as well as 17 new housing units. 65% of residents signed on to do a study. The City has been helpful, and they will return on May 13th to move forward. Commissioner Robol made a motion to support the permit from the UAC, seconded by Commissioner Wildman. Discussion ensued about parking issues, with Robol opposing permit parking. Commissioner Talbott called the question and the motion passed 14-2 with 1 abstention. The letter will go to Keith Keeran.

Commissioner Talbott made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Hughes and passed on a voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

RECORD OF VOTES

Commissioner	Attendance	1379 N High	14-24 E Hudson	160 King	Crew Issue Letter	Block Party	Parking Permit
James Bach	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Craig Bouska	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N
Lucas Dixon	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Seth Golding	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Terra Goodnight	Excused	--	--	--	--	--	--
Ethan Hansen	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
David Hegley	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Joyce Hughes	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Susan Keeny	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Jennifer Mankin	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Brandon McElroy	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Colin Odden	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Abstained
Charles Robol	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Gena Shelton	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Richard Talbott	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Doreen Uhas-Sauer	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Tom Wildman	Arrived 7:05	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
Sharon Young	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y
		17-0	17-0	1-16	17-0	17-0	14-2, 1 abstain