

Southwest Area Commission
Minutes
Wednesday, February 16, 2005
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
New Horizons UMC, 1665 Harrisburg Pike

Called to order: The chairperson, Aurelie Petrarca, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Attendance: Commissioners: Roy Bertossi, Myrna Hammonds, Elizabeth Krick, Ed McCleaf, Clyde Miller, Aurelie Petrarca. At Large Commissioners: Ralph Horn, Juanita Kaufman. Liaison - Bonita Lee. Not present: Bill Collignon, Eve Crego (extended leave), Kathy Wilkins

Presentation: Sam Shuler and Anthony Penn from the Columbus Housing Network (CHN) gave a presentation on CHN's project that will be developed at 1662 Harrisburg Pike. A folder of information was provided to each commission member. Mr. Penn offered to provide periodic updates to the commission. Mr. Penn also requested that someone from the area sit on the advisory board.

Routine Commission Business:

Agenda: Roy Bertossi made the motion to approve the agenda and Juanita Kaufman seconded..

Minutes: The minutes were revised to add a missing change to the Article VIII Section 4 add 'area' between 'commission' and 'may'. Clyde Miller made the motion to approve the minutes and Elizabeth Krick seconded.

Correspondence: Discussed receiving invitations to the State of the City address. Received notice from the Northwest Civic Association about nominating someone for its annual award.

Roy Bertossi reported that unused funds from 2004 had been returned to the city. It was assumed that everything was in order since the city hadn't indicated there were any questions. Roy Bertossi also reported that he deposited \$20.00 of his own money into the commission's checking account to prevent the account from having a zero balance for an extended period of time which could result in the account being closed. The \$20.00 would be returned once the 2005 agreement is completed and funds received from the city.

Unfinished Business:

Meeting location: Juanita Kaufman reported that the issues with getting access to the church have been resolved. For the time being, the monthly commission meeting will continue to be held at New Horizon UMC since the Southwestern City School district levy failed.

Bylaw changes #1: Elizabeth Krick made the motion and Ralph Horn seconded to approve the change to bylaw Article VI Section 1. The vote was unanimous. Article VI Section 1 will now

read as “Regular meetings of the Commission shall be held each month in the third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise directed by majority vote of the Commission in sufficient time to notify constituents and the city administration of such change. Each meeting shall be held in the Commission Area *unless suitable facilities are not available in which they may seek suitable facilities contiguous to the commission area* in an appropriate, large room convenient for members and the public chosen by the Commission as its regular meeting place, unless otherwise specified at least fifteen (15) days prior to the meeting. Notice of the meeting with an agenda shall be published in the City Bulletin prior to changing meeting time or location.”

Bylaw change #2: Ralph Horn made the motion and Clyde Miller seconded to approve the change to bylaw Article VIII Section 4. The vote was unanimous. Article VIII Section 4 will now read as “Elections shall be by secret ballot and determined by plurality of vote if three (3) or more candidates vie for a single position, otherwise a majority of votes cast shall elect. Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older who is *a resident of the Commission area* may be an elector. Electors need not be registered with the Franklin County Board of Elections. The initial election shall be conducted by a Task Force. Thereafter each election shall be conducted by the Elections Board on the *observance of ‘National Night Out’ which is held on the 1st Tuesday in August* [delete - third Saturday in October]. Members shall take office as the next annual meeting.”

Bylaw change #3: Roy Bertossi made the motion and Elizabeth Krick seconded to approve the change to bylaw Article VIII Section 1. The vote was unanimous. Article VIII Section 1 will now read as “The Elections Board shall consist of *a minimum of three (3)* [delete - five (5)] Commission Area residents appointed by the Chairperson with the approval of the Commission at the last regular meeting in *April* [delete - June} of each year. None of the members of the Board shall be connected in any way with a candidate for the Commission.”

New Business:

Bylaw change: Elizabeth Krick made the motion and Juanita Kaufman seconded changing Article VIII Section 5 to read as “The Election Board shall adopt Election Rules for governing the elections by majority vote of its members provided such rules shall [delete - not] conform with these Bylaws and Selection Procedure. Such rules shall not be changed during the ninety (90) days before an election nor thirty (30) days after an election. The adoption of amendment of such Rules shall be presented to the Commission at the beginning of a regular meeting. Should the Commission not disapprove of them prior to adjournment, such Rules shall take effect. The Commission may amend the Election Rules without action by the Elections Board in the same manner as an amendment of these Bylaws. “

Shelly Asphalt: Motion to remove this topic from the table was made by Elizabeth Krick and seconded by Clyde Miller. Roy Bertossi and Juanita Kaufman reported attending the Franklin Township meeting on February 9th, as private citizens, to make sure that the township was aware of a fact that a new asphalt plant is planned for 711 Frank Road. Elizabeth Krick is to contact Teresa Mills, a local environmentalist, about attending the March meeting to provide the commission additional information about asphalt plants. A question that the commission wants an answer to is how do we get the Ohio EPA to investigate problems outside of normal business

hours.

Community Involvement: Time was spent discussing how to make the community aware that we exist since coverage in the media has been very limited. Mailing notices, having an insert put in the weekly bag of ads, having school kids distributed the notices were just several of the ideas discussed.

Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 16, 2005.

Adjournment: As the business before the Commission was concluded, Clyde Miller made the motion to adjourn. Myrna Hammonds seconded the motion. The Commission accepted and the meeting was duly adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Roy Bertossi
Temporary Secretary