

Southwest Area Commission  
Minutes  
Wednesday, May 21, 2008  
New Horizons United Methodist Church, 1665 Harrisburg Pike

Call to Order: Chairperson, Ralph Horn, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present: R.Bertossi, B. Collignon, R.Horn, J. Kaufman, E.Kirk, E. McCleaf, C.Miller, J.Miller, R.Miller, E.Walters. M. Hammonds arrived after roll call. Absent: K. Williamson-Thacker. Also present: B. Lee, Neighborhood Services, J. Lee, Code Enforcement, B. Smith, Police Liaison.

Zoning:

1. Jones Fuel Co. Represented by attorneys R. Rishel and D. Rinehart of Rinehart and Rishel, Ltd. Requested support for annexation of property located in Jackson Township into the City of Columbus. The 87 acres would be donated to the City of Columbus once the sand and gravel quarry was completed (approximately 10 years). An option for the land would then be recreational use. Citizen A. Borderline spoke of his support.

Opposition who spoke: M. Lilly (Jackson Township Administrator); Attorney J. Chester (Manheim Auto Auction); C. Boso (Development Director, Grove City); and J. Hurlihy (moving and storage).

2. A zoning request for property at 2005 Dyer Road, owned by James and Janice Conway was on the Agenda. Representation was not present. Discussion delayed until information about the zoning request is received.

3. S. Randall of S. Randall Plumbing requested demolition of building at 859 Stimmel. The building will be replaced by a steel building. Vote to approve demolition made by R. Bertossi. Seconded by C. Miller. Vote: unanimous approval.

Planning:

A. Joly, Senior Planner summarized April 29 public workshop. Issues identified; Need for :community center, streetlights, more sidewalks, clean up area/properties, reduce crime/improve public services, increase bus service, limit pollution from industrial areas, a more diverse mix of businesses.

Development opportunities, transportation priorities and favorite/least favorite places were compiled on one summary map.

J. Miller reported on a meeting with COTA that was also attended by E. McCleaf, E.Walters and R. Horn. Bus Route #17 will be reinstated with some possible changes from the former route. In the future, additional routes may be studied for our area. Due to low ridership, it is unlikely that a transit center would be built in our area.

The date of the next area plan public workshop is June 24. Location needs to be confirmed at this time.

Routine Business:

1. Agenda. Addition of Randall Plumbing demolition request. A mistake stated the Minutes of March to be reviewed. The correct statement would be the April Minutes
2. Review of April Minutes. Motion to approve made by E.Walters. Seconded by E. Kirk.

New Business:

1. R. Miller distributed copies of suggested changes to the bylaws. Commissioners urged to read the material. Discussion delayed until June due to time constraints.
  2. C. Miller reported the Commission received \$1,000 allotment. \$240 was sent to New Horizons United Methodist Church for rent through November. He requested motion for approval for: check to R.Miller for up to \$50. for printing and \$15 for transportation and \$20 for C. Miller to reimburse his personal money he kept in bank to keep account open. R. Bertossi made motion to pay the amounts as requested. J.Kaufman seconded. Vote: unanimous approval.
  3. R. Miller stated, per our bylaws, a vote is required to determine if M.Hammonds can continue to maintain her position due to extenuating circumstances since she missed 4 meetings. C. Miller motioned that 2 meeting be excused due to extenuating circumstances. Motion seconded by R. Bertossi. Vote: unanimous approval.
  4. Elections report not made since K. Williamson-Thacker was absent.
  5. E.Crego sent resignation letter on 5/18. Resignation due to health problems. R.Bertossi motioned to accept resignation. C.Miller seconded. Vote: unanimous approval.
  6. R. Bertossi had been acting Vice Chair when Eve was on LOA. Motion made by R. Horn for R.Bertossi to hold the Vice Chair position. Seconded by C. Miller. Vote: unanimous approval.
  7. Roof to Road. C. Miller reported that he had no responses to his request that Commissioners interested in a public meeting regarding this company's permit, contact him. He then informed the EPA that the Commissioners did not request a public meeting.
- D.Parsons, private citizen expressed his disapproval of the Commission not requesting a public meeting.

9:35 Motion to adjourn made by R. Bertossi. Seconded by R. Horn

Next meeting: June 18

Submitted by: R. Miller