

Southwest Area Commission
Minutes
Wednesday, September 17, 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.Horn, J.Kaufman, E.Kirk, E.McCleaf, C.Miller, J.Miller, R.Miller,E.Walters. Newly elected: S. Coe. Absent: R.Bertossi, B. Collignon. K.Williamson-Thacker. Also present: J.Lee, Code Enforcement; K.Roan, Neighborhood Services. R.Pfeiffer and J.Spurlock from City Attorney's Office arrived during the meeting. Quorum Present.

Presentation: J. Kennedy from Arshot Investment Corporation discussed development of the Cooper Stadium site. The concept for the area is not yet formulated. It may include a hotel and/or restaurant along with the racetrack. Concern about noise due to the motor sports racetrack have been expressed. A noise study will be completed within several weeks. A zoning application with the City of Columbus will need to be made before any work on the site could be started.

J. Schimmer, Franklin County Development Department stated that the noise study will be the starting point for development at this site. Three suggested noise consultants to undertake a noise study will be determined by a panel that will be comprised of representation from:1. The City of Columbus, selected by Director Safford 2. Columbus City Council, selected by President Mentel. 3. Franklin County Economic Development and Planning Dept 4. SWAC 5. Franklinton Board of Trade 6. Developer. The developer will determine the consultant to use.

Zoning: Attorney R. Feisler requested rezoning for 2349-51 Harrisburg Pike. It is currently zoned residential and the owners (J and N Weethee) would like the property brought into compliance by zoning it M. Action delay until further information is received by the Commission.

Presentation: L.Ludlum, Supervisor of Appraisal, Franklin County Auditor's Office explained home appraisal. Informal review sessions with the Auditor's Office can be scheduled.

Presentation: T.Mills, environmentalist, discussed a proposal by BioEnergy to use the site of the former trash power burning plant on Jackson Pike for an anerobic digester. Potential problems with this proposal were discussed. She suggested that the Commission send a letter to the EPA requesting that the permit be a draft for public comment, not a draft final.

Planning: Ben Weiner, County Planning Department stated the next public meeting for the area plan will be September 30, 6:30 at Franklin Woods Intermediate School. Progress with the plan was discussed. Commissioners will distribute information fliers in the community for the meeting.

Franklin Township: T.Guyton discussed issues within Franklin township, including storm damage clean up. The Columbus Messenger will leave copies of the newspaper at the Township office to determine if the community will utilize the paper.

Election

1. Nomination made by J. Miller for E. Walters to fill a vacancy in a term that ends in 2009. E.Kirk seconded. Vote: unanimous approval.

2. Nomination of at-large Commissioners:

A. Motion made by J. Miller to nominate K.Hatfield, J.Waltke. R.Horn. J. Kaufman to the at-large seats. Seconded by C.Miller. Vote: unanimous approval.

3. Election of Officers:

A. Motion made by E.Kirk to appoint R.Horn as Chairperson. Seconded by E.Walters. Vote: unanimous approval.

B. Motion made by C. Miller to appoint E. Kirk as ViceChairperson. Seconded by J. Kaufman. Vote: unanimous approval.

C. Motion made by C. Miller to appoint R. Bertossi as Fiscal Officer. Seconded by J. Miller. Vote: unanimous approval.

D. Motion made by C.Miller to appoint S.Coe as Secretary. Seconded by E.Walters. Vote: unanimous approval.

Routine Business:

1. Review of Agenda. Presentations added: J.Kennedy, J.Schimmer, and T.Guyton.

2. Review of Minutes. Minutes approved.

Old Business:

1. Additional bylaw changes reviewed. All bylaw changes have been made in writing and have been discussed. Vote on changes will be taken next meeting.

2. Time limit suggestions made: Presentations from guests should be generally limited to 10 minutes and an additional 10 minutes for discussion, questions and answers.

Community reports limited to 5 minutes. Time limits can be adjusted. Before each meeting the time limits will be announced.

New Business:

1. C..Miller, Fiscal Officer, stated a check for \$30.99 was made to K. Williamson-Thacker for printing. This was approved last month. Per his request a motion was made by R.Horn to spend up to \$80. for P.O.Box rental and \$20 for printing. Seconded by J. Miller. Vote: unanimous approval.
2. Additional discussion about the noise consultants for the site at Cooper Stadium. S.Coe volunteered to represent SWAC.
3. Motion made by R.Horn for the Commission to write a letter to EPA to request a permit issued as draft for public comment for the anaerobic digester proposed on Jackson Pike. C.Miller seconded. Vote: unanimous approval.

9:00p.m. motion to adjourn made by E.Walters. Seconded by C.Miller.
Motion tabled.

Presentation: R. Tobin and M.Golden from ROAR. (Redevelop Our Area Responsibly) discussed the proposed motorcar racetrack at Cooper Stadium. ROAR will also conduct a noise study.

Motion to adjourn voted with unanimous approval.

Submitted by: R. Miller