

Southwest Area Commission  
PO Box 1364  
Grove City, Ohio 43123  
614.562.4728

Meeting Place: New Horizons United Methodist Church  
1665 Harrisburg Pike, Columbus, Ohio 43223  
www.columbuswac.org

Minutes  
Wednesday November 19, 2008

**Location:** New Horizon United Methodist Church  
1665 Harrisburg Pike  
Columbus, Ohio 43223

**Call To Order:** Chairperson, Ralph Horn, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call:** **Present;** Ralph Horn, Rita Miller, Jason Waltke, Ed Walters, Roy Bertossi, Ed McCleaf, Juanita Kaufman, Jennifer Miller, Kathy Hatfield, Everett Kirk & Clyde Miller. **Also Present;** Jim Lee, Code Enforcement, Tim Guyton, Franklin Township Trustee. **Quorum Present.**

**Absent;** Stefanie Coe & Kathleen Williamson-Thacker

**Zoning:** Attorney Ron Feister did not appear to discuss the rezoning request relative to the property at 2349-2351 Harrisburg Pike.

**Time Guidelines:** Time guidelines were reviewed with the four guests in attendance.

**Presentation:** Paul Rakosky, Deputy Director, City of Columbus, Department of Finance and Management addressed the city budget. The budget was submitted on November 15, 2008. The first hearing for City Council was on the 18<sup>th</sup> of November and there will be two more public hearings in December. The 2008 budget was 655 million and the 2009 budget is 643 million. Incomes are flat; no growth in taxes has impacted the budget. No layoffs are planned for police, fire and code enforcement. There may be cuts to social services and recreations centers may be closed. There may also be changes to yard waste collection as well as bulk collection. Neighborhood Pride Centers and Health Centers are expected to remain open. He also indicated that safety is the first priority and then neighborhoods. R. Horn expressed concerns about a liaison/link to the Department of Development.

**Presentation:** Adrienne Joly, Columbus City Planning Department, was not present at this meeting to discuss the Southwest Area Plan but it was reported that the 4<sup>th</sup> public meeting was held the night before. The city and county planning will be working to finalize the area plan and the first step will be to discuss the final plan at the December meeting. C. Miller expressed

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an interest in getting the final plan before the December meeting. He agreed to reach out to Adrienne and get a copy of the final plan for the commissioners to review.

**Public Announcement:** Franklin Township Trustee (Tim), indicated that the township is short one officer and they will be training a new officer and the process could take six months. He indicated that the fire levy passed. Finally, he indicated that the township fiscal officer resigned for personal reasons and they are looking for a replacement. He also indicated that there is a reduction in road salt and the costs have increased.

**Public Announcement:** R. Horn indicated the on 11/21/2008 there will be an informal discussion regarding the city's plan to close community centers. This meeting will take place at the church on Parsons/Whittier at 6:30pm.

**Routine Business:** The commission reviewed the agenda and accepted it.

**Routine Business:** The minutes from the October 15, 2008 meeting were reviewed and no changes were noted.

**Old Business:** Commissioners and community members who attended the presentation from SWACO and Kurtz Brothers indicated that the facility would be fully enclosed. Concerns were expressed about the truck traffic, 15 trucks a day, as well as the odor from the trucks and the facility. They also discussed the Grossman fire and it was indicated that the building may be a total loss and they don't expect Grossman to return.

**Old Business:** It was reported that the request for proposals from acoustical engineers were being sent out at the committee expected to have submissions to review by December. Once the proposals are reviewed the committee will make recommendations to the developer for his final approval.

**New Business:** The request for annexation on Jackson Pike will have to be resubmitted because the application expired on 10/31/2008.

**New Business:** E. Walters discussed the signs for commission meetings and E. Kirk indicated that he might have a contact that could make them. E. Kirk will work with K. Williamson-Thacker. J. Kaufman indicated that she was concerned that the signs may be vandalized.

**New Business:** E. Kirk expressed his appreciation to the commission for understanding his absence.

**New Business:** R. Bertossi indicated that he adjusted the budget to pay for two years of website fees. A motion was made by C. Miller and seconded by E. Walters to pay the

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PO Box fees through November 2009 and the next six months of rent to the church. Unanimous Approval.

Another motion was made by C. Miller and seconded by E. Walters to allocate up to \$300 to advertising. Unanimous Approval.

**New Business:** R. Horn indicated that he would like to create advisory groups. Below are the groups and the commission members who will be working with those groups;

Health – E. Kirk

Environmental – R. Miller

Transportation – J. Miller

Zoning – J. Waltke & E. Walters

Public Safety – R. Horn & E. McCleaf

Capital Improvement/Budget – C. Miller & K. Hatfield

J. Miller moved to adjourn the meeting and R. Miller seconded the motion. Result: Unanimous Approval.

Meeting Adjourned 9:00pm.

Submitted by S. Coe