

Southwest Area Commission
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Grove City, Ohio 43123
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Meeting Place: New Horizons United Methodist Church
1665 Harrisburg Pike, Columbus, Ohio 43223
www.columbusswac.org

Minutes
Wednesday September 16, 2009

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

Call To Order: Chairperson, Jason Waltke, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present; Ralph Horn, Rita Miller, Jason Waltke, Juanita Kaufman, Clyde Miller, Jennifer Miller, Kathy Hatfield (late), Ed Walters, Kathleen Williamson-Thacker & Stefanie Coe Also Present: Paul Johnson, Franklin Township Trustee. Quorum Present.

Absent: None

Time Guidelines: Time guidelines were reviewed and J. Waltke indicated that all speakers should remember to respect all of those present.

Public Announcement: Rosemary Gliem, Columbus Local Census Office, presented information on the upcoming 2010 census. She indicated that their goal is to get the word out on the census and how important it is for everyone to be counted. She indicated that the census is scheduled for April 1, 2010. They are also planning to hire more people in a number of positions. It is anticipated that Ohio will lose one US House of Representative seat and it is possible that Ohio may lose more. She also indicated that they protect personal information. Court cases have upheld that protection on at least two occasions. She also indicated that they would like us to partner with them to help communicate and participate in this process. R. Miller asked how they determine "head of household" and Ms. Gliem indicated that any adult who completes the form is the head of household. R. Horn asked how to locate information on the jobs and Ms. Gliem indicated that information is available on their website.

Zoning: Stanley Young, presented information on Speedway's request for a Graphics variance. Speedway has been forced to relocate their sign because the ODOT project on Harrisburg Pike has taken land that previously belonged to Speedway. The standard set back is 15mfeet. The issue this creates for Speedway is that the sign would be in the traffic pattern and it would not be seen by traffic going north and south on Harrisburg Pike. J. Miller asked if the sign would impact the current construction and Mr. Young indicated that the sign would not. C. Miller asked how much land was taken and Mr. Young indicated about 10 feet. J. Miller asked when the variance was going to be heard and he indicated that it would be heard in November. S. Coe asked if the same sign was being put back up. Mr. Young indicated that the same sign would be re-erected and it would still be on the corner of the property. J. Waltke indicated that we would vote on the variance at the next meeting in October.

Zoning: J. Waltke indicated that Tom Tepe, Attorney for XTRA Truck Leasing and John Miller, Vice President Real Estate for XTRA Truck Leasing returned to answer any questions regarding their request for a variance at 1625 Frank Road. Mr. Tepe indicated that they are willing to provide the right of way requested by the city, the landscaping

and applying brine to keep the dust down. R. Horn asked them to repeat the request from the City for a right of way. J. Miller asked how long it would be for the landscaping to be planted and the brine to be applied. Mr. Tepe indicated that they would complete these items as soon as possible. R. Horn indicated that with the new area plan in place we might be setting a precedent with our support or opposition to this request. K. Hatfield asked whether gravel was permitted at the time it was laid down. E. Walters indicated that gravel was approved at the time. D. Parsons expressed his concern about the quality of life in the area.

S. Coe moved to support the variance requested by XTRA Truck Lease with the conditions that they use brine on the gravel yearly in the spring, construct the landscape barrier and provide the city with the requested right of way because this business has been a good neighbor and has maintained their property in good condition and the gravel has been maintained to prevent excessive dust. The Area Commission is committed to the execution of the Area Plan but believes this variance is consistent with our desire for well-maintained properties, good neighbors and quality jobs. J. Miller seconded the motion and amendment. Voice Vote Taken: R. Miller, J. Waltke, J. Kaufman, C. Miller, J. Miller, K. Hatfield, E. Walters & S. Coe voted in favor, K. Williamson-Thacker & R. Horn abstained. Result: Motion Approved.

Public Announcements: P. Johnson congratulated all the new officers. Franklin Township will be providing the Census staff with locations where homeless people are camping. The township is putting a newsletter together and the Commission is free to submit information to include in the newsletter. The road department has been working hard to cut grass and paint curbs. Mr. Johnson indicated that he attended a meeting on the potential 3C passenger train. He indicated that 40 states are competing for 8 billion dollars. R. Horn reminded Mr. Johnson to discuss recent flooding on Hopkins Road. Mr. Johnson indicated that the Township's road supervisor discovered that ODOT has put in a 30 inch line that taps into the townships 10 inch line. This caused greater flooding issues during the last major rainstorm. The township is working with ODOT to get this problem corrected.

Routine Business: The commission reviewed the agenda and it was approved.

Routine Business: The minutes from the August meeting were reviewed and approved.

Unfinished Business: Neighborhood clean up is this Saturday (September 19th) at 9am. Anyone who can participate should meet at the church. Once everyone is present J. Miller will coordinate which subdivision or area is targeted.

Unfinished Business: R. Horn indicated that he is unhappy that there has been media coverage of the potential Cooper Stadium development and our Commission has not been included. After discussion of why the media has focused on other community groups the Commission agreed that S. Coe would contact Joe Sugar, the attorney for the developer, and ask him for an update and to attend a community open house after the first of the year to discuss the project. D. Hooie clarified that the Hilltop and Franklinton have formally opposed the potential development of the Cooper Stadium site while the SWAC has not taken a position yet.

Reports – K. Hatfield mailed checks for reimbursements previously approved. C. Miller indicated that the post office box payment is due in October. J. Miller moved to allocate up to \$80 to pay for post office box. K. Hatfield seconded the motion. Result: Unanimous approval

R. Miller indicated that there is a sign in book for any community member who would like to be on an email list.

C. Miller indicated that he contacted Adam Leddy in Pricilla Tyson's office. They suggested that we be in contact with the department of development to express our desire for a recreation center in the area.

J. Kaufman indicated that the weeds around Interstate 71 have been cut. She is also asking Commissioner's and community members for input on ideas to improve National Night Out 2010.

J. Miller moved to adjourn the meeting and E. Walters seconded the motion.

Result: Unanimous Approval.

Meeting Adjourned 8:45pm.

Submitted by S. Coe