

Southwest Area Commission
1397 Gorham Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43223
641.519.0436

Meeting Location: New Horizons United Methodist Church
1665 Harrisburg Pike, Columbus, Ohio 43223
www.columbuswac.org
Minutes for September 21, 2011

7:00 pm. Meeting called to order by chairperson, Stefanie Coe.
Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Present: Ed Walters, Juanita Kaufman, Ralph Horn, Rita Miller, Stefanie Coe, Carolyn Nobile, Kathy Hatfield, Gail Rowat. Quorum present. Also present: Paul Johnson, Franklin Township Trustee, David Hooie, Neighborhood Services and Sargent Rector, Columbus Police.

Time Guidelines were reviewed

Introductions: Commissioners and residents introduced themselves.

Franklin township: Paul Johnson stated the State Treasure has new programs. 1. Save Now is a program that encourages savings. If qualified, savings up to \$5,000 will receive 3% interest. Web site is : save.now.ohio.gov. 2. Grow Now is for small businesses that will decrease interest by 3% on loans. The web site is: grownow.ohio.gov. There are also additional programs. Each has limitations. Information is available at the State Treasure's web site.

The Trustees attended a public meeting about storm water pollution. At the meeting information was provided about plans to address this issue. The Township has problems with failing sewage systems and failing aeration systems. Township residents were encouraged to attend the upcoming public meetings since the long term goal is to have all homes hooked up to water and sanitary sewers.

Zoning: There are no zoning issues for Sept. S. Coe stated that the Cooper Stadium BZA permit application has been filed.

Guests: Sargent Rector, Columbus Police Department, Zone 3, Community Response Team stated he is available for any questions or comments regarding our area. He will keep us updated about any changes within the Police dept. precincts.

Routine Business: Agenda approved. Minutes from the July and August meetings approved.

Unfinished business: R. Horn and E. Walters will try to recruit additional commissioners. R. Horn and S. Coe explained the requirements to be a commissioner and urged residents attending the meeting to consider serving on the commission. Currently, there are 5 open seats. These are elected seats; but the Commission can appoint a candidate to complete the unfinished term. Residents were also urged to leave their contact information.

C. Nobile stated she called to report furniture and trash that was piled outside a home on Frank Rd. The Township picked up the items.

Financial Report: K. Hatfield reported that there is currently \$34.20 in bank account. There are also 2 Staples cards of various amounts. K. Hatfield suggested that the Commission would benefit from having a high quality, laminated, foldable detailed map of the area.. Discussion ensued. D. Hooie will contact the City planning dept about getting a detailed map for the Commission. Once the map is obtained, the commission can then get the map laminated. S. Coe made a motion for the commission to spend the remaining balance in the account ,up to \$100. to purchase a detailed area map of the southwest area that will be laminated, movable and/or foldable in a fashion that can be easily transported, displayed and used. Motion seconded by G. Rowat. Vote: unanimous approval.

Public Concern: Residents from Longwood , Finland and Marsdale Avenues were present. G.Rowat reported there is a rumor that Longwood Avenue (currently a dead end street) would be opened on the North end between the 2 Finland Schools to alleviate traffic jams. Most of the residents present wanted to know if this is rumor or fact. They expressed desire for Longwood to remain a dead end street. One resident was present, would like it to open. She feels that there is a serious disturbance in the in the neighborhood with entrance and egress impossible at times due to traffic and there are safety issues. The issues deal with sporting events and transportation to and from the schools. There is a division on Longwood and it is in both the City and Township. Residents were urged to call Police with safety concerns. The residents plan to attend the Sept. Township meeting. It was also suggested they attend the Board meeting for Southwest City Schools. Previously there had been a dead end sign and a children at play sign that has been removed and they feel should be replaced. The Commission will consider writing a letter to the appropriate parties indicating the problems the residents are encountering.

During this discussion I. Scott started to speak out of turn and off topic. The chair asked him to wait for his turn; but he continued to speak stating there is “no order and he is trying to save the Commission”. The conversation about Longwood Avenue stopped when I. Scott started speaking. Conversation returned to Longwood Avenue when Sargent Rector invited I. Scott outside for several minutes.

Community Input: Ivan Scott, private citizen, stated his objections which included: the positioning of the chairs in the room; the need for the commission to use a form which he had in his possession; his desire for contact information for the commissioners (he was told it is available on the web site); and the need to know friends from enemies.

Public announcement: R. Horn stated there will be a construction job fair for the casino at noon on Oct. 12 at Westland Mall.

J.Kaufman invited residents to the Block Watch meeting on the third Monday of the month at 7:00pm. Location: 1835 Eastfield.

Motion to adjourn made by S. Coe. Seconded by R.Miller

Meeting adjourned at 8:02pm. Next meeting October 19, 2011. Submitted by Rita Miller

Submitted by Rita Miller

