



Far South Columbus Area Commission – Commission Meeting Minutes Thursday, April 7, 2022, 6 pm.

Call to Order: Meeting Called to order by Commissioner Draudt at 6:02 pm.

Roll Call:

Commissioners Present:

Commissioner Walcott	Commissioner Fisher
Commissioner Neale	Commissioner Eubanks
Commissioner Richardson	Commissioner Miller
Commissioner Walker	Commissioner Smith
Commissioner Patterson	Commissioner Draudt

Commissioners Absent on Leave:

Commissioner YaAshantawa

Guests:

Christopher Clark, Columbus City Attorney's Office
Chief Martin Hafey, Hamilton Township Fire Department
William Hernandez, Demolition Permit Applicant
Emily Wheeler, Skilken Gold Development
Kareem Amr, Skilken Gold Development
Brian Recker, AEP Ohio Mike LaScalla AEP Ohio
Krystal Witt-Hyphon AEP Ohio Roberta Pyle AEP Ohio
Rick Beard Right of Way Agent AEP
Josh Pedaline Right of Way AEP
Melissa Rapp, Bedford Falls Christmas Tree Farm
Errin Hensley, Sheetz Chelsea Whims, Resident
Lori Plaster, Resident Emily Myers, Resident
Cindy Gentry, Resident Sue Harmon, Resident
Tom Harmon, Resident Velma Kellermeyer, Resident
Connie Miller, Resident Dana Russell, Resident
Marie Gloyd, Resident Carrington Price, Resident

Swearing In of Commissioner Sheila A. Eubanks: Commissioner Eubanks was administered the oath of office by Assistant Columbus City Attorney Christopher C. Clark.

Approval of Minutes: A voice vote was held by Chair Draudt to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2022 minutes as submitted:

All in favor 10, Opposed 0, Abstain 0 Motion Carries

Treasurer's Report for March: Commissioner Walcott read the **April 7, 2022** Treasurer's Report. The beginning balance was **\$2,001.32**. Ending balance was **\$1,631.01**. Expenses were as listed in the detailed budget line items of the report.

Motion made by Commissioner Fisher to accept the Treasurer's Report as read;
Seconded by Commissioner Smith.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Walcott	Yes	Fisher	Yes	Eubanks	Yes
Neale	Yes	Miller	Yes	Walker	Yes
Smith	Yes	Patterson	Yes	Richardson	Yes
				Draudt	Yes

10 Yes 0 Nays 0 Abstentions Motion passes.

Treasurer Walcott discussed that we have about \$1500 in the treasury left to spend for supplies and other items from our yearly stipend from the city Department of Neighborhoods, and that there were some receipts submitted to her at the April meeting for reimbursement. Commissioner Walcott requested a full list from all Commissioners of any and all supplies that are needed by each Commissioner such as printer ink, paper, folders, post-it notes, pens, clips, and other office type items so that she can place an order with Staples, our supplier.

A discussion was held about the purchase of a camera system to enable the Area Commission to webcast our meetings/events through Zoom or WebEx to the public simultaneously while they are also held in person, much like City Council does with their meetings currently. Beth Fairman-Kinney first suggested a camera and microphone system, however an alternate system was suggested to Commissioner Miller by a different Area Commission because of its ease of use and its enhanced capabilities and that the second camera system is self-supporting/fully automated (does not need to be monitored or babysat by a commissioner during the meeting), whereas the first one suggested needs constant monitoring.

Motion made by Commissioner Walcott and seconded by Commissioner Richardson to purchase the Owl Labs Inc. camera system from Staples for \$1008.00.

A question was asked if this was the discounted price by Chair Draudt. Commissioner Walcott stated it was discounted by \$75.00 and the price included our tax-exempt status. There were no further questions.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Neale	Yes	Miller	Yes	Patterson	Yes
Richardson	Yes	Walcott	Yes	Fisher	Yes
Walker	Yes	Eubanks	Yes	Smith	Yes
				Draudt	Yes

10 Yes

0 Nays

0 Abstentions

Motion passes.

Speakers:

Presentation from AEP Ohio:

Brian Recker gave a presentation about the Parsons Avenue Transmission Line Project that will run from Rathmell Road to just above State Route 104 approximately. This project is being constructed in 2 phases. Phase 1 is to install new high voltage (138KV) transmission line, Parsons substation (new) and Cypress substation (new). Phase 2 is the retirement of 5 miles of old transmission line along Parsons Avenue and the old metal towers along Parsons. This will improve service to residents in the community as well as provide new power to a future large customer in the area.

The old towers will be removed individually, with the wires being removed/relocated first, then the towers will be removed in 3 parts. The final step will be the removal of the towers base 3 feet below ground and finally the land will be restored/re-seeded. AEP will keep the existing easements along Parsons Avenue. Timeframe for the project is to be Phase 1 to be completed in August of 2022 and then the removal process to start in January of 2023 with completion in 2024. Access to homes will remain but road closures will occur. Emergency services will be maintained as best as possible with flaggers. Site surveys are being conducted currently for the removal process. A second community meeting needs to be held closer to the removal process being started. The website for this project is www.aepohio.com/parsons. All contact information for AEP representatives is located on this website. There were numerous community and commissioner questions about this project. All questions were answered thoroughly, and a second meeting will be held closer to the start of the tower removal process.

Presentation from Councilmember Lourdes Barroso de Padilla:

Councilmember Lourdes Barroso de Padilla was introduced by Nancy Pryor Sully who is a community engagement liaison for Columbus City Council for the Southside. Councilperson Barroso de Padilla gave us an introduction to her staff and an overview of the committees that she chairs (Veterans and Senior Affairs, also Disability Affairs-unofficially, Public Service and Transportation, and Neighborhoods, Immigrant, Refugee and Migrant Affairs) This visit is part of her promise to visit every area commission in her first 100 days in office. She is the child of Cuban immigrants and grew up in Columbus and is an AmeriCorps graduate who served the Southside community. Lastly, Councilmember Barroso de Padilla thanked all the commissioners for their service to the community and city. This visit is one of many that she would like to make to our community, and she has made a commitment to be active in our area and she loves interaction with residents, the area commissions and civic associations. As an added note, she encouraged everyone to download the new 311 app for their phone and discussed the rollout of the new 311 website and app and asked us to provide

feedback about our collective experiences with the new website and app. We welcome the councilmember back to our area commission for another visit.

Madam Chair Commissioner Draudt gave the floor to Commissioner Walker, Zoning Co-Chair.

Zoning BZA22-021 1254 Caravel Drive: Discussion occurred over this zoning with the owner Paige Berry, and the commissioners. The city gave incorrect information at the initial zoning meeting, and this is actually a setback permitting issue. The home was viewed via Zoom only due to the pandemic and this issue was never discovered by her real estate agent or title company and the narrative of the documents will be corrected at submission to the city.

Motion to approve the variance BZA22-021 for 1254 Caravel Drive Columbus Ohio 43207 made by Commissioner Walker; Seconded by Commissioner Walcott.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Neale	Yes	Miller	Yes	Patterson	Yes
Richardson	Yes	Walcott	Yes	Fisher	Yes
Walker	Yes	Eubanks	Yes	Smith	Yes
				Draudt	Yes

10 Yes 0 Nays 0 Abstentions Motion passes.

Zoning BZA22-030 for 2200 Spiegel Drive: Commissioner Walker presented this application as the applicant was not present. This is for a temporary breakroom trailer to be placed on site for the business due to construction purposes while they are constructing a 2nd breakroom for their employees.

Motion to approve the variance BZA22-030 for 2200 Spiegel Drive made by Commissioner Walker; Seconded by Commissioner Fisher.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Walker	Yes	Neale	Yes	Eubanks	Yes
Fisher	Yes	Walcott	Yes	Miller	Yes
Smith	Yes	Patterson	Yes	Richardson	Yes
				Draudt	Yes

10 Yes 0 Nays 0 Abstentions Motion passes.

Demolition Permit 575 Corr Road Columbus Ohio 43207: Building was half torn down by a contractor without a permit, applicant/owner is now here to obtain a permit to bring this into compliance.

Motion to approve the demolition permit for 575 Corr Road made by Commissioner Walker; Seconded by Commissioner Richardson.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Walcott	Yes	Richardson	Yes	Smith	Yes
Patterson	Yes	Fisher	Yes	Miller	Yes
Walker	Yes	Eubanks	Yes	Neale	Yes
				Draudt	Yes

10 Yes 0 Nays 0 Abstentions Motion passes.

Demolition Permit 1267 Faber Avenue Columbus OH 43207: Building beyond costs of reasonable repairs per applicant.

Motion to approve the demolition permit for 1267 Faber Avenue made by Commissioner Walker; Seconded by Commissioner Patterson.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Walcott	Yes	Richardson	Yes	Smith	Yes
Patterson	Yes	Fisher	Yes	Miller	Yes
Walker	Yes	Eubanks	Yes	Neale	Yes
				Draudt	Yes

10 Yes 0 Nays 0 Abstentions Motion passes.

No other zoning business.

Community Outreach: Commissioner Fisher reported that area block watches have been updated on our website. She also reported on the 4/16 Easter Egg Hunt at Marion Franklin Rec Center. A beautification project on 4/30 at Southside Community Church of Hope will occur with student volunteers who need community engagement hours from Marion Franklin High School.

A public event to promote healthy living will take place on 5/14/2022 from 10 am to 1 pm at the Wesley Church of Hope. The event will feature a fresh produce giveaway, live cooking demonstration, line dancing, salsa dancing, activities for kids and residents of all ages.

The Bridge to Success Program is currently enrolling residents within our community. To learn more about this program please go to www.southsidehope.org .

Economic Development: Commissioner Richardson reported about her new committee. She wants to advocate for all locally driven projects for this community. She presented her team members as listed in her written report. Commissioner Richardson then introduced Kareem Amr who was accompanied by Emily Wheeler and Errin Hensley from Skilken Real Estate development and Sheetz. Sheetz will be developing a non-truck stop facility in front of the Lowes on S. High Street with 30 full time employees in the outparcel that fronts S. High at Obetz Road. They will use the Obetz Road entrance and the right in/right out existing entrance off Route 23. A zoning request will be submitted in the future with construction to be completed thereafter. Commissioner Neale asked all attendees to write a note of what they wish to see come to the Far Southside as far as community investment and submit them to the Commission.

Education: No additional information to add to written report.

Public Safety: Two items to add to written report. Item one is that we are setting up a meeting with the Mayor and the President of City Council to request a second fire station for the boundaries of our area commission due to increased volume over the last 5 years and an increasing reliance on the townships to provide primary fire and EMS coverage to residents of the City of Columbus within the area commission boundaries. Commissioner Walker has agreed to participate in these meetings as he is a member of the Franklin County Emergency Management team.

The area commission has been approached by the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office and the Ohio General Assembly (Representative Robert Young) to send a letter of support for House Bill 408. House Bill 408 closes a loophole in existing Ohio law that allows individuals to set up sham businesses to go around the requirements of recycling one catalytic converter per person per day and impersonate themselves as a legitimate auto repair shop. Here in our area commission boundary a prolific felon is currently under a 40 plus count indictment for allegedly causing upwards of \$2.5 million in damages and losses to individuals and businesses state-wide including in our community. This bill would have a positive match requirement of the drivers license of the owner of the vehicle, the VIN number of the vehicle and a signed tracking form for each catalytic converter turned in for recycling to scrap yards. This change in law is supported by legitimate auto repair businesses and dealers.

Motion to approve sending a letter of support from the Far South Columbus Area Commission for House Bill 408 to the Ohio General Assembly to close the catalytic converter theft and recycling law loophole made by Commissioner Miller; Seconded by Commissioner Patterson.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Walcott	Yes	Fisher	Yes	Eubanks	Yes
Neale	Yes	Miller	Yes	Walker	Yes
Smith	Yes	Patterson	Yes	Richardson	Yes
				Draudt	Yes

10 Yes 0 Nays 0 Abstentions Motion passes.

Environmental: no report.

Executive and Resource: Commissioner Draudt wanted to confirm that every Commissioner had a copy of the resource list showing where every item of commission property is assigned or located. A discussion was held about the Executive Committee meeting that was held. The training date and time was set with Sharon Ware for 4/23/2022 from 1-3pm via Zoom. It will be recorded for those that cannot attend and information packets will be emailed as well. There was discussion about the city-wide area commission elections at the Executive Meeting as well as being a cohesive body going forward.

Health and Human Services: No Report

Internal Governance: The city-wide area commission elections proposal was opened for discussion. This would move the elections to a date in August, the petition would only require the normal number of signatures under our current by-laws and not the 80 signatures as originally thought. Candidates’ packets would be released on June 1st and the signature collection period would run from June 1 through August 15th. The signature packets are due back to the elections committee on August 15th. This is during our summer recess. The elections committee would then have to verify the signatures are valid and the city-wide elections are then held from 10 am to 2 pm. We can not have inside of the library because the planning for this is too far out to reserve the inside community room, so the election will be held outside with our tent and tables in the parking lot. What we obtain in benefits are CTV ads and yard signs for the process. Concerns were raised about low voter turnout already and getting onboard with the city from some commissioners while other commissioners were not in favor of this proposal. A spirited discussion followed.

Motion made to approve the city-wide pilot elections program made by Commissioner Walcott; Seconded by Commissioner Smith.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>	<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Walcott	No	Fisher	No	Eubanks	No
Neale	No	Miller	No	Walker	Yes
Smith	No	Patterson	No	Richardson	Abstain
				Draudt	No

1 Yes 8 Nays 1 Abstention Motion defeated

Recreation and Parks: Commissioner Eubanks will be the chair; Commissioner Walcott will be the vice chair. The Community Resource Council is now known as the friends of the Scioto Southland Rec Center. Discussion followed about how this will work at Marion Franklin Rec Center as this apparently hasn't occurred at Marion Franklin. Commissioner Eubanks invited the economic development committee to Marion Franklin.

Other Commission Business:

Old Business: none

New Business: none

City Reports:

Nancy Pryor Sully, Senior Legislative Aide, City Council Division of Community Engagement

City wide clean up on 4/30. Contact Councilmember Remy to participate. Please refer to her weekly email. Councilmember Bankston will be having community hours on 4/12. Please contact his office for details. Nancy's email address is NPSully@columbus.gov

Katherine Cull, Neighborhood Liaison, Department of Neighborhoods

Katherine gave us an introduction to herself and an overview of her background. She also discussed a potential for a 311 training session for area commissioners. She also discussed her survey that she is sending out weekly. Street trash and litter was also discussed.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Walker; Seconded by Commissioner Neale. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm.

All in favor 10, opposed 0, abstain 0. Motion passes

Next regular meeting Thursday, May 5, 2022, 6 pm, at the Columbus Fire Training Academy.

Submitted by: Commissioner Bruce C. Miller, Recording Secretary