

Southwest Area Commission
Meeting Place: Online

Southwest Area Commission (SWAC)
Prepared for approval by Kristin Hayes

Chair: FeLisa Jenkins
Vice-Chair: Open
Secretary: Kristin Hayes
Fiscal Officer: Maurice Jenkins

Meeting Location: Online

Minutes for: March 16, 2021

7:30 p.m. Meeting called to order.

Commissioners:

Present: Maurice Jenkins, Liz Reed, FeLisa Jenkins, Kristin Hayes, Jacob Barker, and Patty Spencer.

Absent: Barbara Parsons, Don Parsons, Peggy Fossett.

Regular Reports:

Beth Fairman Kinney – Spoke about the following items:

- Officer Shay has no updates for this area.
- Upcoming COVID vaccine clinics in the City of Columbus. The Commissioners are encouraged to share the information about the clinics.
- The COVID vaccine no-waste list filled up quickly. The website registration was open and there was a capacity of 250 people who could register.
- Text the VaxCbus phone number for more information about the COVID vaccine.
- If constituents have questions about the COVID vaccine, Matt Barnes from NBC4 will be hosting a Family-Feud style program on columbusblack.com.
- There is new Commissioner training in April; an email will be sent to the Commissioners.
- There was a recent Commissioner training that F. Jenkins attended called CRASH.
- There is also fiscal training coming up for the Commissions.
- Code Enforcement was not available for this meeting. Jeremy Alder is doing a good job in his new position.
- There are Safe Route to School yards circulating in the area. The process of getting more signs will be dependent on funding.

Nancy Pryor Sully – Spoke about the following items:

- There is a City of Columbus districting workgroup. For more information, the City's website should be consulted.
- There are personnel changes in the Columbus City Council's Community Engagement office. There is a posted job vacancy on the City's website for a Community Engagement staff member for the West side of Columbus.
- The upcoming City Council meeting will be broadcasted on multiple platforms.
- There is an upcoming public meeting on May 23 about gun legislation.
- There is an upcoming meeting on May 24th about the urban forestry master plan, which is posted on the City Council's website.
- These meetings are archived on the City's website.
- The City is looking for comments about the proposed zoning changes. It is really important to comment about this.

Patty Spencer - Spoke about the following items:

- 2333 Harrisburg Pike - This property plans to present to the SWAC next month. Reed expressed her concern about the number of parking spaces this property wants to have, since they are growing. She also asked what hours they were going to be operating. She also asked if they own the house at the property. Spencer did not know.
- The representative from the truck bay property is not yet able to make the meeting or site visit and hope to attend in April.

Kristin Hayes - The first Keep the Southwest Area Beautiful event took place on March 13th at Willow Creek Park. Hayes was joined by two volunteers and they picked up three trashbags worth of litter. The next event will be located at Stoneridge Park in April.

Chair's Announcements:

- The SWAC has a new PO Box. Reed will update this on the Commission's website.
- The 2021 MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) was discussed with M. Jenkins. The budget was also discussed. The Commission did receive the laptop that was ordered. On April 30th, the yearly monetary allocation from the City has to be spent and will go back to the City if not spent. The current year's MOU states that each Commission has a budget for \$3500 which can be spent through the rest of this year. There are two MOU's, one for 2020-2021, which needs to have funds spent by April 30, 2021. The final report on spending is due to the City on May 30th. For the 2021-2021 MOU, the Commission has to plan for \$2500 deposited.
- For the remaining 2020-2021, the Commission will need to think about what we want to do to spend the money before April 30th. The Commission could hire a trainer. The money could also be used for the building rentals, masks, and cleaning supplies. The Commission would have to get three quotes from different vendors if wanting to spend over a certain amount of money for an item.
 - Barker said that to rent out the Hope Central Church the cost to the Commission is \$40 per meeting. He said that the Church doesn't feel right about charging for months that the Commission is not meeting in-person.
 - Reed said that the SWAC website is set up for an automatic payment of \$100-\$150 for the year.

- The current balance is \$2255.40 in the SWAC's bank account.
- Dr. Tina Pierce from WORTH was contacted to lead a training for the SWAC. Hayes agreed with F. Jenkins' endorsement regarding the content of Dr. Pierce's sessions.

Routine Business:

Fairman Kinney and Prior Sully said they would like to be copied on emails about the SWAC, including meeting minutes that are sent out.

The February 2021 meeting minutes were reviewed. Spencer made a motion to approve the minutes; Barker seconded. Result: Unanimous approval.

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

Spencer spoke about getting the SWAC visible in the community more. She discussed putting up yard signs. She suggested talking to the Messenger newspaper, as they could put the meeting information in their paper for free. They would need the information a week before they go to press. It was suggested that the Commission could put the website and the date of the next meeting in the paper. Putting the site visit and zoning information in the paper was also discussed but then thought that that information could be put on Nextdoor and Facebook.

F. Jenkins agreed that she would like to see the SWAC more visible in the community. The Commission has a lot of postage that can be used. She said that she would want to see more community involvement as long as it was appropriate. The newspaper might not be the best avenue to place the zoning information because the Commission would need to know who is presenting farther in advance. Reed can place that information on the website and also add the links to join the meeting.

Spencer said she would discuss more with the Messenger newspaper.

M. Jenkins spoke about the PO Box. It was decided that Spencer should have the extra key to the box. Reed said that she would add the PO Box information to the website.

Fairman Kinney said that the SWAC website is linked from the Columbus Area Commissions website.

F. Jenkins commented that she thought 2021 was going well. She said she felt that the Commissioners were doing a good job trying to get the SWAC visible in the community. She is excited about what the Commission is going to do and is excited about the upcoming training.

Barker said that the Hope Central Church wants to do community events and wants to discuss the SWAC partnering with the Church for these events. F. Jenkins asked for a list of events that come up from the Church.

The Keep the Southwest Area Beautiful was discussed as a possible addition to the Messenger ad.

Fairman Kinney said that the City has a job vacancy for the Keep Columbus Beautiful Manager and is taking applications online at the City's website.

Spencer suggested making a brochure for the Southwest side.

Next meeting: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 7:30pm.

Reed moved to adjourn the meeting; Barker seconded the motion. Result: Unanimous Approval

Meeting End Time: 8:51pm.