

SLAC Purpose Statement

To serve as a liaison between neighborhood groups, property owners, residents, developers, and city officials

SOUTH LINDEN AREA COMMISSION (SLAC)

Commissioner
Khadijah LaNai Ashe
Lawrence Calloway, Chair
Sundi Corner
Mitchell Ellison
Lois Ferguson
Michelle Jamison
Mayo Makinde
Barbara Tolber, Treasurer
Peggy A. Williams, Secretary

Standing Committee:
Education and Workforce Development
Health and Wellness
Public Safety
Retail and Small Business
Special Events
Zoning and Code Enforcement

SOUTH LINDEN NEIGHBORHOOD BOUNDARY



MINUTES

Tuesday, January 21, 2020

6:00pm – 8:00pm

Regular meeting Number 11 of the South Linden Area Commission, Tuesday, January 21, 2020 Called To Order at 6:05pm at St. Stephen's Community House (SSCH).

Invocation led by Area Commission Chair Calloway
Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Jamison

COMMISSIONER ROLL CALL

Present: Khadijah LaNai Ashe, Lawrence Calloway, Lois Ferguson, Michelle Jamison, Mayo Makinde, Barbara Tolber, and Peggy Williams
Excused: Mitchell Ellison
Absent: Not Applicable

QUORUM STATUS: PRESENT at 6:30pm

Based on the Commissioner Roll Call at 6:10pm this date, the quorum requirement of six (6) commissioners in attendance was not met. However, upon the later arrivals of Commissioners Ashe and Ferguson quorum was met at 6:30pm and therefore, all conduct of business will be considered formal and binding.

RECOGNITION OF SERVICE: Commissioner Sheila Whitehead-Evans' Retirement

City Council President Shannon Harden, Department of Neighborhoods Director Carla Williams-Scott, Pyramid Chief Executive Officer Linda Nelson, Commissioners, along with several agency representatives, paid tribute to Ms. Sheila Whitehead-Evans in her retirement from serving on the South Linden Area Commission. She was elected Vice Chair in 2018. Ms. Whitehead-Evans was appointed in 2011 to represent district 3, which included Rosewind Estates and Douglas Recreation Center. However, her advocacy for the greater Linden community began in 2007 serving as President of the Rosewind Resident Council, Community Resident Council (CRC) for Douglas Recreation Center, and Sisters of Empowerment Board Member. Roughly totaling fourteen (14) years of volunteer service, Ms. Sheila exhibited tireless energy helping to organize community events such as the Rosewind Litter League Team, Neighborhood PRIDE Week, Rosewind National Night Out, and a Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Advocating for youth, she was a primary funder ensuring Linden McKinley STEM Academy graduates had 'prom gowns'. Some of her proud accomplishments have been (1) bringing Bishop Tutu to America as guest speaker for a National Ohio Youth Conference and (2) organizing a National Black College Tour that traveled through eleven states beginning in the District of Columbia to her hometown Tennessee. Retiring from the Area Commission into her current role as Family Coordinator at UMADAOP, Ms. Sheila Whitehead-Evans is looking forward to helping families accomplish their goals.

On behalf of the South Linden Area Commission, Chair Calloway presented Ms. Sheila Whitehead-Evans with a Commemorative Plaque. Extending 'words of advice' and expressing love for people, her job, and Linden, Ms. Sheila ended with, "Thank You".

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ADMINISTRATION: Acceptance of Meeting Agenda Modification(s)

Chair Calloway moved, with a second from Commissioner Tolber, to accept the meeting agenda modifications as follows:

- Add SMART Columbus Update
- Suspend Committee and District Reports
- Add “Eagle Market” Proposal Presentation
- Add Jazz-In-The-Park (JITP) Special Event Application for 2020

The motion was carried without question(s) posed and the Chair called for the Voice Vote.

**Voice Vote Approval: Ferguson, Jamison, Calloway, Tolber, Ashe, and Williams
Six (6) in Favor, No Opposition, and One Abstention**

New Commissioner Appointment

Commissioner Williams moved, and Commissioner Tolber seconded, to accept the appointment of Ms. Sundi Corner to fill a district vacancy as “Commissioner-At-Large”. The motion carried with no question(s) posed and the Chair called for the Voice Vote.

**Voice Vote Approval: Ferguson, Jamison, Makinde, Calloway, Ashe, Tolber, and Williams
Seven (7) in Favor, No Opposition, and No Abstention --
UNANIMOUS**

The Applicant Sundi Corner was invited by the Chair to make a statement of intent, after which, the Area Commission welcomed Ms. Corner to be seated with the Commissioners. The South Linden Area Commission is now fully seated with nine (9) Area Commissioners serving the south Linden neighborhood.

Reading of the Minutes

Commissioner Tolber moved, with a second from Commissioner Ferguson, to approve Minutes recorded December 17, 2019 with the appropriate correction(s) duly noted (i.e., “Invocation by North Central Area Commissioner Ellison” should read “Invocation by Commissioner Ellison”), inclusive of the monthly Treasurer’s Report, as submitted. The motion carried with no question(s) posed and the Chair called for the Voice Vote.

**Voice Vote Approval: Ferguson, Jamison, Makinde, Calloway, Ashe, Tolber, and Williams
Seven (7) in Favor, No Opposition, and One Abstention**

Treasurer’s Report

Commissioner Tolber read and distributed the Balance Sheet covering income and expenses during December 1st through December 31st for review and comment, stating the month end balance is \$627.38. Commissioner Williams moved, with the second from Commissioner Ferguson, to accept and approve the Treasurer Report as submitted. The motion carried with no question(s) posed and the Chair called for the Voice Vote.

**Voice Vote Approval: Ferguson, Jamison, Calloway, Ashe, Tolber, and Williams
Six (6) in Favor, No Opposition, and Two (2) Abstentions**

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Jazz-In-The-Park 2020

Chair Calloway acknowledged receipt of the United Way Neighborhood Partnership Grant Request for Proposal Announcement—and asked the pleasure of the Area Commission to continue serving as “Host Organizer” for this special event in July 2020. After limited discussion ensued clarifying the purpose and past success of the Jazz-In-The-Park annual event, Commissioner Tolber moved, and Commissioner Jamison seconded, for the Area Commission to continue serving as “Host Organizer” and move forward with submitting an application to receive funding. The motion carried with no question(s) posed and the Chair called for the Voice Vote.

**Voice Vote Approval: Ferguson, Jamison, Makinde, Calloway, Ashe, Tolber, and Williams
 Seven (7) in Favor, No Opposition, and One (1) Abstention**

District Reconfiguration Proposal—Commissioner Williams

This proposal was introduced during the December meeting at which time Commissioners were invited to thoroughly review and comment on the proposed re-configurations. Referencing mapping visuals included with Commissioners’ meeting packet, Commissioner Williams explained the rationale for redrawing district lines to ensure full representation for residents of the Linden community within the south neighborhood boundary. With the passing of Article III in April 2019 to reduce seats from thirteen(13) to nine (9); thereby making a more sustainable quorum requirement of six (6) Attending Area Commissioners to convene for the efficient and effective conduct of business; four (4) districts would be without representation. Under this proposal, former districts 3 and 4 would be combined into one, districts 7 and 8 would be combined into one, and districts 10, 11, 12, 13 would be absorbed by current districts 7, 8 and 9. Districts 1, 2, and 5 remain the same. District lines would be redrawn as follows:

DISTRICT 1: WILLIAMS		DISTRICT 2: FERGUSON		DISTRICT 3: ASHE (3 & 4)	
North	E. 13 th Avenue	North	E. 13 th Avenue	North	E. 17 th Avenue
South	CSX/Bonham Avenue	South	CSX/Bonham Avenue	South	E. 13 th Avenue
East	Billiter/CSX/Joyce Avenue	East	Cleveland Avenue	East	Billiter/CSX/Joyce Avenue
West	Cleveland Avenue	West	Interstate 71	West	Interstate 71
DISTRICT 4: TOLBER (6)		DISTRICT 5: ELLISON		DISTRICT 6: JAMISON (7 & 8)	
North	E. 21 st Avenue	North	E. 25 th Avenue	North	Duxberry Avenue
South	E. 17 th Avenue	South	E. 17 th Avenue	South	E. 21 st Avenue
East	Cleveland Avenue	East	Joyce Avenue	East	Cleveland Avenue
West	Interstate 71	West	Cleveland Avenue	West	Interstate 71
DISTRICT 7: MAKINDE (9 & 10)		DISTRICT 8: CALLOWAY (10 & 11)		DISTRICT 9: (WHITEHEAD-EVANS) (12 & 13)	
North	Hudson Avenue	North	Hudson Avenue	North	Hudson Avenue
South	E. 25 th Avenue	South	Duxberry Avenue	South	Duxberry/Maynard Avenues
East	Billiter/CSX/Joyce Avenue	East	Medina Avenue	East	Grasmere Avenue
West	Medina Avenue	West	Grasmere Avenue	West	Interstate 71

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Commissioner Makinde expressed concern over the lack of inclusion in the initial review process, possible overlapping of district lines, need for clarity in identifying the district vacancy to be filled, and moved, with Commissioner Williams' second, to form an ad-Hoc committee to engage more Commissioner input. The ad-Hoc committee would bring its recommendation to the next meeting. The motion carried and the Chair called for the Voice vote.

Voice Vote Approval: Ferguson, Jamison, Makinde, Ashe, and Williams
Five (5) in Favor, No Opposition, and Three (3) Abstentions

PROCEEDINGS

Substituting Columbus Police Department Community Liaison Officer Alesia Zacher, Officer Shawn Lutz came before the Area Commission to share the following:

- CPD has implemented a new diversion program for first time offenders under the juvenile division, which will be serving children between 9 and 15 years old. Once a juvenile has been arrested, what is the plan of action? There has been an increase in random incidents of violence among juveniles and CPD wants to hear your concerns.
- Encouraged calling the City Customer Service Call Center: 3-1-1 on all breaking and entering into vacant properties
- Responding to Commissioner Makinde's inquiry on an incident that occurred December 6th at 26th and Cleveland, Officer Shawn indicated all "On Duty" officers will respond as quickly as possible in "Shots Fired" scenarios (e.g., New Year's Eve celebrations). Whenever several police cruisers report to a scene involving gun shots, their task is to control the scene and use discretion when releasing information to commissioners because people seem to get targeted after helping police during an investigation.

City Attorney Office Zoning Initiative Attorney Sarah Pomeroy came before the Area Commission to share she would no longer be serving as Liaison. She stated Chasity Barham would become the Attorney Liaison effective February 2nd and introduced another colleague Tiarra Ross, who serves Zone 2 Area, representing the southside and eastside. Attorney Pomeroy deferred to Attorney Ross who cited an incident CPD was investigating that occurred in November where a family was a victim on one day and became the suspect the following day. She explained by using a comprehensive systemic approach to resolving crime and homicide(s), the Columbus Police Department and City Attorney's Office partner with the CARE Coalition to review areas of occurrences and determine environmental prompts (e.g., an accumulation of debris). For instance, when criminals feel there is a lack of supervision within a neighborhood, typically crime will be higher.

City Council Liaison Sandra Lopez came before the Area Commission to express "Happy New Year" sentiments and she is looking forward to continuing to work with the Commissioners. Ms. Lopez had no City Council announcements at this time.

Department of Neighborhoods Director Carla Williams-Scott and Community Liaison Katherine Cull, came before the Area Commission to provide the following updates and announcements:

- Director Scott expressed thanks to Ms. Cull for her service as the replacement for Mr. Chris Suel who was deployed in December 2018 and who is recently accepted a position with "My Brothers' Keeper". She introduced Mrs. DeLena P. Scales as the new Community Liaison. Ms. Scales comes from the Celebrate ONE initiative and her hire date with the Department of Neighborhoods became effective January 13th. Ms. Scott deferred to Ms. Katherine Cull who continued with announcements.

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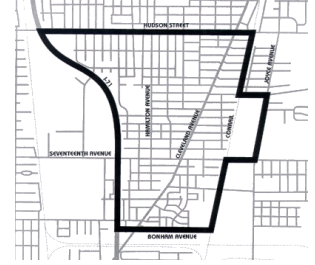
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PUBLIC COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Calloway announced SLAC Officer Elections will be held when the Area Commission convenes on Tuesday, February 18, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no other business introduced for discussion, the Secretary moved, with a second by Commissioner Ferguson for adjournment. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:02pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the **South Linden Area Commission will convene promptly at 6:00pm on Tuesday, February 18, 2020** in the Carter Conference Room of St. Stephen’s Community House, 1500 E. 17th Avenue, (614) 294-6347.

Respectfully Submitted,

PEGGY A. WILLIAMS, Secretary
South Linden Area Commission

LAWRENCE CALLOWAY, Chair
South Linden Area Commission