

**SLAC Purpose Statement**

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

**SOUTH LINDEN AREA COMMISSION (SLAC)**

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

**Standing Committee:**

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

**SOUTH LINDEN NEIGHBORHOOD BOUNDARY**



# MINUTES

Tuesday, July 21, 2020  
6:00pm – 8:00pm

**Regular meeting Number 4 of the South Linden Area Commission, Tuesday, July 21, 2020 Called To Order by Zoning Chair Williams at 6:20pm**

Invocation led by Commissioner Ashe  
Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Williams

**COMMISSIONER ROLL CALL**

Present: Khadijah Lanai Ashe, Sundi Corner, Michelle Jamison, Mayo MaKinde, and Peggy Williams  
Excused: Lawrence Calloway and Lois Ferguson  
Absent: Mitchell Ellison and Barbara Tolber

**QUORUM STATUS: NOT PRESENT**

Based on the Commissioner Roll Call at 6:25pm this date, the quorum requirement of six (6) commissioners in attendance was not met. However, in accordance with By-Law Article V, when a minimum of five (5) members are present the Area Commission may move forward with convening and decision-making on any time-sensitive matters brought before it; and therefore the conduct of business will be considered formal and binding.

**Reading of the Minutes:**

Commissioner Williams moved, with a second from Commissioner Corner, to accept and approve Minutes recorded February, subject to corrections noted as appropriate. The motion carried with no question(s) posed. The Chair called for the Voice Vote.

**Voice Vote Approval: Ashe, Corner, Jamison, Makinde, and Williams  
Five (5) in Favor, No Opposition, and No Abstention  
MOTION PASSED**

Commissioner Williams moved, with a second from Commissioner Jamison, to accept and approve Minutes recorded June, subject to corrections noted as appropriate. The motion carried with no question(s) posed. The Chair called for the Voice Vote.

**Voice Vote Approval: Ashe, Corner, Jamison, Makinde, and Williams  
Four (4) in Favor, No Opposition, and One Abstention Later  
Acknowledged  
MOTION PASSED**

**Treasurer Reports:**

Commissioner Jamison moved, with a second from Commissioner Ashe to Table Treasurer Reports for February through June until the August meeting. The motion carried and question(s) posed. The Chair called for the Voice Vote.

**Voice Vote Approval: Ashe, Corner, Jamison, Makinde, and Williams  
Five (5) in Favor, No Opposition, and No Abstention  
MOTION PASSED**

**ADMINISTRATION: Acceptance of Meeting Agenda**

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Commissioner Williams read the Agenda as proposed and requested additions, subtractions, and/or edits from other Commissioners. As there were no comments from Commissioners in attendance, the Agenda was accepted.

### By-Laws Amendments: Article VI: Standing Committees

Commissioner Williams moved, with a second from Commissioner Jamison to Table First Reading of Article VI, Standing Committees, until the August meeting. The motion carried with no question(s) posed. The Chair called for the Voice Vote.

**Voice Vote Approval: Ashe, Corner, Jamison, Makinde, and Williams  
Five (5) in Favor, No Opposition, and One Abstention**

### **MOTION PASSED**

**CITY AND COMMUNITY REPORTS:** City Officials and/or Department Directors; Columbus Police Department Sergeant Szabo; City Council Liaison Sandra Lopez; Assistant City Attorney Chassidy Barham; Department of Public Safety Neighborhood Specialist Curtis Brown; SMART Columbus Project Manager Alyssa Chenault; and Department of Neighborhood Community Liaison DeLena Scales

## PROCEEDINGS

**Columbus Police Department Sergeant Paul Szabo** came before the Area Commission for introduction and provide a brief update on the Linden Safe Streets program. He stated the program is in its fourth week of operation and normal business hours are 2:00pm until 10:00pm Tuesday through Saturday—with Sunday and Monday as off-days. In response to complaints of trespassing and prostitution, Safe Streets has been patrolling the Cleveland and Manchester Avenue area, together with the PAC and Task Force teams. Understanding the political climate and increasing visibility, Sargeant Szabo indicated officers are spending more time on bikes and responded to complaints about juveniles hanging-out at properties located on Pontiac, Howey, 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and Peters. He encouraged citizen complaints to be submitted via eMail: [LindenSafeStreets@columbus.gov](mailto:LindenSafeStreets@columbus.gov) to help document requests.

**Assistant City Attorney Chassidy Barham** came before the Area Commission to provide the following update:

- CPD responded to a May 28<sup>th</sup> shooting in which one victim was pronounced deceased at the scene and the second victim survived. Charges of murder and felonious assault has been filed and arrest warrant issued on the suspect. Citizens having information are encouraged to contact Detective Chatman at (614) 645-4587 or citizens wanting to remain anonymous may contact the Central Ohio Crime Stoppers at (614) 461-8477.
- CPD responded to a shooting that occurred on July 11<sup>th</sup> that resulted in the death of a fifteen-year-old. Citizens having information that could assist with the investigation should contact Detective Arnold at (614) 645-4730 or Detective Eggert (?) at (614) 645-4075. Citizens wanting to remain anonymous may contact the Central Ohio Crime Stoppers at (64) 461-8477.
- Citizens are encouraged to contact the appropriate department with complaints. (1) Dial 9-1-1 for all emergencies; (2) dial 3-1-1 for code violations; dial (614) 645-4545 for non-emergency suspicious criminal activity; and citizens may dial the City Prosecuting Attorney at (614) 645-8815 to report loud parties.
- Matters involving illegal dumping and/or retaliatory evictions, citizens should contact Attorney Christopher Clark via eMail: [ccclark@columbus.gov](mailto:ccclark@columbus.gov).
- For additional follow-through, feel free to contact Assistant City Attorney Chassidy Barham at (614) 645-5346.

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**City Council Representative Sandra Lopez** came before the Area Commission to provide the following update:

- Council enters the August RECESS effective at adjournment on July 27<sup>th</sup>, the last meeting for the calendar year. Council has been working on re-imagining/re-envisioning policing; hearing testimony from residents and looking for ideas and recommendations for the distribution of public safety funding.
- Council passed an ordinance to issue \$50 million towards public relations for rental assistance, eviction prevention, and COVID-19 resource education (PPP, PPE, etc.)
- Councilmember Remy is working on Title XIII, Illegal Dumping and Refuse Collection; looking at Air B-n-B, Short Term Rental legislation. Responding to Commissioner Makinde's inquiry, Ms. Lopez indicated complaints have come from the Linden community—north neighborhood—such as parties, illicit activities, human-trafficking, taking parking spaces from residents, and driving market prices.
- Mayor Ginther recently held a press conference to announce the creation of the Civilian Police Review Board which requires a change in the City Charter and will be placed on the ballot in the November election.
- In closing, Ms. Lopez offered to forward the "linkage information" for all hearings, press conferences, and FAQs.

**Department of Public Safety Neighborhood Specialist Curtis Brown** came before the Area Commission to share whenever a homicide occurs, an environmental assessment is completed in the surrounding area and this information is fed to the 3-1-1 Customer Service Center. In one area seven (7) streetlights were out and has since been replaced. The department is collecting data and looking forward to hosting its meetings in a virtual platform soon. Phase 1 is completed on the Street Lights Replacement project. Phase 2 is scheduled to begin within the next two or three weeks. Regular bulbs are being replaced with LED bulbs for enhanced lighting for sidewalk safety.

**SMART Columbus Project Manager Alyssa Chenault** came before the Area Commission to provide the following update:

- Linden LEAP ReLaunch: starts July 29<sup>th</sup> from 12:00Noon until 3:00pm; delivering food to Rosewind residents
- SMART Mobility Hubs: started June 28<sup>th</sup> at six locations—Columbus State, CML Linden Branch, Linden Transit Center, St. Stephen's, Northern Lights Park & Ride, and Easton Transit Center
- Connected Vehicle Environment: qualified adult drivers 18 years old upward who travel Cleveland Avenue, Morse Road, and High Street corridors at least three-times weekly may earn \$315 for participating in this study. Adults interested may visit [www.ColumbusConnectedCars.com](http://www.ColumbusConnectedCars.com)

**Department of Neighborhoods Community Liaison DeLena Scales**, came before the Area Commission to express gratitude for Area Commissioners' patience and participation in various trainings as preparation for meeting in a virtual platform; and highlighted the following:

- 2021 Memorandum of Understanding/Memorandum of Agreement (MOU/MOA)—be sure to submit all seventeen (17) pages inclusive of an itemized Budget. Some items that may be considered included: (1) the cost for virtual meeting platform; (2) professional head-shots; (3) marketing materials (table cloth; business cards; T-shirts, etc.)
- Area Commissioner terms have been extended to December 31, 2020
- Chapter 3109 Best Practices recommendation requires Chair and Vice Chair Signatures once By-Laws are approved and recorded with the City
- The Neighborhood Design Center (NDC) anticipates Area Commission website(s) will be able to go live December 2020 or January 2021
- Area Commission Training on Conflict Resolution is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6:00pm until 8:00pm
- Area Commissions are encouraged to support a petition circulating that requires commissioners receive "Implicit Bias" training on an on-going basis
- The Department of Neighborhoods will be hosting "Neighborhood Roundtable" discussions on Facebook during the month of August

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### PRESENTATION(S): ONE Linden Cooperative—Commissioner Corner

Commissioner Sundi Corner came before the Area Commission to share current progress of the initiative to bring a worker-owned business into the Linden community—south neighborhood. The project team includes representatives from the BREAD organization, OSU InFACT, and OSU Knowlton College of Engineering, City Planning Division. She provided a brief overview of how the project started, shared the listening sessions that were held, and success with gaining grant funding to hire consultants with expertise in cooperative business development. March began the Procurement Study with anchor institutions to learn their purchasing needs.

### COMMITTEE AND DISTRICT REPORTS

- |   |                     |                                  |
|---|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| ▪ Education and Workforce Development   | Health and Wellness | Public Safety and Transportation |
| ▪ Retail and Small Business Development | Special Events      | Zoning and Code Enforcement      |

District 1  
District 2  
District 3

District 4  
District 5  
District 6

District 7  
District 8  
District 9

### Committee and/or District Reports TABLED:

- District 6—Commissioner Tolber
- Public Safety and Transportation Committee and District 5—Commissioner Ellison
- Retail and Small Business Development Committee and District 1—Commissioner Ferguson
- Education and Workforce Development Committee and District 3—Commissioner Calloway

**District 9—Commissioner Makinde:** Twenty-Sixth Avenue and Cleveland Avenue intersection is an ‘accident haven’. This year, four accidents have occurred at this ‘zigzag’ intersection. Perhaps recommend an additional traffic light to increase safety and reduce incidents.

**District 7—Commissioner Corner:** Taking bicycle rides through the District to introduce myself, meet my neighbors, and share the Area Commission’s role. Because the project impacts District 7 residents, Community Liaison Ms. Scales indicated sharing Commissioner Corner’s contact information with the Department of Public Safety relevant to Hudson Street improvement and/or repairs.

**Health and Wellness Committee and District 8—Commissioner Jamison:** Preparing to launch a Linden Walk & Talk Podcast in partnership with the CARE Coalition, OSU Radio, and Active Linden. Five (5) Linden residents to share their story about resilience factors (autonomy, self-esteem, external support, affiliation, and positive experience with safe adults). Currently recruiting Linden residents willing to share their story. The podcast will launch in September. Additionally, she used the CoGo Bike system and rode through the parameters of District 8 noting factors that might prohibit ride-ability (e.g., overgrown tree branches, sidewalks, street lighting, etc.). Commissioner Jamison expressed concern about the limited options to access CoGo services. At the ‘Hub’ the customer can only purchase a ‘Day Pass’ for \$6.00, which may not be affordable to the majority of residents; low air pressure in tires for lack of usage; and the 48-page agreement requirement. Brief discussion ensued around the CoGo System affordability, the 48-page agreement ‘liability’ content, and educating residents accordingly.

**Special Events Committee and District 4—Commissioner Ashe:** A “Linden Clean-Up & Tire Round-Up is scheduled for Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> between 9:00am and 1:00pm and will be hosted at Travelers’ Rest Baptist Church. Refreshments and Bottled Water have been received from the Franklin County Environmental Court and Trio Pharmacy.

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Franklin County Clerk of Courts staff LeighAnn Ward is providing a trailer and team to assist with the Tire Round-Up. Equipment donations came from Loew's and North Linden Area Commissioners Aaron Woosley and Andrea Russell. Public Safety Neighborhood Specialist Curtis Brown mapped the target area and assisted with marketing—broadcasting the event all week. As for District 4, I generated and circulated a “Newsletter” throughout my district to share information about available resources. Wrapping up her report, Commissioner Ashe shared that Mr. Michael Liggett will be providing a Traffic Management presentation at the Zoning and Code Enforcement Committee meeting on Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Zoning and Code Enforcement Committee and District 2—Commissioner Williams:** With a focus on training, the Committee will meet on Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup> and follow an agenda that includes four presentations: (1) BZS “Citizens Portal Training”; (2) Columbus Land Bank and Land Trust 101; (3) Healthy Homes “Linden Home Repair” Program; and (4) Traffic Management “PACE Car, Slow Street” Program. Additional concerns on the Committee’s radar include capital improvement requests, the Urban Infrastructure Recovery Fund (UIRF), Nationwide Children’s Healthy Home/Healthy Families “Linden Home Repair Program”, and the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) Linden Home Repair Program grant application.

Trio Pharmacy Owner Dr. Ijeoma Nnani joins me on District 2 “Know Your Neighbors” Walk & Talk days—Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday—on a weekly basis to distribute information, encourage residents to use resources available throughout the community, as well as build awareness about pharmacy products and services. To-date, we have met and heard the concerns of twenty-two neighbors who have been added to the SLAC Database. Some of the concerns have been forwarded to the appropriate agency for follow-through and/or resolution (e.g., 311 Customer Service Call Center; Linden Home Repair programs, CPD Bike Patrol/Officer Zacher).

Responding to Commissioners Makinde’s and Ashe’s inquiry around the Zoning committee’s meeting schedule and decision to form the Retail, Small Business Development, Zoning and Code Enforcement Joint Committee, Commissioner Williams clarified that due to scheduling conflicts, the Zoning committee rescheduled its meeting for Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup> versus Friday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> OR Friday, July 10<sup>th</sup>. Using the ONE Linden Cooperative as an example, Commissioner Williams stated the committee membership is comprised of business owners and residents within the Linden community and explained the rationale to combine the two committees centered on overlapping similarities in the review process.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS (Open to the Public)

Monitoring the Chat Box and eMail slacconnect@gmail.com, Commissioner Ashe read the following inquiry and comment on behalf of Mr. Stuart Hampton:

Responding to “Where are they?”, Commissioner Williams recalled serving on the Area Commission with Mr. Hampton in earlier years, extended the invitation for his continued participation in future meetings, and provided her contact information. Commissioner Makinde interjected to clarify Mr. Hampton’s inquiry might also refer to the location of four accidents mentioned earlier in the District 9 Report. [In short, the South Linden Area Commission still convenes and the accidents occurred at 26<sup>th</sup> and Cleveland Avenue.]

Mr. Hampton expressed Thanks that the SLAC continues to coordinate the “Jazz-in-the-Park” event at Maloney Park.

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**ADJOURNMENT** As there was no other business introduced for discussion, the Chair moved, with a second by Commissioner Ashe for adjournment. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the **South Linden Area Commission will convene promptly at 6:00pm in a virtual platform on Tuesday, August 18, 2020.**

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ PEGGY A. WILLIAMS

PEGGY A. WILLIAMS, Secretary  
South Linden Area Commission

/s/ LAWRENCE CALLOWAY, JR.

LAWRENCE CALLOWAY, JR., Chair  
South Linden Area Commission