

***Northeast Area Commission Meeting  
September 2, 2021***

**Commissioner Attendance Roll Call:**

Karen Rogers, Chair - Present  
Stan Fleming, Vice Chair – Present  
Kevin Kenley- Present  
Alice Porter– Present  
Elenora Moore – Present  
Kawther Musa– Present  
Antwan Horston– Present  
Elwood Rayford – Absent (Unexcused)  
Brad Davis- Absent (Unexcused)

- An attendance quorum to conduct business was confirmed and announced by the Secretary (7 out of 9 commissioners were present)

**Meeting Agenda Approval (September 2, 2021):**

- Commissioner Moore made a motion to approve the Agenda without modification; Commissioner Kenley seconded the motion; motion carried by a unanimous approval vote of all Commissioners present

**Meeting Minutes (June 30, 2021):**

- Commissioner Porter made a motion to approve the June 30th meeting minutes without modification; Commissioner Horston seconded the motion; motion carried by a unanimous approval vote of all Commissioners present

**Treasurer’s Financial Report (Commissioner Kenley):**

July, 2021:

- \$160.98 = Beginning Balance (July 1, 2021)
- \$75 = Cash App payment to Sandra Chapple (June 30, 2021 full Commission mtg. minutes)
- \$75 = Cash App payment to Sandra Chapple (July 21, 2021 Zoning Commission mtg. minutes)
- \$10.98 = Ending Balance (July 31, 2021)

August, 2021:

- \$10.98: Beginning Balance (August 1, 2021)
- \$2,500 = Annual Commission budget allotment (City of Columbus)
- \$32.48 = Supplies (Hand Sanitizers and Masks from Staples)
- \$186.94 = Camera for recording meetings (in shipment transit)
- \$2,291.56 = Ending Balance (August 31, 2021)

Northeast Area Commission monthly meeting  
September 2, 2021

**Treasurer's Financial Report - Commissioner Kenley (cont'd)**

- Commissioner Moore questioned the accuracy of the Secretary's stipend and requested further discussion which ensued. After brief dialogue, Chair Rogers suspended a vote to approve the Treasurer's Financial Reports (July & August, 2021) until further review and dialogue of the overall budget and the Secretary's stipend.

**Guest Presentation-KIPP School West Campus Expansion Update (Smoot Construction) – Agler Road:**

- Construction plans are currently being finalized
- Representatives illustrated architecture renderings of two school building expansions which will house @ 4,000 students
- Representatives responded to a community constituents inquiry stating there will be various faculty employment opportunities and shared that KIPP does service students with special needs
- The traffic study for this project has been completed and submitted to the City of Columbus
- A new traffic light for a second property entrance was approved by the City of Columbus
- Beginning construction is estimated to occur in February, 2022; completion is expected to occur in December, 2022

**Zoning & Variance Presentations (Commissioner Porter):**

- New Fire Station Presentation-2458 Agler Road; 43219 (Jack Levinson, Atty-Spencer & Hale)
  - Application #BZA 21-074 (purchased 2 lots to build a new fire station)
  - Seeking approval on 5 variances:
    - Variance 1: Reduce the lot size from 5 acres to 1 acre
    - Variance 2: Reduce parking setback from 25' to 10'
    - Variance 3: Reduce the number of required parking spaces from 22 to 19 (16 parking spaces in the rear of the building and 3 parking spaces in the front of the building (two visitor spaces and one handicap space)
    - Variance 4: To increase screening and security, reduction of the side yard setbacks from 7-1/2' to 0' in order to accommodate an 8' fence along the perimeter of the property
    - Variance 5: Install a 5' chain link fence with black vinyl slats in front of the building setback. On the back and sides of the property, there are existing chain link fences that are in disrepair; this project includes replacement of these fences (area residents were previously informed of these plans. Upon approval of the BZA application, residents will receive updated information)
  - New fire station will be a 2-story building
- Commissioner Moore made a motion to approve all variances presented relative to Application BZA 21-074; Commissioner Kenley seconded the motion; motion carried by a unanimous approval vote of all Commissioners present.

Northeast Area Commission monthly meeting (cont'd)  
September 2, 2021

**Old Business (Elenora Moore, Zoning Vice-Chair)**

- Commissioner Moore reviewed the new City of Columbus election process. She also announced that Commissioners Fleming and Musa will coordinate the yearly election process
- Commissioner Moore reviewed the contents of the Northeast Area Commission web portal and Facebook site and reiterated they are updated regularly. She emphasized that these sites should be utilized to gain information about the Northeast Area Commission and neighborhood events. Complaints should not be shared on these sites.
- Northeast Area Commissioners and City Council will tour various parts of the Northeast area district on September 10<sup>th</sup> (10 am – 2 pm starting at Howard Recreation Center) to identify concerns such as streets that need to be paved, old buildings and other concerns that require attention.

**City of Columbus Updates & Reports:**

- Attorney Sarah Pomeroy (The Zone Initiative):
  - Attorney Pomeroy clarified that she is the attorney in our area who assists with nuisance abatement work (problem properties from housing to business establishments including hotels and bars)
- Lisa Dorsey (City Code Enforcement Officer):
  - Lisa represents the City of Columbus Code Enforcement Agency and investigates complaints from the 311 Call Center relative to code violations, high grass, illegally parked cars and many other possible city code violations reported
- DeLena Scales (Department of Neighborhoods Community Liaison):
  - Complimented to the Northeast Area Commission on their efforts to streamline processes especially during our current pandemic and mentioned the positive changes within the Northeast Area Commission
  - Her new office hours are on Monday (10 am – 2 pm) at 1410 Cleveland Avenue-43211 (can be reached by phone or virtually)
  - Suggested that the Commission and Zoning Chair add their phone #'s or email to the Northeast Area Commission web portal for overall commission consistency
  - Information and deadlines on various upcoming Commissioner trainings were stated
  - Announced that as of August 29, 2021, there have been 141 homicide investigations that illustrates an increase in crime as compared to 1994 (August). The City is working with many leaders in the community to create safety walks and initiate places of refuge for those in need of assistance. A Neighborhood Safety Strategy Meeting is scheduled to occur on September 28 (6 pm for 90 minutes: virtual webex mtg) with your district's CLO, Zone Commander and other leaders in your neighborhoods to talk further about safety initiatives and how you can keep your community safe – flyers were distributed with pertinent information included

Northeast Area Commission monthly meeting  
September 2, 2021

**City of Columbus Updates & Reports (cont'd)**

- The Columbus Care Coalition is providing free community resilience certifications on childhood response and care and requires to train a group of at least 5 people (for training). Individuals from Columbus Public Health are conducting this certification training with foundational materials covering how the effects of trauma impact the brain. Additional tracks will be offered on refugee and youth violence
- As of August 24<sup>th</sup>, 13,832 people vaccinated in the 43219 area out of a population of 31,000 people (about 45%)
- On Tuesday, September 14 (5-6 pm) there will be another Covid virtual conversation including Dr. Mysheika Roberts and other Ohio Department of Health representatives to discuss mandatory masking, vaccine distribution, the Delta variant, funeral arrangements and planning
- On September 29 (5-7 pm) the Dept. of Neighborhoods, the Mayor's office and the Pride Center will host a leadership gathering for Northeast Leaders. Invitations will be sent to all Northeast Area Commissioners, Civic Association and HOA Leaders who have spoken with Liaison Scales previously. Community concerns will be discussed during this event

**Commissioner Announcements (Chair Rogers):**

- Requested that Commissioners share district news and information in subsequent meetings
- Asked that our monthly meetings be moved away from Howard Recreation Center; asked for suggestions on possible meeting locations
- Announced that Commissioner Porter has submitted her resignation as Zoning Chair effective September 22, 2021; she will remain a member of the Zoning committee. Commissioner Moore will assume the Zoning Chair position
- Commissioners Musa and Fleming are our new election coordinators; taking over for Commissioner Moore
- **RESPECT** is important and a vital part of our interactions with each other and our constituents – **RESPONSE** to emails and other forms of communication are critical as we plan and implement processes in our districts among Commissioners – **REPRESENT** ourselves efficiently in our districts and attend trainings offered to enhance our community service

**Public Comments:**

- A community constituent inquired about the Secretary role being paid vs. volunteer
- A community constituent inquired about a Commissioner At Large vacancy
- Commissioner Rogers asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Moore made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner Fleming seconded the motion; motion carried by a unanimous approval vote of all Commissioners present. Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.