

COLUMBUS SOUTH SIDE AREA COMMISSION

Tuesday, MARCH 23, 2021, 6:30 pm, via ZOOM

Minutes

Call to Order, Roll Call

14 Commissioners Present

x Erin Synk - Resident At-Large Commissioner, Public Services Committee

x Michael Alcock – CSSAC Education Commissioner at Large

x Aaron Hopkins – CSSAC At-Large Religious/Social Services

x Adam Cohn – District 1

x Robinson – District 2

x Thomas Less – District 3

x Ted Welch – District 4

x April Tisby– District 5

_____ Jim Griffin – District 6

x Cassaundra Patterson – District 7

x Paula Copeland – District 8

x Lillie Banner – District 9

x Curtis Davis – CSSAC At-Large Business Commissioner

x Liliana Baiman – CSSAC At-Large Labor/Worker commissioner

x Kathy Green – PAMA

x Yeshua Cosme, CSSAC Youth-at Large Commissioner

Chair Jim Griffin called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

❖ *Pledge of Allegiance*

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- **Amendments to Agenda**

Tom Less motioned to add Anne Stewart's Substance Abuse Committee to the agenda. Curtis Davis moved to add the appointment of Maudie Grace to the Zoning Committee under the Chair's Report. Vice-Chair Synk added those amendments to the agenda.

- **Approval of Minutes**

Curtis Davis moved to approve February 23, 2021 meeting minutes as amended per Kathy Green's email comments; Alcock seconded; motion carried.

- **Swearing in of New Commissioners**

Heidy Carr sworn in new commissioners Rachel Robinson and Yeshua Cosme.

- **Reading of Correspondence**

No correspondence.

- **City Liaison Report(s) –**

Beth Fairman Kinney, Pride Center;

- Beth's southside Roundtable will be held via webex on March 24, 2021 at 5:30 pm. Safety is the topic and Officer Robin Medley and 311 will be guest speakers.
- Beginning on Friday March 26, sixteen year olds and older are eligible for the COVID vaccine. Also, Beth reminded everyone about the opportunity vaccine clinics on Wednesday at the Columbus Public Health. 614.645.6444. This number is different than the regular COVID vaccine line.
- Starting next week, Smart Columbus will begin distributing free home internet kits to eligible folks living in 43206 and 43207 zip codes;
- The public is invited to comment of the Columbus Urban Forestry Plan. Deadline to comment is March 31st.

Nancy Sully, City Council Liaison;

- Nancy asked the CSSAC to please send within the next week 3-5 project priorities that the commission wants addressed by the Capital Budget.

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Community Development for All People Report – Dr. Kaitlin Hansen, PhD;

- Community Development for All People, had their Thrive to Five baby shower last Saturday; it was a huge community event at the new connection center at 911 Parsons.
- In person church services are beginning again starting on Palm Sunday.
- Since the IRS reset the tax deadline to May, the tax clinic will continue to offer tax preparation services on Wednesday instead of Friday.

Standing Committee Reports

- **Zoning**, Curtis Davis Meets 2nd Saturdays @10:00am at site locations for review of pending applications. Curtis stated he is working on a process letter for all commissioners about the “dos and don’ts” of zoning – things that we can and can’t consider when voting on a variance request.

Demolitions: 376 E. Markison. Duplex with a single car garage. Applicant wants to build a carriage house is back, which will serve as a home for the property owner. Civic voted 0-9 in favor. Green motioned to approve; Synk seconded; motion passed 14-0.

Variances: 1949-1951 Parsons Ave. Purchaser wants to remodel. Three variances concerning parking. Civic voted 9 – 0. Zoning committee voted 10 – 0. Welsh motioned to approve variance; Banner seconded; motion carried 14 – 0.

1696 Parsons. Rehab and expansion of single family home. The civic voted 5 – 0. Zoning Committee voted 10 – 0. Welsh motioned to approve; Less seconded; motion carried 15 – 0.

318 Hanford Street. The owner wants to construct a new carriage house with a dwelling space. The civic voted 14-0. The Zoning Committee voted 11-0. Less motioned to approve; Alcock seconded; motion carried 15-0.

440 E. Deshler. Replacement of 1/3 of the home with two story structure and new 2 car garage. Zoning committee voted 10 – 0. Less motioned to approve; Welch seconded; motion carried 15 – 0.

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574 – 582 Dutch Ally. Development of two single family homes in R2-F district.
3312.25 Civic voted against; Zoning Committee approved 11 – 0 ; CSSAC approved 15 - 0.
3332.14 Civic voted against; Zoning Committee approved 11 - 0; CSSAC approved 15 - 0.
3332.19 Civic approved; Zoning Committee approved 11 – 0; CSSAC approved 15 - 0.
3332.25(B) Civic approved; Zoning Committee approved 11 – 0; CSSAC approved 15 - 0.
3332.26(F) Civic approved; Zoning Committee approved 11 – 0; CSSAC approved 15 - 0.
3332.17 Civic voted against; Zoning Committee approved 11 – 0; CSSAC approved 15 - 0.
3332.05(A)(5) Civic didn't vote; Zoning Committee approved 11 – 0; CSSAC approved 15 - 0.

374 E. Whittier. The owner wants to construct a new carriage house with a dwelling place. Two neighbors are against the project. Christopher Lucas of 382 E. Whittier said he was concerned about the reduction in parking spaces for the new project. It is in an area with several high density projects that will also impact parking. Erin Kopp of 378 E. Whittier was also concerned with the density of the project. It will be right up against her lot line. The civic voted in favor of the project. Zoning Committee voted 9-0 with one abstention. Welsh motioned to approve; Green seconded; motion carried 15-0.

1530 Lockbourne Road. Three speakers against the project. Rachel Robinson at 1531 E. Gates opposed the project because it would offer no value to the community. There are at least four other Dollar General stores in the same area. Maudie Grace at 1548 Fairwood Ave. also said a new Dollar General would add not value to the neighborhood. Larry Zapp, who lives in Gahana but who owns property on Whittier Street said he was concerned about viability of the business with 9 other Dollar Generals in the vicinity. If this one is built, there will be three DGs on Lockbourne Road. The civic voted 0 – 14 against the project. The Zoning Committee voted 0 – 9 against the project. Welch motioned to approve; Green seconded; motion failed 4 – 11.

- **Education**, Mike Alcock, meets 3rd Monday of each month. Mike reported that all CCS students have returned to their classrooms. April 2 – 11 is Spring Break, so check out the parks and recreation website for School's Out activities. The district is looking for volunteers for engaging with Seniors (Class of 2021) with We Care Wednesday with calls to Seniors and their families to see how they are doing. The next event is April 14th and the district will be doing virtual training on April 12. They are also planning Senior Fest, a series of virtual parties for Seniors and their families. Facility master planning is scheduled to begin April 23. Harper Luke

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with Future Ready Columbus talked about their goal to have 100% of CCS children ready for Kindergarten by age 5 by the year 2030. Right now they have about 167 focus groups working with them to engage families and communities, health and behavioral health systems, and educational development supporters. Their focus is to create strategies for a comprehensive system of resources for families, create health and behavioral health screening systems, and increase access to high quality educational resources for every child. Check out their website at futurereadycolumbus.org.

- **Safety, Health, Welfare and Equity**, Tom Less, meets 4th Thursday of each month. Tom reported that his committee did not meet this past month, but this coming Thursday they will be establishing goals for the coming year.
- **Public Services/ Planning**, Erin Synk – meets 3rd Wednesday @ 6:00 pm, @ Library. Erin reported that the Vision Zero initiative was approved by City Council. This project will redesign roads and intersections to make them safer for vulnerable users, such as pedestrians and bike riders. Columbus Public health will be at the next Public Services meeting to talk about substance abuse and access to urgent care on the southside. 311 will also be there to talk about the street sweeping schedule. The city has approved a \$1 million investment in Southside parks, including address lighting at Southeast Lions Park, the Barack Rec Center is getting a new kitchen, and Smith Road Park will get a new playground and fences.
- **Public Relations**, Adam Cohn – Adam reported that Mike Alcock has been working on a meeting checklist to add to the new website. Adam is also continuing to work on development of a google drive/youtube channel for archiving CSSAC public documents and meetings.
- **Religious Services**, Rev. Aaron Hopkins – Aaron reported that this coming Thursday March 25, Southside Thrive is hosting a networking forum to improve income and housing stability, income tax credits, and vaccine-related issues. Lutheran Social Services Food pantry is continuing to do great work in the community and beginning March 28, folks will be able to select their own food again. However, food boxes will still be available.

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- **Substance Abuse Solutions Committee**, Anne Stewart – Anne asked if everyone had received the React information she sent out after the last meeting. Especially important is the information on how to access and use Narcan. Between March 5 and 12, we had 114 non-fatal overdoses in Columbus. Narcan does save lives. Anne said that Maryhaven needs the following items: new underwear for men and women (all sizes), used books, crafting supplies, and journaling supplies. Get in touch with Anne to make donations.

Reports of Officers:

- **Report from the Chair**, In Jim's absence, Erin Synk nominated two new members to the Zoning Committee: Maudie Grace (District 5) and Marlene Kromer (District 1). Davis motioned to approve the nominations; Cohn seconded; motion carried 15 – 0.
- **Fiscal Report:**
Cassandra reported current balance is \$1,366.25. No expenses. We need to spend this money by April 30. Adam Cohn suggested to use the funds for FaceBook marketing, boosting posts and general ads, to get our mission out to the public and promote our brand. Erin moved to allocate unused funds from the zoom account (\$250) and the remainder to online marketing; Patterson seconded; motion carried 15 – 0.
- **Informal & Public Presentations:**
None.
- **Public Comments & Announcements:** Nancy announced that there will be a virtual Holocaust event on April 9 at noon. A holocaust survivor from our community will be featured. Reverend Hopkins announced that the Columbus Baptist Pastors Conference is still hosting a simultaneous virtual revival. On April 12, the SCA Civic has invited Lutheran Social to a community conversation about Our Family Farms and the CSA program. We will also have more information in the future about a local farm stand we are planning.
- **District Reports:**
 - District 1 – Adam Cohn, Schumacher Place: 6:30pm, 1st Tuesday 1113 Parsons Ave (Library); No report.

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- District 2 – Rachel Robinson, Southern Orchards, 6PM, 1st Tuesday, Stowe Baptist Church, 888 Parsons Avenue; no report.
- District 3 – Tom Less, 7PM, 1st Wednesday, St. Paul United Church of Christ, 225 E. Gates Street; No report.
- District 4 – Ted Welch, SSCAN, 6:30 PM, 2nd Monday, Residences at Career Gateway (RCG), 747 Whitter Ave; Edgewood Civic & T has been allocated to Thurman Square, 7 PM, 2nd Tuesday, Corpus Christi Church, 1111 Stewart Ave; Ganther’s Place, 6 PM 4th Thursday. No report.
- District 5 – April Tisby: Deshler Park Civic Association, 3rd Thursday, Alvis House 1755 Alum Creek, Columbus, Ohio 43206. April reported they have elected a new president.
- District 6 – Jim Griffin: Vassor Village Civic Association 7PM, Barack Recreation Center, 580 E Woodrow Ave. No report.
- District 7 – Cassandra Patterson: Innis Gardens Village Civic Association, 6:30PM, 3rd Thursday, Smyrna Baptist Church 1650 Wilson Avenue; No report
- District 8 – Paula Copeland: Hungarian Village Society, 7pm, 2nd Wednesday at @ Tara Hall, 274 E. Innis Ave. No report.
- District 9 – Lillie Banner: Reeb-Hosack/Steelton Village Association, 6:30pm, 2nd Tuesday, Resurrection Missionary Baptist Church, 258 Hosack St. No report.

New Business: None

Adjournment & Next Meeting: Motion to adjourn. Next meeting April 27, 2021, 6:30 pm via zoom.

Davis motioned to adjoin. Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 pm.

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