

COLUMBUS SOUTH SIDE AREA COMMISSION

Tuesday, MAY 25, 2021, 6:30 pm, via ZOOM

Minutes

Call to Order, Roll Call

11 Commissioners Present

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

_____ 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

_____ 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

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

x Kathy Green – PAMA

_____ 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**

Amended to add Alana Glickman presentation.

- **Approval of Minutes**

Curtis Davis moved to approve April 27, 2021 meeting minutes; Hopkins seconded; motion carried.

- **Reading of Correspondence**

No correspondence.

- **City Liaison Report(s) –**

Beth Fairman Kinney, Pride Center;

- Beth reported that on Thursday, 1-4, the Reeb Center will host a vaccine clinic. Walk ins welcome. Must be 12 or older.
- RREACT will host their Walk for Recovery on Tuesday and Thursday July 13 and 14.
- Project Tail Light offers free vehicle light repairs. Income-based.
- The pools are open for the summer. Admission is free.
- Parliamentary Training will be offered to Commissioners on June 5. The city will be setting up discussions on establishing city-wide commissioner elections. Training to be determined.
- National Night Out is still to be determined.

Nancy Sully, City Council Liaison;

- Nancy announced that City Council is working on a program to expand access to financial navigation for women and families. They are also encouraging access to fresh produce. The council redistricting meeting will be tomorrow at 6 pm. on the Eastside.

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

- Freedom School is gearing up for the summer; they are now accepting sign ups on 4AllPeople web page.
- Community workers have been participating in trash cleanups. Filled trash bags are dropped off at a designated location and then the City arranges for pickup.

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- Jenkins Loft is making progress. Also Lockbourne Green will offer 50 new units of affordable housing. There will also be two classrooms for early childhood education.

Standing Committee Reports

- **Zoning**, Curtis Davis Meets 2nd Saturdays @10:00am at site locations for review of pending applications.

Demolitions: 173 E. Moeller Street.

Variances: 1646 Fairwood Ave. Rezoning to permit use for vehicle repair. Hopkins moved to approve; Patterson seconded; motion carried 11 – 0.

27 West Jenkins. Permit monument sign along Wall Street. The civic voted 11 – 0 in favor. Zoning Committee voted 9 – 0 in favor. Less motioned to approve; Green seconded; motion carried, no opposed.

- **Education**, Mike Alcock, meets 3rd Monday of each month. No report.
- **Safety, Health, Welfare and Equity**, Tom Less, meets 4th Thursday of each month. Tom reported his committee is working with PAMA and the neighborhood to resolve non-violent issues. CPD should be concentrating on violent crime. Kathy Green of PAMA announced the Southside monument is finally being built.
- **Public Services/ Planning**, Erin Synk – meets 3rd Wednesday @ 6:00 pm, @ Library. Erin reported that the letter to MUTCD was approved and sent. Executive committee also signed a letter of support for Parks and Recreation to support their efforts to get funding to give free trees to Southside residents. Capital Improvement Projects – the list has been updated with a few projects that were left off the list last month. Most of the proposed projects deal with traffic/curb/sidewalk repairs. Curtis Davis motioned to approve the list; Welch seconded; motion carried 11 – 0.

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- **Public Relations**, Adam Cohn – Adam reported that our YouTube channel will be up and running soon. The committee also purchased reusable sandwich boards (to announce meetings and voting information) and business cards.
- **Religious Services**, Rev. Aaron Hopkins – Rev. Hopkins reported he has been participating in local cleanups and wanted to thank community members who helped. Southside Thrive collaborative is hosting a Connect the Connector event concerning behavioral health/drug addiction on June 2 – 4 at 5:15 pm. Family Missionary Baptist Church still hosts their First Sunday event. Begins at 3 pm and last about an hour. Many public speakers attend to get information out to the community. Everyone is invited to attend. The Reverend is also working to expand fresh food access through Southside Family Farms. Their efforts are funded by the City and Krogers. Beginning the middle of July 20 fresh food boxes will be distributed every week. The effort targets low-income African Americans in the community, but anyone who is hungry can participate.
- **Substance Abuse Solutions Committee**, Anne Stewart – No report.

Reports of Officers:

- **Report from the Chair**, In Jim's absence, Erin Synk reiterated that we are entering election season and that CSSAC's policy is that we do not host speakers who are running for office. Erin noted that the state of emergency due to COVID will be expiring on June 30, so we will need to work on moving back to in-person meetings.
- **Fiscal Report:** Cassandra reported that the CSSAC will be returning \$421.30 of the \$3500 the City gave us this year. Normally send back a lot more. Kudos to Adam Cohn for helping spend that money. Funding for the next fiscal year will drop back to \$2500.00. new budget is due to the City on June 30th.
- **Informal & Public Presentations:**
Jami Goldstein from the Columbus Arts Council spoke about a new mural project called "Deliver Black Dreams." The project began last fall and the City has approved locations of the murals. The one on the Southside will be located on the Frebis corridor and will be the

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largest mural in the city when finished. Using bright, vibrant color. Wants the neighborhood/youth to engage with this project.

Jami also discussed a second art project for the CSSAC and the FSSAC. There are two fellowship grant programs available, one for a large project for \$15,000 and another for a small project for \$10,000. Artists who live within the two commission areas are encouraged to apply with project ideas.

Kip Holley, an Ohio State researcher with the Glen School, is working on a project to better understand equitable and inclusive civic engagements. The goal is to ensure that area commissions are involving everyone in the decision-making process. The project needs public participation and will be sending out invitations to communities to engage in interviews and surveys. They are collecting information on successful experiences and methods used to draw people in to engage in the decision-making process. Contact holley.17@osu.edu for more information.

- **Public Comments & Announcements:** None.
- **District Reports:**
 - District 1 – Adam Cohn, Schumacher Place: 6:30pm, 1st Tuesday 1113 Parsons Ave (Library); No report.
 - District 2 – Rachel Robinson, Southern Orchards, 6PM, 1st Tuesday, Stowe Baptist Church, 888 Parsons Avenue. Liz Norris has stepped down as District 2 President. Kudos to Liz for all the work she did. Marissa West has agreed to serve as the new President.
 - District 3 – Tom Less, 7PM, 1st Wednesday, St. Paul United Church of Christ, 225 E. Gates Street; Tom announced Merion Villages’ Summer Fun Days in Moeller Park, including Yoga in the Park on Saturday mornings.
 - 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

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Thursday. Ted reported that they are working with code enforcement and zoning concerning apartment properties at Thurmond and S. Ohio. The eyesore properties are finally going into court receivership.

- District 5 – April Tisby: Deshler Park Civic Association, 3rd Thursday, Alvis House 1755 Alum Creek, Columbus, Ohio 43206. No report.
- 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. Lillie reported that the Safe Streets Program should start within the next week.

New Business: None

Adjournment & Next Meeting: Motion to adjourn. Next meeting June 22, 2021, 6:30 pm.

Davis motioned to adjoin. Meeting Adjourned at 8:06 pm.

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