

NORTHEAST AREA COMMISSION JULY 6, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

NORTHEAST AREA COMMISSIONERS ROLL CALL

Karen Rogers, Chair (Cumberland Ridge) = Present
 Elenora Moore, Zoning Chair (Arlington Park I) = Present
 Karen Brown (Brunswick Estates) = Present
 Sandra Chapple (At Large) = Present
 Brad Davis (Bridgeview) = Present
 Chanel McDougle-Yakubu (Walnut Creek) = Absent Excused
 Dr. Dimaris Medina-Cortes (At Large) = Present
 Rosaline Mbae (At Large) = Present

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Chair Rogers. She reviewed meeting decorum. Commissioner Chapple conducted roll call and confirmed a quorum was present to conduct business for today’s meeting.

Meeting Agenda Approval/Amendments (July 6, 2023)

- Commissioner Medina-Cortes made a motion to approve the July 6, 2023 Agenda. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. There were no modifications or debate. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Minutes Approval/Amendments (June 1, 2023)

- Commissioner Moore made a motion to approve June 1, 2023 meeting minutes. Commissioner Brown seconded the motion. Commissioner Medina-Cortes requested to modify the minutes to reflect her comment that she “values her Commissioner role as well as all of the Commissioners’ time”. There were no other modifications. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Financial Report (June, 2023)

Opening Balance/ Transaction Dates	Transaction Type	Payee	Transaction Description	Balance
June Beginning Balance				\$213.24
6/5/2023	Certified Letters	USPS	Self Resignation Ltrs: Antwan & Nicole Horston	\$16.26
June Ending Balance				\$196.98

- Commissioner Davis made a motion to approve the June, 2023 Treasurer’s Report. Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. There were no modifications or debate. Motion passed unanimously.

NORTHEAST AREA COMMISSION

JULY 6, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Community Liaison Officer (CLO) Report (Officer Barbeau (Precinct 6) & Officer Varney (Precinct 2):

- **Precinct 6:**
 - Residential and Commercial Burglaries are moderately high this month (Chase Bank-Easton: robbery and Governor's Club Apartments: many stolen cars). Increased patrol is planned for these areas
 - Vehicle thefts have decreased this month
- **Precinct 2:**
 - Five vehicle thefts this month
 - One homicide (June 9th); suspect captured
- Officer Barbeau announced that National Night Out will commence on August 1, 2023; requests were made for Police Helicopters and both K-Nine and Therapy Dogs to attend the event

Guest Speakers:

- Habitat for Humanity (Lisa):
 - Lisa requested a letter of support for properties to purchase through the Land Bank (1848 Minnesota Avenue; 1829 Minnesota Avenue; and 2015 Minnesota Avenue)
 - Commissioner Brown made a motion to provide a support letter for these properties. Commissioner Medina-Cortes seconded the motion. There were no modifications or debate. Motion was approved unanimously

City of Columbus Representative Updates:

- Sarah Pomeroy, Assistant City Attorney (City Attorney's Office):
 - Sarah mentioned two large cases against Capital Park Apartments and Cassady Village Apartments
 - Cassady Village Apartments update: Currently working with the City Attorney's office with major renovation plans that will ultimately make them compliant on several code violations
 - She encouraged continued 311 calls for area concerns including residential (home and apartments) as well as hotel facilities
- DeLena Scales, Program Specialist (Department of Neighborhoods):
 - DeLena announced several programs housed by Department of Neighborhoods including My Brother's Keeper, Commission on Black Girls, 311 Call Center, Neighborhood Planning (community plans in North Linden, Hilltop and the Eastland area)
 - She reminded the Commission that until the Department of Neighborhood receives a copy of the Certified Self Resignation letters for both Antwan and Nicole Horston along with the minutes with unanimous approval, they are still Commissioners and cannot be removed from the roster
 - She announced the Northeast Area Commission's new Liaison is Devon Deal (email = dddeal@columbus.gov). Devon will be arriving late due to being introduced at another commission meeting, but is attending tonight's meeting
 - She suggested Chair Rogers entertain a motion to move the Northeast Area Commission's meeting date to the second Thursday of each month instead of the first Thursday to allow North Central and Northeast Area Commissions to collaborate collectively on matters in areas that closely border each other

NORTHEAST AREA COMMISSION

JULY 6, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Zoning and Variance Updates/Reports (None for July, 2023)

Old Business:

- Election Committee Update (Commissioner Moore)
 - Commissioner Moore summarized that three candidate packets were received from Commissioners Rogers, Chapple and Brown; Commissioner Musa did not submit a packet
 - There were two new candidate packets received for vacant Commissioner seats
 - She requested a vote to cancel the Northeast Area Commission election process this year based on our ByLaws (Article 7-Elections/Section A, F & G) which state as follows:
 - “Section A=no election procedure shall be scheduled if the number of candidates is less than or equal to the number of elected Commissioners with expiring terms”
 - “Section G=For area commissions with geographic districts associated with specific seats, no election procedure shall be scheduled if the seats are uncontested
- Commissioner Medina-Cortes made a motion to cancel the Northeast Area Commission election process for 2023 based on the ByLaw language. Commissioner Davis seconded the motion. He also asked for clarification on whether the cancellation of the election process for this year is only for the three Commissioner seats who are being considered for reappointment and not the two vacant Commissioner seats being considered for appointment. Commissioner Moore responded that “Yes”; this only applies for the three Commissioner seats being considered for reappointment because the other two vacant seats are appointments, not reappointed seats. There were no modifications or debate. Motion passed unanimously. Commissioner Moore requested a motion for the retention of the seated uncontested Commissioners (Rogers, Chapple & Brown). Commissioner Davis made a motion to reappoint the current seated and uncontested Commissioners (Rogers, Chapple & Brown). Commissioner Medina-Cortes seconded the motion. There were no modifications or debate. Motion passed unanimously.
- Mobile Home Park updates (Commissioner Medina-Cortes)
 - Commissioner Medina-Cortes summarized last week’s Mobile Home Park meeting:
 - A representative from the Department of Commerce educated everyone on the rules and regulations of Mobile Home Parks
 - Sarah Pomeroy (City Attorney’s office) provided a detailed overview of code enforcement, nuisance abatements and zoning within these communities
 - The 1-800 number is being created for Mobile Home Park communities to anonymously report various challenges (e.g. management concerns, crimes, etc.) – for those not comfortable calling 311 or the Police Department
 - Commissioner Medina-Cortes and Vice Chair Cruz talked with Commissioner Milner (Far South Commission) about the Fair Lane Mobile Home Park (corner of Williams Rd. & High St.) about thefts and crimes occurring in their community possibly originating from a homeless camp behind the mobile home park. A collaboration of different government entities (state and city) and Commissioner Medina-Cortez and Vice Chair Cruz plan to work together to resolve this issue; flyers will be distributed relating to this matter. Commissioner Medina-Cortes provided several examples of deplorable conditions that will be investigated relating to the challenging conditions of Fair Lane Mobile Home Park surrounding area

NORTHEAST AREA COMMISSION

JULY 6, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Old Business

Mobile Home Park updates (Commissioner Medina-Cortes) – cont'd

- Liaison Scales asked Commissioner Medina-Cortes if she plans to convert complaints generated from the 1-800 number to the Mobile Home Park committee email address, then submit them to 311 to address. Commissioner Medina-Cortes indicated that is her plan. Liaison Scales stated that although residents do not have to report incidents, Commissioner Medina-Cortes can have an email address established as an area Commissioner in order to report these incidents

- National Night Out update (Chair Rogers)
 - Chair Rogers summarized National Night Out plan as follows:
 - National Night Out will occur on August 1 at Northeast Recreation Center. A \$500 grant was awarded to each host community (Cumberland Ridge and Walnut Creek civic associations) for this event to occur
 - Event will include a D.J., A Bounce House, a food truck, corvette crew car caravan, Sheetz tent with goodies for guests, The Columbus Public Library tent, State Highway Patrol representatives, A Health Fair on the inside of Howard Recreation Center, Police Helicopter appearance and a host of visiting City officials and representatives. Volunteers are needed and appreciated
 - Commissioner Medina-Cortes volunteered to reach out to the Sheriff's department for support
 - She also announced there is no commission meeting in August, 2023

New Business (Chair Rogers):

- Election Committee Update (Commissioner Moore)
 - Chair Rogers asked Liaison Scales for clarification on whether the seat formerly occupied by former Commissioner Nicole Horston can be officially filled since she is waiting on another receipt of the self-resignation appointment letter. Liaison Scales confirmed that a vote and appointment can be carried out this evening; however, the seats become official after August, 2023. Chair Rogers announced that Commissioner Musa did self-resign due to three absences on May 4, May 17 and June 1; she did not submit an application for reinstatement during the election process; therefore, Framingham is vacant.
 - Chair Rogers introduced Reuel Wright, a commissioner candidate interested in filling the commission seat representing the Somerset community. Reuel provided a brief summary of his background and interest in this seat and answered a couple of questions from the audience. Commissioner Davis made a motion to appoint Reuel Wright as a Commissioner representing the Somerset community. Commissioner Medina-Cortes seconded the motion. A vote was taken and approved unanimously to accept Reuel Wright as Commissioner for the Somerset community
 - Chair Rogers introduced DeAndra Harrison, a commissioner candidate interested in filling the At-Large seat (formerly occupied by former Commissioner Nicole Horston). DeAndra provided a brief summary of her background and interest in this seat. Commissioner Mbae made a motion to appoint DeAndra Harris to fill the At Large seat. Commissioner Medina-Cortes seconded the motion. A vote was taken and approved unanimously to accept DeAndra Harrison as Commissioner for the At Large seat

NORTHEAST AREA COMMISSION

JULY 6, 2023 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Updates/Training (Chair Rogers)

- Commissioner Brown mentioned a home in the Brunswick Estates community who continues to create excessive noise (loud music) and food truck parking at their home
- Chair Rogers mentioned a home in the Cumberland Ridge community that has a boat in their driveway which may be a code violation. Commissioner Chapple reported that a code enforcement manager did investigate this complaint and deemed it was not interfering with the setback and therefore is not a code violation
- Chair Rogers announced Commissioner trainings offered on Suicide Prevention (details will be shared at a later date); the Area Commissioner Summer Networking session (August 23rd: 6-7:30 Location TBD) and Strategic Planning for Area Commissioners (July 29th; 10-11:30 am by WebEx)
- Commissioner Medina-Cortes indicated she would like to see the Suicide Prevention training provided to the Mobile Home Park communities as they are underserved and underprivileged. Chair Rogers agreed to share the facilitator's contact information with Commissioner Medina-Cortes to possibly coordinate this effort
- Chair Rogers suggested moving our monthly meetings to the second Thursday of the month instead of the first Thursday of each month and opened the floor for debate on this topic which will be effective starting in January, 2024. Commissioner Moore made a motion to move our monthly commission meetings to the second Thursday of each month effective January 1, 2024. Commissioner Medina-Cortes seconded the motion. There were no questions or debate. A vote was taken approved unanimously

Public Comments – Open to Floor

- Commissioner Medina-Cortes suggested we personally review the old and new By-Laws during our break in August, then bring any amendment suggestions to the meeting in September to coordinate updating the ByLaws before the end of 2023. Liaison Scales asked that we consider referencing the 3109 Best Practices when reviewing ByLaw amendments
- Commissioners Medina-Cortes suggested and Chair Rogers agreed that Commissioners should support Northeast Area Commission committees.
- Commissioner Chapple clarified the absence policy for the newly appointed Commissioners which was unanimously approved in 2023
- New Liaison Deal provided a brief background for Commissioners and announced his excitement for his new role and eagerness to support the Northeast Area Commission
- DeLena Scales confirmed that the Northeast Area Commission Memorandum Of Agreement was successfully processed
- A guest announced a new property within the Northeast Area Commission (A Spiritual Center; 1993 Sunbury Rd.) There was a request for the Northeast Area Commission to provide a letter of support for the building of the main structure (former structure was burned down by arson). Commissioner Moore indicated that she never received a permit for this structure. She stated that she would make contact with Zoning to confirm there is a permit, then when she receives the permit, it will be approved.

Meeting Adjournment: 7:45 pm